



The CAVALIER

COURAGE ★ INTEGRITY ★ LOYALTY

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

JANUARY – MARCH 2025



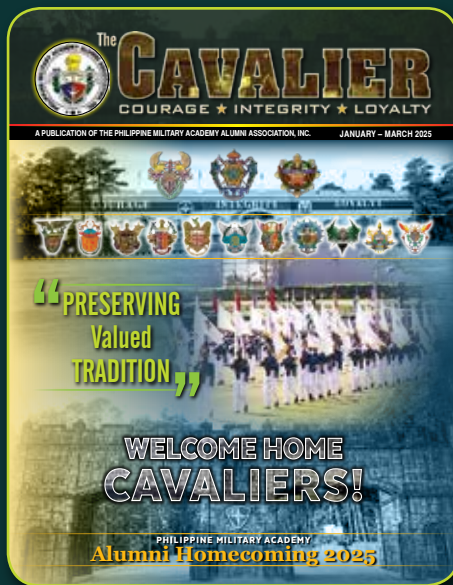
“PRESERVING
Valued
TRADITION”



WELCOME HOME
CAVALIERS!

PHILIPPINE MILITARY ACADEMY
Alumni Homecoming 2025

ABOUT THE COVER



The cover reflects the rich traditions and enduring legacy of the Philippine Military Academy. The central image captures the solemn march of cadets, signifying discipline and honor, while the inclusion of alumni class emblems celebrates the diverse history and unity of its graduates. The theme "Preserving Valued Tradition" and "Welcome Home Cavaliers! Alumni Homecoming 2025" highlight the significance of this special gathering, underscoring the bond among the PMA alumni community. The overall design is a tribute to heritage, camaraderie, and the steadfast commitment to excellence.

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The CAVALIER

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

Send your featured article to:

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FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S DESK

CAV RAUL S GONZALES '75

A Cavalier's Anchor: Preserving the Valued Tradition of Courage, Integrity and Loyalty

As the echoes of the past year fade and the promise of a new one unfolds, we find ourselves navigating a world of rapid and constant change, facing unprecedented challenges.

Yet, amidst this whirlwind of change, a timeless anchor remains for every Cavalier: the enduring spirit of our alma mater and the cherished traditions that have shaped us. This spirit, forged in the crucible of discipline, camaraderie, and selfless service, is the foundation upon which our identity is built.

Drawing inspiration from this timeless anchor, this edition of Cavalier Magazine is dedicated to the theme: *"Preserving Valued Traditions."* It is a timely reflection as we embark on a new year, a reminder of the core values and principles that have guided generations of our esteemed alumni. These traditions, far from being relics of the past, are part of our identity, the guide that illuminates our paths and inspires us to strive for excellence in all endeavors.

As we come back to the hallowed ground of our alma mater this year, let us resolve to be worthy custodians of these cherished traditions. Let us share them with the next generation of leaders, ensuring that the PMA legacy continues to thrive and inspire.

Building upon the foundation of our shared experiences, we must reaffirm the enduring importance of the timeless values instilled within us in the Academy: Courage, Integrity, and Loyalty. These are not merely professional virtues; they are the cornerstones of a meaningful and fulfilling life. They guide us in our personal and professional pursuits, inspiring us to act with honor, to serve our country, and to strive for a better future for all.

Looking back, we recall the rigorous training, the unwavering support of our mentors, and the camaraderie forged in the fires

of shared experiences. We remember the sacrifices made, the challenges overcome, and the unwavering commitment to our core values. These memories, these traditions, are the invisible threads that connect us, a shared heritage that transcends time and circumstance.

We are members of a brotherhood, a sisterhood, bound by a shared history and a common purpose. We are ambassadors of our alma mater, entrusted with the responsibility of upholding its honor and preserving its legacy. Let us carry the torch of tradition forward, ensuring that the spirit of our alma mater continues to shine brightly for generations to come.

Finally, as I conclude my tenure as Chairman of the PMAAAI, a wave of gratitude washes over me. It has been an immense honor to serve alongside such a dedicated and passionate group of alumni. Working with the Board of Directors, the staff, and our vibrant network of chapters across the globe has been a truly humbling experience. Witnessing the unwavering commitment of our members to supporting our alma mater, assisting fellow alumni, and giving back to our communities has been an inspiration.

While my time as Chairman may be coming to an end, my commitment to our alma mater and to our fellow alumni will forever remain. I encourage each of you to remain actively engaged in the PMAAAI, to mentor future generations of leaders, and to continue to serve as shining examples of the values we learned as cadets.

I extend my deepest gratitude to each of you for your support, your friendship, and your unwavering dedication. It has been an incredible journey, filled with cherished memories and lasting bonds. I will forever cherish the opportunity to have served as your Chairman.





PRESIDENT'S CORNER

CAV GEORGE M BERGONIA '95

“Preserving Valued Tradition”

As we enter the New Year 2025, we are reminded of creating our own New Year's Resolution to follow. According to Merriam-Webster, the idea of making such a resolution to follow for the New Year has been around since the 17th or 19th century, which means that having this list has become a tradition that we more or less value. We create this list to encourage us to be better for this year. We establish new goals we set for ourselves or we revisit old goals that we were unable to achieve for the previous year. Nevertheless, the importance of this is to improve upon ourselves and also become anew like the year. That is why until now, although not really that followed by most people, we still observe and we preserve this tradition of setting New Year's Resolution for ourselves.

Therefore, our institution, PMAAAI, must also establish goals to set for this year by looking back on our accomplishments last year. We must first look upon our threefold mission for last year, which is to promote the general welfare of all alumni, to support our Alma Mater, and to contribute to national development. Hence, our goal for this Alumni Year 2024-2025 is to advance that mission with integrity, purpose, and unwavering dedication, addressing the evolving needs of the PMAAAI community while inspiring positive change.

Now, let us establish the accomplishments we have achieved for our threefold mission. For the general welfare of our alumni, the PMAAAI Sports and Fellowship Committee, in partnership with PMARAI, organized the **Indoor Sports Tournament and Fellowship** which was hosted by various PMAAAI Chapters. Several of these indoor sports tournaments included the following: the PN Chapter held a Chess tournament where the Navy emerged as champion. The PAF Chapter hosted a Table Tennis tournament, with the Air Force winning Men's Singles and the Navy dominating Women's Singles and Doubles. A Pickleball competition, hosted by PMARAI, marked a dynamic addition to the events. The Badminton Tournament saw the Navy crowned overall champion. Finally, the Basketball Tournament, hosted by the PA Chapter, featured a thrilling opener between the Army and Navy where The Navy claimed overall victory, defeating both the Army and Air Force. **The Game of the Cavaliers (GOC) 2024 Golf Tournament**, organized by PMAAAI and PMARAI, was a prestigious annual golf tournament promoting camaraderie

among Philippine Military Academy alumni while raising funds for alumni projects. With 460 participants across seven divisions, GOC 2024 showcased exceptional golfing talent, camaraderie and competitive spirit. Class 1992 was crowned Overall Team Champion for the tournament. The traditional **PMAAAI Cavaliers Family Sportsfest**, a cherished family day for members of the Association and their loved ones, was also successfully held on 18 January 2025. The event was graced by AFP Chief of Staff, CAV ROMEO S BRAWNER JR '89, who attended as the Guest of Honor and Speaker. This year's Sportsfest the Cavaliers and their families were grouped by Chapters, replacing the previous tradition of grouping participants according to the CCAFP Companies the alumni graduated with.

After the sports activities, we also held vaccine drives for our alumni. The Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association, Inc. (PMAAAI) conducted a successful **Flu and Pneumonia Vaccination Program** for the previous year. This initiative aimed to provide essential vaccinations to PMAAAI members and their immediate families, reinforcing the community's health and well-being.

Mutual funds were also established to send relief to our members in need. The **Mutual Relief or "Abuloy"** was continued by the Association to help the bereaved families of deceased members who were in good standing. Thus, there is an *"increase in the amount of mutual relief being given to the family of a deceased member in good standing from P50,000.00 to P60,000.00 and from P5,000.00 to P10,000.00 to the family of a deceased member not in good standing,"* according to Board Resolution No. 17-18. For the period covered from March to December 2024, the total amount of P3,010,000 from the Special Fund for Mutual Relief (SFMR) was granted as *abuloy* to dependents of deceased members. **Medical Assistance** was also provided by the PMAAAI Board to those cavaliers who are in good standing status who were hospitalized due to illnesses. For the past nine (9) months, the total amount of P760,000 from the Special Fund for Medical Assistance (SFMA) was disbursed to members in accordance with the new guidelines on the use of SFMA, which states that the *"Submission of the application to avail of the benefit should not be later than three (3) months after confinement from the hospital or after death of the applicant. The assistance can be availed of by a member for a maximum of five (5) times, provided that the total accumulated assistance will not exceed P50,000.00."*

Moving on to the support of our Alma Mater, we have witnessed the **Unveiling of the Class Crest and Ring Ceremony of PMA Bagong Sinag Class of 2024**. The 278 graduating cadets of the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) "BAGONG SINAG" Class of 2024 took their oath as part of the Long Gray Line on 12 May 2024. Dubbed "*The Salute to the Class*," the ceremony symbolizes the graduating class's acceptance of greater challenges and responsibilities as they transition from being members of the Cadet Corps, Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), to becoming full-fledged officers of the AFP and members of the PMAAAI. The event underscores their readiness to serve the Republic of the Philippines and its people with honor and commitment. We have also conducted the **PMAAAI and Affiliate Foundations Briefing with the newly PMA 2024 Graduates**, where several members of the board and I briefed them about several points, like PMAAAI's plans, programs, and member benefits, including medical and burial assistance, as well as scholarship opportunities for dependents of deceased or disabled members. Inspired by the briefing, the Class of 2024 pledged their engagement by signing up for membership.

Finally, the **Support for the PMA through the PMA Payback Fund** was also continued by the PMAAAI to help the PMA by supporting projects for the improvement of the PMA facilities. Recently, the Board has approved to fund the Rehabilitation and Refurbishment of the Jurado Hall and the PMA Gymnasium now named Progressive Resistance Training Center (PRTC) amounting to P8.7M. Moreover, the **Philippine Military Academy Foundation, Inc. (PMAFI)**, established in 1988 to help the PMA improve the quality of its instruction in search of academic excellence, supported the scholarship of five faculty members under the Facility Improvement Program and one scholar under the Sec 22K Program. The PMAFI also supported three regular professorial chair grants, 115 course development and administration chair grants, and nine (9) seminar grants. It also granted teaching excellence awards to 15 faculty members. The PMAFI also donated computers and other training equipment, and various books to the Academy. The PMAFI fund support to PMA in 2024 amounted to P2.493M. The total fund balance of PMAFI has reached P112.415 as of 31 December 2024.

For the final component of our threefold mission, which is to contribute to national development, we have established an initiative to **support victims of calamities**. The association decided to forego its Annual Christmas Celebration and instead donated its allocated budget to the GMA Kapuso Foundation, Inc. This initiative, supported by PMAAAI's Chapters and Affiliate Foundations, reflects their commitment to supporting fellow Filipinos in need. The P270,000 cash

donation ensures aid reaches affected communities, reinforcing the belief that helping others is a blessing in itself. Furthermore, we have partnered with the **Assembly of Service Academies and Schools Alumni Association of the Philippines (ASASAAP)**. ASASAAP, whose activities will be hosted by the Philippine Merchant Marine Academy Alumni Association, Inc., (PMMAAAI) for the AY 2024-2025, was established to enhance professional and leadership development, establish strong networking and engagement links, joint management of seminars, conferences, symposia, exchange of researches, publication and other materials of common interest and participation in nation-building. The members of this organization include: Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association Inc. (**PMAAAI**), Philippine National Police Academy Alumni Association Inc. (**PNPAAAI**), Philippine Air Force Flying School Alumni Association, Inc. (**PAFFSAAI**), Philippine Merchant Marine Academy Alumni Association, Inc. (**PMMAAAI**), Coast Guard Officer's Course Alumni Association, Inc. (**CGOSAAI**), Officer Candidate School Alumni Association, Inc. (**OCSAAI**), and the Alumni Society of Maritime Academy of Asia and the Pacific, Inc. (**ASMAAPI**).

Let us preserve our traditions with the utmost pride but also create new ways and strategies to practice them. Let us make our New Year's Resolution on the basis of our achievements from the previous year and create a better version of ourselves.

Finally, we also have a couple of activities lined up for this year. First, our **PMAAAI Annual General Membership Meeting for Association Year 2024-2025** is set to be held on 25 January 2025, at the AFP Commissioned Officers Club (AFPCOC), Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City. This year's theme: "*Advocates of Transformation: Cavaliers Leadership in Action*," reflects the association's commitment to fostering transformative leadership and excellence among its members. The PMAAAI Annual

General Membership Meeting promises to be a meaningful occasion celebrating leadership, service, and the enduring legacy of the Philippine Military Academy and its Cavaliers. Finally, the much-anticipated **PMA Alumni Homecoming 2025**, a cherished tradition held every third Saturday of February, is scheduled for 15 February 2025, at the Philippine Military Academy, Fort Del Pilar, Baguio City.

As 2025 has entered and moved on from 2024, so too do we, The Board, finally step down from our post to welcome the incoming Board of Directors. May the New Year inspire and motivate us to do more and improve upon ourselves. Let us preserve our traditions with the utmost pride but also create new ways and strategies to practice them. Let us make our New Year's Resolution on the basis of our achievements from the previous year and create a better version of ourselves. Only then can we set a goal to surpass our former selves. And so, may I greet everyone a Happy New Year and may the Almighty God be with us all this year!



ADJUTANT'S BULLETIN

Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association, Inc. AY 2024-2025 Accomplishment Report

With a vision “to be the most respected, responsive and efficient alumni association”, the Alumni Year 2024-2025 embraced a threefold mission derive from the previous alumni year: (a) to promote the general welfare of all alumni; (b) to support our Alma Mater; and (c) to contribute to national development. Building on this foundation, the Board of Directors are committed to advancing this mission with integrity, purpose, and unwavering dedication, addressing the evolving needs of the PMAAAI community while inspiring positive change.

“Continuing Innovation”, this year’s theme, reflects the visionary leadership of Cavalier RAUL S GONZALES ’75, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of PMAAAI. He envisioned a path inspired by the acronym **FORWARD**, where each letter embodied a core principle that guided and defined the collective journey of the PMAAAI:

Foster Unity: One of the greatest strengths lies in our unity as Cavaliers

Optimize Resources: As stewards of our association, we must strive to optimize the Resources at our disposal.

Revitalize Engagement: In a rapidly changing world, it is essential that we revitalize engagement among our members.

Wield Influence: As alumni of the Philippine Military Academy, we carry with us a legacy of Leadership and Influence.

Advance Our Mission: At the heart of our association lies a noble mission: to serve our Fellow alumni, support our alma mater, and contribute to national development.

Reignite Passion: Finally, let us reignite the passion that first brought us together as Cavaliers.

Drive Innovation: In a rapidly changing world, innovation is key to our growth.

The affairs and businesses of the Association are vested in the management team composed of the Chief Executive Officer, Chief Operating Officer and Executive Director. Tasked with oversight functions over the management team and policy formulation, the Board of Directors is composed of twenty members who supported the attainment of the mission of the association instilled with the core values of Courage, Integrity and Loyalty:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. CAV RAUL S GONZALES ’75 | Chairman and CEO |
| 2. CAV RAMON T PUNZALAN ’76 | Vice Chairman |
| 3. CAV GEORGE M BERGONIA ’95 | President and COO |
| 4. CAV PEDRO S AGAPITO ’96 | Vice President |
| 5. CAV DANILO E ESTRANERO ’94 | Corporate Secretary |
| 6. CAV RYAN L BAKABAK ’95 | Treasurer |
| 7. CAV ALLEN J DALANGIN ’95 | Auditor |
| 8. CAV JESSELITO L CASTRO ’98 | Director |
| 9. CAV RICARDO A DAVID JR ’77 | Director (PMARAI) |
| 10. CAV NARCISO A VINGSON JR ’85 | Director (PMARAI) |
| 11. CAV JUAN M SANCHEZ ’55 | Director (CPCP) |
| 12. CAV MIGUEL A LEONARDO ’65 | Director (CPCP) |
| 13. CAV FRANKLIN MOISES R MABANAG ’85 | Director (CPCP) |
| 14. CAV FERMIN M MABULO ’95 | Director (CPCP) |

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| 15. CAV LESTER T SINLAO ’05 | Director (CPCP) |
| 16. CAV STEVEN G TALI ’15 | Director (CPCP) |
| 17. CAV CHARLIE L TIU JR ’95 | Director (PAF Chapter) |
| 18. CAV WELL JEAN D ESMERIA ’16 | Director (PA Chapter) |
| 19. CAV WESTRIMUNDO D OBINQUE ’92 | Director (PNP Chapter) |
| 20. CAV NORSAL D DIMAPORO ’94 | Director (PN Chapter) |

EX-OFFICIO DIRECTORS

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. CAV DANILO A ABINOJA ’74 | PAST CHAIRMAN |
| 2. CAV MAGTANGGOL B GATDULA ’76 | PETFI |
| 3. CAV ERICKSON T VELASQUEZ ’85 | PFTJI |
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| 6. CAV CAESAR BERNAND N VALENCIA ’90 | PMA Supt |
| 7. CAV DOMINGO M PEQUIRAS ’77 | Executive Director |
| 8. CAV MARCES T GAYAT PA ’93 | Editor-In-Chief,
Cavalier Magazine |

Hence, listed below are the following programs for each of the threefold missions that we set out to accomplish for the Alumni Year 2024-2025:

I. PROMOTE GENERAL WELFARE OF ALUMNI

A. PMAAAI Successfully Conducts Flu and Pneumonia Vaccination Program

The Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association, Inc. (PMAAAI) conducted a successful Flu and Pneumonia Vaccination Program on 14 June 2024 at the PMA Alumni Center, A. Luna Avenue, Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City. This initiative aimed to provide essential vaccination to PMAAAI members and their immediate families, and reinforcing the community’s health and well-being.

The program saw the participation of 346 members and their families, who received the much-needed vaccines. The event was made possible through the support of a skilled medical team from the Veterans Memorial Medical Center (VMMC), led by its Head of Mission Dr. Alfredo C. Azarcon, Jr., MD, MHA, DPBRM, FPARM. The team consisted of five (5) doctors, ten (10) nurses, ten (10) pharmacists, and three (3) assistants, all of whom ensured the safe and efficient administration of the vaccines. Their expertise and dedication were vital to the program’s success.

The achievement of this program reflects the meticulous planning and execution by the organizing committee. The initiative was spearheaded by CAV HOSTILLO AE. CORNELIO ’95, Chairman of the Membership Committee, with support from CAV PEDRO S AGAPITO ’96, Vice President, and CAV NARCISO A VINGSON JR. ’85, Chairman of the Public Relations Committee.

The Flu and Pneumonia Vaccination Program stands as a testament to PMAAAI’s commitment to prioritizing the health

and well-being of its members, fostering a stronger and healthier community.

B. *Mutual Relief or “Abuloy”*

The Association continued to grant mutual relief or “*abuloy*” to the bereaved families of deceased members who were in good standing in accordance with the approved Board Resolution No. 17-18. This board resolution states the following: “increasing the amount of mutual relief being given to the family of a deceased member in good standing from P50,000.00 to P60,000.00 and from P5,000.00 to P10,000.00 to the family of a deceased member not in good standing”. For the period covered from March to December 2024, the total amount of **P3,010,000.00** from the Special Fund for Mutual Relief (SFMR) was granted as “*abuloy*” to dependents of deceased members.

C. *Medical Assistance*

The PMAAAI Board continued to provide medical assistance to those Cavaliers who are in good standing who were hospitalized due to illnesses.

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

For the past nine months, the total amount of **P760,000.00** from the Special Fund for Medical Assistance (SFMA) was disbursed to members in accordance with the new guidelines on the use of SFMA.

D. *Indoor Sports Tournament and Fellowship*

The Indoor Sports Tournament and Fellowship, organized by the PMAAAI Sports and Fellowship Committee in partnership with PMARAI, was hosted by various PMAAAI Chapters.

The Philippine Navy (PN) Chapter hosted the **Chess tournament** on 15 August 2024 at PNOC Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City, where the Navy emerged as champion, followed by the Air Force and Army. On 22 August 2024, the Philippine Air Force (PAF) Chapter hosted a **Table Tennis tournament** at Villamor Airbase, Pasay City, with the Air Force winning Men’s Singles and the Navy dominating Women’s Singles and Doubles. A **Pickleball** competition, hosted by the PMA Retirees Association, Inc (PMARAI) on 23 August 2024 at the Veterans Memorial Medical Center, marked a dynamic addition to the events, with participants showcasing exceptional skill. The **Badminton Tournament** on 28 August 2024 was hosted by the Philippine National Police (PNP) Chapter at Camp Crame, Quezon City, saw the PN crowned overall champion, with the PA and PAF as first and second runners-up, respectively. Finally, the **Basketball Tournament** hosted by the Philippine Army (PA) Chapter on 28-29 August, featured a thrilling opener between the Army and Navy. The Navy claimed overall victory, defeating both the Army and Air Force.

E. *“Game of the Cavaliers 2024” Golf Tournament*

The Game of the Cavaliers (GOC) 2024, organized by PMAAAI and PMARAI, was a prestigious annual golf tournament promoting camaraderie among Philippine Military Academy alumni while raising funds for alumni projects. This year’s event spanned iconic Philippine golf courses: Camp Aguinaldo (Oct. 24-27), Veterans Memorial (Nov. 5-7), Philippine Navy (Nov. 12-15), and the Final Championship at Villamor Air Base (Nov. 24).

With 460 participants across seven divisions—Superintendent’s (5), Commandant’s (60), Senior Tac O’s (85), Tac



O’s (158), Firstie’s (66), Cow’s (60), and Yearling’s (26)—GOC 2024 showcased exceptional golfing talent, fostering camaraderie and competitive spirit.

GOC 2024 celebrated outstanding performances across four prestigious venues, honoring, Overall Team Champion: Class 1992; Team Runner-Up: Class 2006; Overall Individual Champion: CAV JOMAR R CAÑAZARES ’06 and Individual Runner-Up: CAV RYAN EDMAR E SAMONTE ’06. Special recognitions added to the event’s vibrancy, including Best Dressed Team: Class 1985, Cavalier Ladies Champion: CAV EVA C MABBORANG ’07 (runner-up: CAV CHARO ESPAÑOLA ’06), and the coveted Cadet Company Champion: Alpha Company (runner-up: Bravo Company).

These exceptional players and teams embodied the spirit of talent, teamwork, and camaraderie, making GOC 2024 an unforgettable event. The success of the tournament is a testament to the dedicated efforts of CAV FRANKLIN MOISES R MABANAG ’85, GOC, Tournament Director, CAV JOEL G CANTOS ’84 and CAV NARCISO A VINGSON JR ’85 GOC, Overall Coordinators, Chapter Representatives and the members of the Tournament Committee.

F. *PMA JURADO CUP International 2024*

The PMA Jurado Cup International is a sports event organized by the PMA Cavaliers, composed of former cadets based in the continental United States and nearby countries. The event aims to foster camaraderie and fellowship through various sports competitions and social activities.

This year’s Jurado Cup, officially titled the “Philippine Military Academy Plebes and Cavaliers Jurado Cup ‘Disney World’ 2024,” was proudly sponsored by the PMA South East Chapter USA. It took place from 07-11 November 2024, in Orlando, Florida, USA.

CAV DOMINGO M PEQUIRAS ’77, Executive Director of PMAAAI, had the honor of attending the PMA Jurado Cup 2024 as a representative of the Association. During the event, he had the opportunity to discuss the Association’s membership qualifications, upcoming programs and activities, and the exciting news about the newly constructed PMAAAI building located at Lawton Avenue, Bonifacio Global City.

The event, organized and chaired by CAV RICO S LLOREN ’92, gathered a sizable number of participants, including



representatives from the Philippines, particularly Classes 1979, 1983, 1987 and 1995. It served as a meaningful “homecoming” for the PMA community outside the Philippines, reinforcing bonds and celebrating shared traditions.

G. PMAAAI Family Sportsfest

The traditional PMAAAI Cavaliers Family Sportsfest, a cherished family day for members of the Association and their



loved ones, was successfully held on 18 January 2025 at the GHQ Grandstand, Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City. The event was graced by AFP Chief of Staff, CAV ROMEO S BRAWNER JR '89, who attended as the Guest of Honor and Speaker.

The activity was spearheaded by CAV FRANKLIN MOISES R. MABANAG '85, Chairman of the Sports and Fellowship Committee, whose leadership ensured the event's resounding success. He emphasized that the Sportsfest served as an excellent opportunity for bonding, fellowship, and camaraderie among Cavaliers and their families.

This year's Sportsfest the Cavaliers and their families were grouped by Chapters, replacing the previous tradition of grouping participants according to the CCAFP Companies the alumni graduated with. This change fostered stronger connections within chapters while maintaining the spirit of unity among all attendees.

The event's highlights included a series of Palarong Pinoy (Traditional Filipino Games), bringing a nostalgic and joyful experience for everyone. The lineup of games featured: Patintero (Block the Runner); Agawan Base (Capture the Base); Shatong (Stick Game); Batuhan ng Bola (Dodge Ball); Hilahang Lubid (Tug of War); Kadang-Kadang (Stilt Race); Karera ng Sako (Sack Race); Burger Eating Relay and Tire Roll Relay. These traditional games proved to be more practical, engaging, and enjoyable than conventional sports tournaments, sparking laughter and enthusiastic participation across all age groups. The PN Chapter emerged as the over-all champion while the PAF and Coast Guard (CG) Chapters were crowned as first and second runners-up respectively. The activity showcased the enduring spirit of fun, teamwork, and camaraderie that defines the PMAAAI Cavaliers community.

H. 1st Chairman's Cup Shooting Competition

The 1st Chairman's Cup Shooting Competition successfully concluded on 22 September 2024 at the QCPC Firing Range in Camp Karingal, Quezon City. The two-day event, which kicked off on 21 September 2024, brought together elite shooters from various divisions, fostering a spirit of competition and camaraderie. CAV JESSELITO CASTRO '98 delivered the welcoming remarks to open the event officially, followed by PMAAAI Chairman and CEO Cav RAUL S. GONZALES '75, who launched the ceremonial shoot-off to inaugurate the match.

Sanctioned by the PPSA as a Level 1 match, the competition featured six meticulously designed stages, challenging participants in speed, accuracy, and technical shooting prowess. In the Individual Standard Division, Mr. Johnley Liong clinched the championship title. Meanwhile, the Philippine Coast Guard team demonstrated exceptional skill, emerging as overall champions in both the Team Classic and Production categories.

II. SUPPORT ALMA MATER

A. Support for the PMA through the PMA Payback Fund

The PMAAAI continues to help the PMA through the PMA Payback Fund by supporting projects for the improvement of the PMA facilities. Recently, the Board has approved to fund the Rehabilitation and Refurbishment of the Jurado Hall and the PMA Gymnasium now named Progressive Resistance Training Center (PRTC) amounting to **P8.7M**.

B. Unveiling of Class Crest and Ring Ceremony of PMA Bagong Sinag Class of 2024

The 278 graduating cadets of the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) “BAGONG SINAG” Class of 2024 took their oath



as part of the Long Gray Line on 12 May 2024. The Salute to the Class and Ring Ceremony was highlighted by the presence of PMAAAI President and COO, CAV GEORGE M BERGONIA '95, who served as the keynote speaker. PMA Superintendent, CAV ROWEN S TOLENTINO '89, also graced the event, reaffirming his unwavering support and guidance to the graduating cadets.

Dubbed "The Salute to the Class," the ceremony symbolizes the graduating class's acceptance of greater challenges and responsibilities as they transition from being members of the Cadet Corps, Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), to becoming full-fledged officers of the AFP and members of the PMAAAI. The event underscores their readiness to serve the Republic of the Philippines and its people with honor and commitment.

C. PMAAAI and Affiliate Foundations Briefing with newly PMAA 2024 Graduates

On 12 May 2024, Cav GEORGE M BERGONIA '95, President and COO of PMAAAI, along with PMAAAI Board representatives and affiliate foundations, visited the Philippine Military Academy to brief the graduating "Bagong Sinag" Class of 2024.

Cav HOSTILLO E CORNELIO '95, Chairman of the Membership and Welfare Committee, highlighted PMAAAI's plans, programs, and member benefits, including medical and burial assistance. Cav MIGUEL JOSE S RODRIGUEZ '80, a PETFI Trustee, outlined scholarship opportunities for dependents of deceased or disabled members.

The session concluded with Cav BERGONIA's closing remarks, reaffirming PMAAAI's commitment to its members. Inspired by the briefing, the Class of 2024 pledged their engagement by signing up for membership.

D. Philippine Military Academy Foundation, Inc. (PMAFI) support to PMA

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

In 2024, the Foundation supported the scholarship of five faculty members under the Facility Improvement Program and one scholar under the Sec 22K Program. The PMAFI also supported three regular professorial chair grants, 115 course development and administration chair grants, and nine seminar grants. It also granted teaching excellence awards to 15 faculty members.

The PMAFI donated computers and other training equipment, and various books to the Academy. It also supported its facilities improvement projects. The PMAFI fund support to PMA in 2024 amounted to **P2.493M**.

III. CONTRIBUTE TO NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

A. Support for the Victims of Calamities

PMAAAI chose to forego its Annual Christmas Celebration and instead donated its allocated budget to GMA Kapuso Foundation, Inc. This initiative, supported by PMAAAI's Chapters and Affiliate Foundations reflects their commitment





Ms. Carmela "Mel" Tiangco, Ambassador and Special Adviser, GMAKF with PMAAAI Chairman, PMAAAI chapter and affiliate foundation representatives.

to supporting fellow Filipinos in need. The **P270,000.00** cash donation ensures aid reaches affected communities, reinforcing the belief that helping others is a blessing in itself.

B. Forge ties with the Assembly of Service Academies and Schools Alumni Association of the Philippines (ASASAAP)

Initially conceptualized by then PMAAAI Chairman, CAV EDGAR B AGLIPAY '71, to foster closer coordination and camaraderie among various Alumni Association, the Assembly of Service Academies and Schools Alumni Association of the Philippines (ASASAAP) was organized. This aggrupation consisted of seven alumni associations, namely: Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association Inc. (**PMAAAI**), Philippine National Police Academy Alumni Association Inc. (**PNPAAAI**), Philippine Air Force Flying School Alumni Association, Inc. (**PAFFSAAI**), Philippine Merchant Marine Academy Alumni Association, Inc. (**PMMAAAI**), Coast Guard Officer's Course Alumni Association, Inc. (**CGOCAAI**), Officer Candidate School Alumni Association, Inc. (**OCSAAI**), and the Alumni Society of Maritime Academy of Asia and the Pacific, Inc. (**ASMAAPI**).

CAV AGLIPAY acted as the first Chairman, while the organization was at its infancy stage. The set-up for Chairmanship was that each year, one association will assume the chairmanship, however, CAV AGLIPAY let his successor, CAV AMADO T ESPINO JR, then the PMAAAI Chairman, take over temporarily while the next associations has not fielded their chairman yet. Succeeding year

was then chaired by the PNPAAI with Lakan William Macabanta as Chairman. After a year of its tenure, the chairmanship was then turned over to the PAFFSAAI with Gen Dimaano as chair. He eventually turned it over to the present organization, the PMMAAAI with Commodore Jeremias Simon, MNSA.

These accomplishments cited beforehand for the AY 2024-2025 would not be possible if not for the support from the **finance committee** through the treasurer of the association and the **approved board resolutions** for transparency and accountability, to wit:

A. Finance

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

From 01 October 2023 to 30 September 2024, the unaudited gross revenue totaled P32,489,424 inclusive of the P6,363,388 net proceeds from the Games of the Cavaliers Golf Tournament and Yulestar Christmas Concert Series, with total expenses of P28,968,492, resulting in excess of receipts over expenses of P3,520,932. Total investment income for the one-year period is P7,083,654 which is about 22% of the total revenues. The Board also approved the distributions of the net proceeds from the Game of the Cavaliers to the following: PMAAAI – 60%; PMARAI – 30% and Council of PMA Class Presidents (CPCP) – 10%.

Moreover, the unaudited total assets as of 30 September 2024 amounted to P134,898,233. The total assets are broken down into: cash and cash equivalents – P6,240,404, investments – P113,423,219, receivables – P13,713,420 and other current assets and noncurrent assets– P1,521,190.

The total liabilities amounted to P1,473,873. The fund balance which stood at P133,424,360 is P3.5M more than P129,903,428 unaudited figure as of 30 September 2023. The fund balances are broken down as follows: General Fund – P12,857,606; Principal Fund – P34,898,216; Special Fund for PMA Payback – P13,579,321; Special Fund for PACDP – P45,391,675; Special Fund for Mutual Relief – P8,453,718; and Special Fund for Medical Assistance – P18,243,824.

The PMAAAI Board has recently reviewed its investment portfolio to ensure the safety and productivity of the fund placements. The management is highly concerned about the safety of the funds, so all placements and investments are thoroughly analyzed and evaluated by the Finance Committee Chairman before getting the approval of the Board of Directors. Currently, the PMAAAI Board approved a P20M investment broken down as follows: P10M in City Savings, P5M in BPI and P5M in LBP with interest rates of 4.9%, 4.6% and 4.8% per annum, respectively.

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

B. *Approved Resolutions*

The PMAAAI Board of Directors for AY 2024-2025 has passed significant Board resolutions notable of which are:

- Approving the refund of the over-remittances deducted from the salary of PAF members of the PMA Class 2012 in the total amount of P713,836.00 as recommended by the finance committee.
- Approving the proposal of the IT Administrator to renew the PMAAAI website domain and website SSL certificate in the amount of P24,565.89 and hiring of a web administrator with a monthly allowance of P3,000.00.
- Approving the sharing and distribution of the net proceeds from the Game of the Cavaliers Golf Tournament 2023.
- Approval of the reinvestment of the P2,910,000 and P3,000,000 in time deposits with ACDI with an interest rate of 5.5% per annum.
- Approval of the reinvestment of P4,000,000 in time deposit with ACDI with an interest rate of 5.5% per annum.
- Approving the additional investment of P20,000,000 in time deposits (TD) with City Saving and Bank of Philippine Islands (BPI), and Treasury Bill (TB) with Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP).
- Approving the opening of savings account in City Savings Bank, Inc and Authorized Check Signatories.

- Approving the opening of Savings Account in BPI and Authorized Check Signatories;
- Approving the reinvestment of the P8.5 Million in a time deposits with ACDI at an interest rate of 6% per annum.
- Approving the release of P8,723,997.35 from the Special Fund for PMA Payback for the two priority projects.
- Approving the allocation of P2,710,750 as payment for the installation of power lines and related requirements, from the Fort Bonifacio power line of Headquarters, Philippine Army to the PMAAAI Building in Lawton Avenue Taguig City.

IV. **FURTHER DETAILS**

For the Associations' upcoming activity, the *PMA Alumni Homecoming 2025* is scheduled for 15 February 2025, at the Philippine Military Academy, Fort Del Pilar, Baguio City. As everyone is aware, it is a much-anticipated and a cherished tradition held every third Saturday of February. This day of celebration will feature several highlights, including the conferment of the prestigious *Cavalier Awards* and *Lifetime Achievement Award*.

A significant part of the program will be the oath-taking of the incoming members of the incoming PMAAAI Board of Directors. The new board's term is set to commence on 01 March 2025.

This year's event will also honor the Jubilarians, with the Class of 1965 being recognized as Diamond Jubilarians, the Class of 1975 as Golden Jubilarians, and the Class of 2000 as Silver Jubilarians. The Class of 1995, designated as the Lead Managing Class, will oversee the planning and execution of activities for both the Convention and Homecoming. Their efforts are guided by the direction and support of the PMAAAI Board of Directors.

The 2025 Alumni Homecoming promises to be a memorable celebration of camaraderie, tradition, and the enduring legacy of the Philippine Military Academy.

The Board of Directors of the PMA Alumni Association, Inc. has selected Cavalier Awardees for AY 2024 - 2025, 14 alumni who, after a stringent nomination and selection process, have been found to have the most outstanding performance in their respective fields. The Board has also selected other alumni to receive the Outstanding Achievement Award (OAA) and the Lifetime Achievement Award (LAA). See pages 10-13 for the list of awardees for AY 2024-2025.

The one-year term may be too short—definitely not enough—to accomplish everything the PMAAAI Board of Directors, AY 2024-2025 envisioned for the Association. However, they can proudly say that during their tenure, they have kept the Association vibrant and productive.

In every collective endeavor, they have been deeply inspired by the unwavering support of each and every member of the Association. They extend their heartfelt gratitude to all the members for their steadfast commitment to their shared mission and goals. May the incoming Board of Directors continue to conduct the programs successfully and improve upon the necessary points to ensure that these activities are executed for the betterment of the organization.



CAVALIER AWARDEES and Other Outstanding Alumni, AY 2024-2025

• **CAV RICARDO A DAVID, JR '77**
Chairman, Awards Committee AY 2024-2025

The Board of Directors of the PMA Alumni Association, Inc. (PMAAAI) has selected as Cavalier Awardees for AY 2024-2025 fourteen (14) alumni who, after a stringent nomination and selection process, have been found to have the most outstanding performance in their respective fields. The Board has also selected other alumni to receive the Lifetime Achievement Award and Outstanding Achievement Award. They have brought honor not only to themselves but also to our Association. Besides exemplifying the Academy's motto of Courage, Integrity, and Loyalty, they have distinguished themselves among equally competent and devoted alumni-achievers. The awardees, who merit our snappy salute and highest praises, are the following:

CAVALIER AWARDEES

For Command and Administration

CAV ALAN MADRID JAVIER '92 PN, 66th Chief of Naval Staff, serves as principal advisor to the Flag Officer In Command, focusing on streamlining operations and optimizing resource management.

He has commanded PN vessels, namely: BRP Apollo Tiano, BRP Bonny Serrano, BRP Miguel Malvar and BRP Rajah Humabon, and led various Naval Task Groups and the Naval Task Force 61 at Naval Forces Western Mindanao.

As Commander Naval Forces West, he successfully implemented the AFP's Territorial Defense Plan "Kalasag," overseeing 65 critical Rotation and Reprovision missions in the nine Philippine occupied features, 252 Sovereignty Patrols and 186 Maritime Air Surveillance Missions in the WPS, thus, navigating complex operational challenges to secure the nation's sovereignty and strengthen maritime security in the Nation's Western Frontier.

CAV JAVIER PN also served as Course Director, Tactical Officer, Supply and Logistics Officer and CO, Cadet Mess at PMA, shaping future naval and AFP leaders. His integrity and dedication to duty make him a deserving recipient of the Cavalier Award.



For Staff Functions

CAV JOEL A INACAY '94 PAF

Cav Inacay is an embodiment of the PMA core values: Courage, Integrity and Loyalty. His significant achievements resulted in the transformation and modernization of both the Philippine Air Force and the entire Defense Department.

During his tenure as A-4, he spearheaded the acquisitions of 820 PAF/AFP/DND major projects amounting to P62.22 Billion pesos and unprecedented innovations on the automation of four Logistics systems that remarkably enhanced PAF's efficiency. These immensely contributed to the achievement of the AFP/DND's Strategic goals.



He transcended in imposing others' lives and the community/country through his various philanthropic activities as a Freemason, Shriners International, and Kiwanis Club member.

For Special Operations

CAV JOSEPH JEREMIAS CIRILO C DATOR III '97 PA

Cav Dator is a decorated military officer with extensive experience in counter terrorism, intelligence, and peacekeeping operations. As the Commander of the 10th Military Intelligence Battalion, he spearheaded successful Special Intelligence Operations leading to the neutralization of 79 prominent Communist Terrorist personalities, including four Guerrilla Front Secretaries and seven Guerilla Front Commanding Officers leading to the dismantling of six Guerilla Fronts, two Sub-Regional Committees, and four Sub Regional Guerilla Units operating in the Davao region, bringing about peace and immense economic development opportunities. Cav Dator's leadership, dedication to his troops' welfare, and strategic management of resources were instrumental in achieving organizational readiness, fostering unity and camaraderie, and realizing long lasting peace thereat. With these humble accomplishments, he was recognized as one of the "Ten Outstanding Filipinos" by the Metrobank Foundation, Inc. and a recipient of the "Ten Outstanding Pilipino Soldiers" in 2023 thereby bringing honor and pride not only to himself but to the whole PMAAAI family as well.



For Army Operations - Senior Officer Category

CAV LOUIE G DEMA-ALA '99

Cav Dema-ala has lived up to the PMA motto, Courage, Integrity and Loyalty. As the 67th Infantry Battalion Commander, he led his unit with excellence and sterling leadership. In his tenure as commander, the following Guerilla Fronts and parallel groups: WGF15, WGF20, WGF25, PBC8, and SRC1, were dismantled. And a month before leaving his post, 67IB was able to neutralize @BOSYONG the Front Secretary of GF North. Hence, he left the unit with one last GF that was being deliberated for dismantling. From intensive FMO in the province of Davao Oriental, the unit is now conducting Sustainment Operations in the area because Cav Dema-ala led the unit that has greatly contributed in making the first district of the province, a peaceful and a conflict-resilient community.



For Army Operations - Junior Officer Category

CAV NURSAIF N RADIA '14

A highly commendable officer hailing from Marawi, Cav Radia showed exemplary performance of his duties as a military officer. He led his unit across the country performing special operations, mission and providing technical assistance and training to other



Army units. Notable accomplishment includes the neutralization of foreign terrorist in Sulu and contributions to the neutralization of high-ranking CTGs both in Bukidnon and Samar. Before this, he was also instrumental in the liberation of his hometown, Marawi in 2017. Schooled locally and abroad, he is versatile officer trained in various specialized skills which he utilizes in the conduct of his duties. He embodies the essence of being a Cavalier, a man of Courage, Integrity and Loyalty.

For Air Operations - Senior Officer Category

CAV OMAR FRIDZKHAN S ALPA '00 PAF

Cav Alpa has exhibited outstanding leadership and dedication throughout his career. During his tenure as Group Commander of Tactical Operations Group 11 (May 2021–May 2023), Cav Alpa played a pivotal role in declaring the Davao Region insurgency-free. Through his strategic leadership and operational expertise.

He held key roles within PAF, including Director for Aircraft Maintenance Management, Director for Plans and Program, Executive Officer of the Office of the Assistant Chief of Air Staff for Logistics, A-4, and Director for Operations of the 420th Supply Wing. His leadership at the Tactical Operations Group 11 stands out as a testament to his capability to manage immense responsibilities effectively.

As the air component commander for Joint Task Force Agila, Cav Alpa demonstrated exemplary leadership in orchestrating successful air operations that supported various Focused Military Operations aimed at dismantling guerilla fronts in the Davao region. His contributions significantly enhanced security and counterinsurgency efforts in the area.

Cav Alpa has recognition by the Ovu Manobo tribe as “Datu Solirok” for supporting indigenous communities. Cav Alpa has positively impacted the lives of indigenous individuals providing them with assistance and hope for a better future.

Finally, Cav Alpa was also a finalist to the 2024 Metrobank Outstanding Filipino Soldier Award. He is a Distinguished Graduate of the National Defense University of Malaysia’s Strategic and Defense Studies program.

For Air Operations - Junior Officer Category

CAV LAWRENCE B DE CASTRO '10

A veteran of many campaigns and battles in the AFP’s continuing Internal Security Operations, he has always been at the frontline providing critical surface strike support and making significant contributions to the neutralization and dismantling of various LTG group fronts. Aside from his competency and skills as an attack pilot of the AW-109AH and T-129 ATAK, his dedication as an instructor pilot were highly instrumental in the development of future generations of attack pilots and his duties as a test pilot have ensured that the 15SW will have adequate surface strike platforms to support the operational needs of the different Unified Commands. Being among the pioneer T-129 ATAK pilots of the PAF, Cav De Castro has played a critical role in the successful integration and operationalization of these highly advanced and more capable dedicated attack helicopters.

In the various leadership positions he has held, Cav De Castro has always maintained the highest standards of work ethic and professionalism – ensuring that the same streak and passion for



excellence is also passed on to the more junior officers, while promoting a culture of positive and transformative leadership among his peers and superior officers.

For Naval Operations - Senior Officer Category

CAV HOMER D GONZALEZ '98 PN

Cav Gonzalez currently plays a pivotal role as the Secretary Naval Staff in-charge of managing communications, documents, and operations of the HPN Staff to support the PN’s strategic objectives and initiatives.

A seasoned Surface Warfare Officer, Cav Gonzalez ably skippered PN assets for high-profile international missions, including the Russian Navy Fleet Review, Republic of Korea Port Visit, and the first and only HADR deployment of PN commissioned vessels to Oman, Sri Lanka, and India in 2020, repatriating displaced Filipinos amidst the Middle East conflict and worldwide pandemic. In his earlier role as Ex-O, he charted and navigated one of the first-ever PN vessels to participate in the prestigious RIMPAC 2018 Exercise, marking a milestone in the PN’s global engagement.

Locally, he contributed to critical operations, including sealift operation during the Marawi Crisis, transported Locally Stranded Individuals and PPEs during COVID-19 pandemic, and leading the Naval Task Group “KARAGATAN” for Northern Mindanao’s rehabilitation after Typhoon Odette in 2021.

For Naval Operations - Junior Officer Category

CAV DWIGHT KENT D PAYOSALAN '15 PN (M)

Cav Payosalan is a proud member of PMA “Sinaglahi” Class of 2015, he serves as the Commanding Officer of the 23rd Marine Company, Marine Battalion Landing Team-3 (MBLT-3), Philippine Marine Corps. Under his leadership, the unit was adjudged the Best Rifle Company for two consecutive years, 2021 and 2022. He co-authored the “The Endgame: Journey Towards and Insurgency-Free Palawan Province.” He also excelled as the Intelligence Officer of MBLT-3, leading operations against illegal immigration and foreign illegal activities. His efforts in gathering information in northern Palawan significantly enhanced external defense operations, strengthening the nation’s readiness amid developments in the West Philippine Sea.

For Police Operations

CAV SIDNEY N VILLAFLORES '92

Under Cav Villaflores’ exemplary leadership, the Police Regional Office 6 has achieved unprecedented milestones in maintaining peace and order in the region. His strategic approach to law enforcement, combined with his compassionate understanding of community needs, has led to significant improvements in crime prevention and resolution. Moreover, his emphasis on community-oriented policing has fostered stronger ties between law enforcement units and the public, creating an environment of trust and cooperation.

His accomplishments extend beyond his exemplary service record. He has consistently demonstrated a strong commitment to the



continuous professional development of his personnel, implementing programs that have elevated the capabilities and efficiency of the police force in the Western Visayas region.

As a leader, Cav Villaflor exhibits exceptional interpersonal skills, humility, and an open-door policy that encourages collaboration and teamwork among his colleagues. His ability to inspire and motivate those around him has resulted in a positive and harmonious work environment with the Police Regional Office 6.

For Coast Guard Operations

CAV ROMMEL A SUPANGAN '95

Throughout the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) century-old narrative, as a uniformed, armed, seagoing and humanitarian service, it never failed to heed the call of our fellow Filipinos, always in their time of need. The Coast Guard service, continues in providing steadfast service and dedication to duty during times of calamity; for securing the safety of life and property at sea; for protecting the marine environment; maintaining peace and order at sea; upholding the country's maritime security and promoting our maritime rights.

In the recent past, the PCG has taken on many new duties. Critical of that is now being at the frontline in the defense of the maritime territory, in defense of the economic zones, in defense of the sovereignty, sovereign rights and jurisdiction. Although this may not have been originally part of the mission of the PCG, the officers, men and women of this institution have been performing that mission with honor, with skill, with dedication and passion to serve.

As a cavalier, an officer and a gentleman, Cav Supangan rises to these contemporaneous and extemporaneous roles of the PCG. He distinguished himself in various Coast Guard Operations such as Search and Rescue Operations, Humanitarian and Disaster Response Operations, Maritime Safety, Marine Environmental Protection, Law Enforcement and Maritime Security Operations. Cav Supangan remained steadfast to the core values of the PMA in assuming his pivotal role as Coast Guard senior officer.

For Special Field: Retired Category

1. CAV TIBURCIO N FUSILERO '71 PNP – Special Field on Environmental Protection

Cav Fusilero entered into a Memorandum of Agreement with the DENR on 15 November 2000 for the rehabilitation, protection, and conversion of 504 hectares of Timberland in Sitio Cantipla, Barangay Tabunan, Cebu City for 25 years, through the Kantipla Ecosystems Enhancement and Protection (KEEP) Foundation, Inc. In this period, the Foundation was able to plant 379,183 dipterocarp fruit-bearing trees, restoring the area and making the place a home to vast species of flora and fauna. Due to this effort, the area is currently acknowledged as the last remaining rainforest in the entire Central Cebu under the Central Cebu Protected Landscape. At present, he seeks to protect the area from individuals who wish to own a land in the protected rainforest area through legal titling, sale, occupation, and building of illegal structures.

2. CAV PEDRITO S CADUNGOG '75 PAF – Special Field of Education Category

Prior to his appointment as the 30th Commanding General, PAF, Cav Cadungog was assigned as the The Deputy Chief of Staff, AFP in



2007 where Integrated Montessori Center, Inc. entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the AFP Educational Benefit System Office to provide educational assistance and scholarships to dependents of Killed-in-Action and Wounded-in-Action AFP and PNP personnel. Aside from this, tuition fee discounts were given to dependents of Enlisted Personnel and Junior Grade Officers. Moreover, Cav Cadungog together with his wife, Angeli offered full scholarships to dependents of AFP Medal of Valor Awardees.

As for contribution to national development and economic progress. Cav Cadungog and his wife effectively guided in the management of the Montessori school system resulting in an extraordinary outcome of high school graduates achieving academic excellence in college.

As for Corporate Social Responsibility, Cav Cadungog offered the school's Multi-Purpose Hall as AFPOVAI's venue for social activities, meetings and even the conduct of regular annual election officers and members of the Board of Directors. Added to this is the school's commitment to provide one security guard to man one of the access gates of Phase 2 AFPOVAI and paid the amount of P290,325.60 for 2023 as Association dues for the two school buildings.

For Special Field: Active Service Category

CAV ROMULO II DG DIMAYUGA '05 PN(M)

Cav Dimayuga distinguished himself on military innovation, small unmanned aircraft systems or micro drone, and academic excellence as a multi-awarded student academe from June 2019 to December 2020.

He innovated a micro drone supported by an award-winning master's thesis which contributed to the advancement of defense-related science and technology, initiated a culture of innovation on unmanned systems, and merited positive strategic implications to the United States-Philippines security cooperation.

He is the first Filipino alumnus of the Naval Postgraduate School to be awarded with: "NPS Outstanding Academic Achievement Award for International Students," Degree "With Distinction", and Outstanding Thesis."

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARDEES

The Lifetime Achievement Award is being given to a regular member of PMAAAI who has rendered at least 50 years of distinguished, outstanding, exemplary and unblemished service to the country and people, whether in government and/or in non-government organization, who must have served for at least two years as head of any such organization, and who must have been a recipient of any of the other Association awards. This year's Lifetime Achievement Awardees are:

1. CAV ERNESTO CLEMENT I SACRO '65

Cav Sacro dedicated over 50 years to military service including servant-leadership. A distinguished PMA graduate, a jet fighter pilot turned reverent pastor, he is the first AFP Auxiliary Chaplain and a Bishop. He championed the revitalization of moral values and the transformation of ethical standards through the Military Values Education (MILVED), and



Chaplaincy Programs. His compassionate ministry extends to the uniformed services and civilian sectors across the nation and beyond the country's borders transforming and preparing them to be of better service to God, country, people and family.

2. **CAV EDUARDO MA R SANTOS '66**

Not long after his retirement as Flag Officer in Command, Philippine Navy on 16 October 1999, Cav Eduardo Ma R Santos was hired as the first President of the Maritime Academy of Asia and the Pacific (MAAP) in 1999 by the Associate Marine Officers and Seamen's Union of the Philippines (AMOSUP).

Since he started his career as a PMA cadet up to the present, Cav Santos has rendered more than 58 years on non-stop government and non-government service. In recognition of his exemplary and dedicated service to his country, he has been awarded by the PMAAAI, three Cavalier Awards in 1986, 1998 and 2007. Likewise, his 23 years as President of the Maritime Academy of Asia and the Pacific, from a newly-established maritime training institution to one at par with the best in the world, is a monumental feat worthy of emulation by his fellow cavaliers. It is noteworthy to mention here that during his tenure as President, MAAP trained more than 15,500 uniformed servicemen of the country, including cadets of the PMA, from 2008 to 2024, free of charge. Without saying, this contributed to the enhancement of the quality of seamen and officers manning the ships that sail the seas.



3. **CAV ISAIAS F BEGONIA '69**

Cav Begonia is a career foreign service officer who passed the highly competitive Foreign Service Examination, not a political appointee, and rose to the highest level of Ambassador Plenipotentiary through merit. After his retirement as Ambassador in the foreign service, he continued to work in the private sector as Director of International Business Relations with Universal Harvester, Inc. The Company is engaged in the business of agricultural products and fertilizers whose clientele and business partnership extend to the Asian and European markets. His extensive network in the international business community has generated goodwill and opportunities, that contributed to economic benefits for the country. These initiatives that he has accomplished personify the culture of service and excellence of a Cavalier.

His stint in the military service specifically the Philippine Constabulary is equally outstanding and meritorious. His record of service and the service reputation that he has established among his seniors, peers and subordinates alike are unsullied. He was never been involved nor investigated in civil or criminal complaints or cases involving moral turpitude. His integrity is well intact. He has rendered a total number of 54 years cumulative service excluding cadetship, as a basic requirement for the award.



4. **CAV MARCIANO A PAYNOR JR '71**

Cav Marciano A Paynor, Jr has served continuously in government and non-government organizations for more than 50 years. He was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the PC, AFP in 1971 and served up to 1983 and thereafter joined the Foreign Service from 1983 to 2014. From 2014 to 2016, he was appointed as the Director General of the National Hosting Committee for APEC and



from 2014 to 2016, he was again appointed as Director General of the National Hosting for ASEAN Conference and Related Meetings. He was the Managing Director/Consultant with oversight in Crisis and Disaster Management and Security of the Ayala Corporation from 2018 to 2022. At present, he is an Undersecretary in the Office of the Executive Secretary in Malacañang where he was appointed in late 2022.

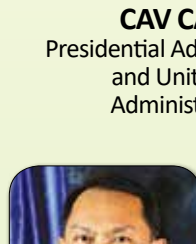
OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARDEES

The Outstanding Achievement Award is being given to regular members who have distinguished themselves by being elected or appointed to high positions in government. This year's Outstanding Achievement Awardees are:



CAV EDUARDO M AÑO '83

National Security Adviser under the administration of President Ferdinand "Bongbong" R. Marcos, Jr.



CAV CARLITO G GALVEZ, JR '85

Presidential Adviser on Peace, Reconciliation and Unity of the Philippines under the Administration of President Ferdinand "Bongbong" R. Marcos, Jr.



CAV ARTHUR M CORDURA '90

– 40th Commanding General, Philippine Air Force



CAV ROMMEL FRANCISCO D MARBIL '91

- 30th Chief, Philippine National Police



CAV JOSE MA AMBROSIO Q EZPELETA '91

- 41st Flag Officer-in-Command, Philippine Navy



VALOR AWARDEE (POSTHUMOUS)

CAV DHELLHUN C EVANGELISTA PA '06 (+)



A vibrant rainbow appeared in the background, perfectly capturing the spirit of the day—a symbol of unity, hope, and camaraderie among Cavaliers and their families.

Cavaliers Family SportsFest 2025: A Day of Unity and Camaraderie

The Cavaliers Family SportsFest 2025, held on January 18 at Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City, was a resounding success, bringing together 329 participants from various Chapters. The event, hosted by the Army Chapter, was marked by perfect weather and a vibrant rainbow, symbolizing the unity and camaraderie among Cavaliers and their families.

The day's highlights included an inspiring message from Cav Romeo Brawner Jr. '89, Chief of Staff, AFP, who emphasized the importance of camaraderie and family. Participants engaged in traditional Filipino sports such as Patintero, Agawan Base, and Hilahang Lubid, enjoying the competitive yet friendly atmosphere. Families also participated in the fun, with events like the Burger Eating Relay and Sack Race, adding to the day's warmth and laughter.

The Navy Chapter emerged as the overall champion, demonstrating excellent teamwork and spirit. The day was rounded off with a delicious food fest and a raffle draw, where participants had the chance to win exciting prizes.

The event program included a ceremonial march, opening remarks from Cav Ricardo A David Jr '77, PMARAI President. The

closing ceremony featured the awarding of event winners and raffle prizes, with Cav Raul S. Gonzales '75, Chairman of PMAAAI, offering closing remarks.

Overall, the SportsFest was a celebration of family, sportsmanship, and the enduring Cavalier spirit.



Navy secures Title Overall Champion



Over 300 participants from various Chapters, including the Army, Air Force, Navy, Coastguard, and PCAI, attended the event with Cav Romeo Brawner Jr. '89, Chief of Staff of AFP, as the esteemed Guest of Honor and Speaker.

CAVALIERS FAMILY SPORTSFEST 2025



Members of the PMAAAI Board of Officers in attendance, showing their unwavering support for the event.



Families and dependents of Cavaliers in full participation, enjoying the event's festivities and camaraderie.



Tire Relay
Winner-Navy Chapter



Karera ng Sako
Winner-Air Force Chapter



Burger Eating Relay
Winner-Air Force Chapter



Kadang Kadang
Winner-Coast Guard Chapter



Hilahang Lubid
Winner-Air Force Chapter



PMAAAI Officers challenges the winner in the Hilahang Lubid.



SportsFest ++ FoodFest



Cav Raul S. Gonzales '75, Chairman of PMAAAI, expresses gratitude to participants and organizers for the successful conclusion of the event.



"Congratulations to Trisha Rona Aynera, an Army dependent, on winning the Major Raffle Draw prize: a 50-inch Smart TV!"



A celebration of family, sportsmanship, and the enduring Cavalier spirit.



PHILIPPINE MILITARY ACADEMY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, INC.



CAVALIERS FAMILY SPORTSFEST 2025

Saturday, 18 January 2025
Registration starts at 6:30am
GHQ Grandstand, Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo
Quezon City

PROGRAM

PART I: 6:00-7:00AM-Registration by Chapter

PART II: 7:15AM- March into formation by Chapter at the Parade Ground

PART III: Opening Ceremony

- IF - Invocation
- Philippine National Anthem
- Welcome Remarks
- Raising of Chapter Banners
- Introduction of GOHAS
- Message of GOHAS
- Declaration of Opening of Games
- Oath of Sportsmanship

PART IV: Palarong Pinoy

- Game Overview
- Game Proper
- Raffle of Minor Prizes

PART IV: Awarding Ceremony

- Lunch
- Awarding of Event Winners
- Raffle of Major Prizes
- Closing Remarks
- PMA Alma Matter Song
- Photo Opportunity

GHQ Band
Cav Ricardo A David, Jr '77
President, PMARAI

Cav George M Bergonia '95
President, PMAAAI
Cav Romeo S Brawner Jr '89
Chief of Staff, AFP
Cav Raul S Gonzales '75
Chairman, PMAAAI
Cav Franklin Moises R Mabanag '85
Chairman, Sports and Fellowship Committee

Cav Franklin Moises R Mabanag '85
Chairman, Sports and Fellowship Committee

Cav Raul S Gonzales '75
Chairman, PMAAAI

Uniform: Chapter Athletic Uniform

We look forward to seeing you at the next Cavaliers Family Sportsfest in 2026!

2025 PMAAAI Annual General Membership Meeting: Strengthening Bonds and Honoring Excellence

The 2025 PMAAAI Annual General Membership Meeting (AGMM) brought 289 Cavaliers together for a meaningful day of camaraderie and celebration. The program opened with the honoring of the Philippine flag, the singing of the Philippine National Anthem, and the Cavalier Prayer led by Cav Pedro S Agapito '96, Vice President, PMAAAI. The Cavaliers' Pledge was led by Cav Narciso A Vingson Jr '85, Chairman of the Public Relations Committee. Cav Charlie L Tiu Jr '95, Chairman of the Annual Convention and Homecoming Committee, delivered the Welcome Remarks. This was followed by tributes to departed comrades, the Classes Roll Call, and the AGMM proper, called to order by Cav Raul S Gonzales '75, Chairman and CEO of PMAAAI.

Reports from Cav Caesar Bernard N Valencia '90, PMA Superintendent, and Cav George M Bergonia '95, PMAAAI President and COO, highlighted the association's milestones and strategic direction. Key resolutions were ratified, and the Board of Trustees was elected.

The event also honored distinguished Cavaliers with the Outstanding Achievement Awards presented to:

- Secretary Eduardo M Año '83, National Security Adviser
- Secretary Carlito G Galvez Jr. '85, Presidential Adviser on

Peace, Reconciliation, and Unity

- PGEN Rommel Francisco D Marbil '91, Chief, Philippine National Police
- VADM Jose Ma. Ambrosio Q Ezpeleta PN '91, Flag Officer In Command, Philippine Navy
- LTGEN Arthur M Cordura PAF '90, Commanding General, Philippine Air Force

The Posthumous Valor Award was presented to 1LT Dhell Jhun C Evangelista PA '06 (+) for his exceptional bravery and sacrifice.

A highlight of the day was the inspiring keynote speech by Mr. Manuel V Pangilinan, Guest of Honor and Speaker. He shared profound insights on leadership and nation-building, answered questions during the open forum with candor, and pledged support for the Armed Forces' health and wellness initiatives.

The celebration concluded with the singing of the PMA Alma Mater Song, "PMA Oh Hail to Thee," a fellowship lunch, an exciting raffle draw, and vibrant entertainment. These moments cemented the Cavaliers' unity and commitment to service.

Let us honor these remarkable achievements as we move forward together. See you at the PMA Alumni Homecoming on 15 February 2025!



Recipients of the Outstanding Achievement Awards, honored for their exceptional contributions to the nation, with awards presented by Manuel V Pangilinan, Guest of Honor and Speaker, during the 2025 PMAAAI Annual General Membership Meeting.



Manuel V Pangilinan, Guest of Honor and Speaker, delivers an inspiring keynote address during the 2025 PMAAAI Annual General Membership Meeting.



Cavaliers in attendance at the AFPCOC, united in camaraderie and purpose.



Cav Raul S Gonzales '75, Chairman & CEO of PMAAAI calls to order the AGMM 2025.



Sec Eduardo M Año '83, NSA, receives the Outstanding Achievement Award during the PMAAAI AGMM 2025.



Sec Carlito G Galvez Jr. '85, PAPRU, receives the Outstanding Achievement Award during the PMAAAI AGMM 2025.



Cav Caesar Bernard N Valencia '90, PMA Superintendent, delivers the PMA Report, outlining key updates and accomplishments of the Academy.



Cav Mariano Santiago '67 raises key issues during the open forum, fostering a dynamic discussion among attendees.



Arrival of the Guest of Honor and Speaker (GOHAS) at the AFPCOC, marking the beginning of a memorable occasion.



GEN Rommel Francisco D Marbil '91, CPNP is honored with the Outstanding Achievement Award during the PMAAAI AGMM 2025.



VADM Jose Ma Ambrosio Q Ezpeleta PN '91, FOIC, PN receives the Outstanding Achievement Award during the PMAAAI AGMM 2025.

Speech summary of Manuel Velez Pangilinan (MVP) during the PMA Alumni Association, Incorporated Annual General Membership Meeting held at the AFP Commissioned Officers' Clubhouse on 25 January 2025.

Introduction

Manuel Velez Pangilinan (MVP), the Guest of Honor and Speaker at the Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association, Incorporated Annual General Membership Meeting, opened his speech by acknowledging the PMA's 89-year legacy of leadership and service. He highlighted the shared values between the military and the business sector - Courage, Integrity, and Loyalty—stressing that both fields require steadfast commitment to nation-building. MVP emphasized that while soldiers protect the nation, businesses contribute by improving lives through essential services such as telecommunications, infrastructure, healthcare, and energy.



Key Highlights of the Speech:

1. Leadership Lessons from Military History

MVP reflected on his early career experiences in Siasi, Sulu, where he witnessed armed conflict firsthand. He shared insights from great military leaders:

- Hannibal – Tenacity
- Genghis Khan – Audacity and Strategy
- Napoleon – Imagination
- Erwin Rommel – Tactical Brilliance
- Gregorio del Pilar – Courage and Sacrifice
- Antonio Luna – Passion and Strategy
- Alexander the Great – Leadership Excellence

He particularly admired Alexander the Great for his ability to:

- Develop a clear vision and drive it with determination.
- Organize and lead a strong team to achieve that vision.
- Inspire and motivate his people by leading from the front.

2. The Growing Threat of Cybersecurity Warfare

MVP discussed how modern warfare has evolved beyond physical battles to the cyber realm. He stressed that:

- Cybersecurity and Artificial Intelligence (AI) are the new theaters of war.
- Computers, data centers, and algorithms have replaced traditional weapons.
- Cyberattacks can cripple economies, steal national secrets, and disrupt infrastructure like power grids and telecommunications.

To address this, the MVP Group has supported the Armed Forces' Cybersecurity Center, recognizing the need for enhanced training and expertise in cyber warfare. He urged military personnel to adapt to this new reality by developing skills in cybersecurity and modern warfare tactics.

3. A Call for Unity and Service

MVP concluded with a powerful message inspired by World War II's D-Day invasion, emphasizing that the true essence of service is fighting for each other. He reinforced that:

- Military and business leaders share a common duty - to protect and advance the country's interests.
- While peace is always the preferred path, preparedness and resilience are crucial.

Closing Message

MVP thanked the assembly for their dedication and leadership, urging them to remain steadfast in their mission. He expressed gratitude for the service and sacrifices of the PMA alumni, encouraging them to continue inspiring and shaping the nation's future. He ended with a salute to their courage and commitment.



LTGEN Arthur M Cordura PAF '90, CG PAF, receives the Outstanding Achievement Award during the PMAAAI AGMM 2025.



Mr. Denver Evangelista, brother of the awardee, receives the Posthumous Valor Award on behalf of 1LT Dhell Jhun C Evangelista PA '06 (+).



Cav Raul S Gonzales '75, Chairman & CEO of PMAAAI, formally introduces Mr Manuel V Pangilinan as the Guest of Honor and Speaker (GOHAS) during the event.



Cav Manolo Bada '81 poses a question to the GOHAS, seeking his insights on current issues impacting the country's economy.



Manuel V Pangilinan, Guest of Honor and Speaker (GOHAS), engages with the Cavaliers following his inspiring speech during the event.





Executive Director's REPORT

CAV DOMINGO M PEQUIRAS '77

Happy New Year to all Cavaliers and Friends!

- The year 2024 has just ended and another year has started. This change signifies that the current PMA Alumni Association, Inc., Board is in its winding stage already. As per our By-Laws, Article V, Section 3, *"the directors shall assume office on the first day of March next following their election..."*. Election is held during the Annual General Membership Meeting held every 4th Saturday of January each year. Barely, therefore the Board has few weeks before its tenure expires and it has performed its mandate satisfactorily. Cav Raul S Gonzales '75, its Chairman and CEO, is proud enough to declare that with the cooperation of his Board of Directors and staff, all the programs and projects it has lined up at the start of their term has been accomplished successfully, with the last major activity that is the Alumni Homecoming on February 15, 2025. Its accomplishments are well documented by the President and COO, Cav George Bergonia '95 in his Annual Accomplishment Report to the general membership.
- The PMAAAI Board, since Association Year 2020, is composed of 20 directors coming from the different service chapters. Article V, Section 1 of our bylaws requires three representatives from the Philippine Army Chapter, two from the Philippine Air Force Chapter, two from the Philippine Navy Chapter, two from the Philippine National Police Chapter, three from the PMA Retirees Association Chapter (formerly BIRCI), and one from the Philippine Coast Guard. With the creation of the Council of PMA Class Presidents (CPCP) seven representatives were added coming from each decade. A decade is a grouping of classes composed of ten classes per decade. Classes 1950 to 1959 is decade 50's; Classes 1960 to 1969 is decade 60's and so on and so forth until the youngest class is reached. Whichever class is celebrating its golden anniversary, its president automatically become a representative to the Board and becomes the Chairman of the Council. For association year 2024-2025 for example, the golden jubilarian is Class 1975. Its class president, Cav Raul S Gonzales '75, who is also the Chairman of PMAAAI, automatically becomes the CPCP chairman. The president of respective classes ending in 5, that is 1955, 1965, 1975, 1985, 1995, 2005, and 2015 automatically become members of the PMAAAI Board.
- The new PMAAAI building now proudly stands along Lawton Avenue at the Bonifacio Global City. After overcoming various challenges, starting from the sourcing of funds, choosing the right place where to erect the building, clearing the area from illegal settlers, and the dreaded COVID 19 pandemics, the dream has finally come into reality. It is not yet over though, as it is still to undergo dressing up for its eventual use. The challenge remains that funding is very vital in its full completion. While a pledge for funding has already been received for the interior fit outs of the building, it remains a pledge. Unless and until the fund will be available, final completion of the building for it to be fully operational, will still be on hold. The building is a six-story edifice. The first and second floors are intended for commercial use. The third is dedicated for use by the Philippine Army, while the fourth will house the PMAAAI offices, including its affiliate foundations and the fifth floor will contain the conference halls and function rooms. The sixth floor will be the grand multipurpose hall that could accommodate large number of participants for any event or occasion. (A special edition of narrative detailing how this building came to be will be published in the next coming issues of this magazine.) 



SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

CAV CAESAR BERNARD N VALENCIA '90

Forging Leaders of Tomorrow: The Philippine Military Academy's Journey Towards International Standards and Quality Assurance

The Philippine Military Academy (PMA) stands as the premier military institution in the Philippines, driven by its unwavering vision that “by 2028, PMA shall have reached the international standards for military academies in producing principled and competent military officers.” This vision encapsulates the Academy’s commitment to molding leaders who exemplify excellence, integrity, and dedication to service. PMA’s mission to “instruct, train, and develop cadets so that each graduate shall possess the character, broad and basic military skills, and the education essential to the successful pursuit of a progressive military career” serves as the foundation of its transformative educational framework.

Central to PMA’s ethos are its core values of courage, integrity, and loyalty. These values are not merely ideals but practical guides that influence every aspect of Academy life. From the rigorous training of cadets to the ethical conduct of faculty and staff, these principles ensure a unified and disciplined approach to achieving institutional goals. They also serve as the moral compass that prepares cadets for the complexities of military leadership.

PMA’s diverse community of cadets, faculty, and staff works collaboratively to uphold these values and achieve shared objectives. The Academy’s inclusive environment fosters mutual respect and cooperation, enabling individuals from various backgrounds to contribute to a singular vision of excellence. This synergy is paramount in driving PMA’s efforts to meet international standards, ensuring that its graduates are not only nationally competent but also globally competitive.

In its quest for excellence, PMA actively engages with foreign military academies and institutions. These partnerships facilitate the exchange of best practices, innovations, and training methodologies, enriching the Academy’s programs. By learning from and contributing to the global military education community, PMA enhances its curriculum and operational strategies, aligning them with international benchmarks.

Another cornerstone of PMA’s journey towards international standards is its commitment to quality assurance. Through continuous evaluation and improvement, the Academy ensures that its educational programs, infrastructure, and support systems meet the highest levels of quality. This unwavering dedication not only upholds the Academy’s reputation but also solidifies its role as a leader in military education.

To ensure its academic programs and training protocols meet global benchmarks, PMA endeavors to institutionalize a robust quality assurance (QA) system. This system is designed to evaluate and improve all facets of the Academy’s operations, from curriculum

development and instructional methodologies to facilities and support services. By systematically identifying areas for improvement, the QA system ensures that the Academy remains responsive to evolving educational and operational demands.

An integral part of PMA’s QA framework is the regular conduct of internal and external audits. These assessments provide a comprehensive evaluation of the Academy’s strengths and areas for development. Feedback from stakeholders, including cadets, faculty, and the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), is incorporated to refine policies, programs, and processes. This inclusive approach fosters a shared responsibility for maintaining high standards.

Moreover, PMA’s QA initiatives are deeply interconnected with its vision to produce globally competent military leaders and professionals. By benchmarking against international standards and adopting best practices from partner institutions, the Academy ensures that its graduates are prepared to navigate the complexities of modern military operations. The emphasis on continuous improvement not only enhances the quality of education and training but also solidifies PMA’s reputation as a premier institution in military education.

A critical milestone in PMA’s journey toward international standards is its effort to align with the ASEAN University Network Quality Assurance (AUN-QA) framework. This internationally recognized system provides a structured approach to assessing and enhancing the quality of academic and operational processes at PMA. By adhering to AUN-QA’s stringent criteria, PMA not only benchmarks itself against regional and global institutions but also demonstrates its commitment to delivering a world-class military education.

The AUN-QA framework emphasizes a holistic approach to quality assurance, covering not just academic programs but also support systems, governance, and stakeholder satisfaction. For PMA, this has meant revisiting its curriculum to ensure it meets the needs of a rapidly changing global defense and security environment. The integration of modern pedagogical approaches and the inclusion of relevant technologies are direct outcomes of this alignment.

Another critical component of AUN-QA is the focus on outcomes-based education. This approach ensures that cadets graduate with the competencies needed to excel in their roles as military leaders or officers. PMA has endeavored to embrace this by refining its learning outcomes to include critical thinking, adaptability, and ethical leadership, aligning with both national and international expectations.

AUN-QA also promotes continuous professional development among faculty and staff. At PMA, this has translated into regular training sessions, workshops, and collaborations with international

counterparts. By fostering a culture of learning among educators, the Academy ensures that its faculty remains at the forefront of military education and training.

Moreover, the AUN-QA framework places a strong emphasis on stakeholder engagement. PMA actively involves its cadets, alumni, and the AFP in the QA process, ensuring that its programs remain relevant and impactful. This feedback loop not only enhances the quality of education but also strengthens the Academy's connection with its broader community.

Finally, AUN-QA has fostered a culture of excellence at PMA. The rigorous standards set by the framework challenge the Academy to continuously innovate and improve. This culture permeates every level of the institution, inspiring both cadets and faculty to strive for the highest levels of performance and professionalism.

The plan to implement AUN-QA at PMA will instill a culture of continuous improvement and excellence. This culture begins with a strategic plan to fully adopt and implement AUN-QA standards across all levels of the Academy. PMA has initiated steps to align its curriculum, faculty development programs, and facilities with these international benchmarks, ensuring a holistic transformation.

One of the key strategies in fostering this culture is the establishment of dedicated QA teams who will be tasked with monitoring and implementing AUN-QA principles. These teams will work collaboratively to ensure that every aspect, department, and program adheres to the framework's guidelines. This structured approach will not only enhance operational efficiency but also embed a mindset of quality and excellence throughout PMA.

PMA's plan includes integrating best practices observed from foreign military academies into its QA framework. By adopting advanced technologies, experiential learning methodologies, and leadership development strategies, the Academy aims to elevate its standards to match those of its international counterparts. These initiatives underscore PMA's commitment to creating an environment that nurtures innovation and excellence.

Additionally, PMA prioritizes faculty development as a cornerstone of its QA implementation. Regular training sessions, international exchange programs, and workshops are being conducted to ensure that educators are equipped with the skills and knowledge needed to deliver world-class education. This investment in faculty not only improves teaching quality but also reinforces the Academy's commitment to professional growth.

Finally, the Academy plans to enhance its facilities and infrastructure to support its QA goals. By upgrading classrooms, laboratories, and training grounds to meet international standards, PMA ensures that cadets have access to state-of-the-art resources. These improvements, coupled with the adoption of AUN-QA standards, create a learning environment that fosters excellence and prepares cadets for the demands of global military leadership.

PMA's recent engagements with foreign military academies have significantly contributed to its pursuit of international standards. These include visits and collaborations with the National Defense Academy-Japan, National Defence Academy-India, United States Military Academy (USMA), United States Naval Academy (USNA), Republic of Korea Military Academy (ROKMA), Republic of Korea Air Force Academy (ROKAFA), and the Singapore Armed Forces Training Institute (SAFTI MI). Each of these engagements has provided invaluable insights into curriculum design, faculty development, and facility enhancement.

From the National Defense Academy-Japan, PMA learned advanced methodologies for integrating technology into military education. Their focus on cybersecurity and artificial intelligence has influenced PMA's plans to modernize its own training programs. Similarly, the leadership and character-building programs at the

National Defence Academy-India have inspired PMA to enhance its modules on ethical leadership and decision-making.

The experiential learning approaches of the United States Military Academy (USMA) and United States Naval Academy (USNA) have enriched PMA's curriculum. These academies emphasize the practical application of theoretical knowledge, a strategy that PMA has adopted to provide cadets with hands-on experience in leadership and operations. The multidisciplinary framework observed in these institutions has also encouraged PMA to integrate diverse fields of study into its training.

PMA's visits to the Republic of Korea Military Academy (ROKMA) and the Republic of Korea Air Force Academy (ROKAFA) highlighted the importance of state-of-the-art facilities in fostering a conducive learning environment. Observing the cutting-edge simulators and training equipment at these institutions has inspired PMA to prioritize infrastructure upgrades, ensuring cadets have access to modern tools and technologies.

The Singapore Armed Forces Training Institute (SAFTI MI) provided PMA with a model for faculty development. Their emphasis on continuous professional education and collaboration with international experts has encouraged PMA to invest in its educators. Regular workshops, exchange programs, and advanced degrees for faculty members are now integral to PMA's strategic plan.

These foreign engagements have not only provided PMA with best practices but also strengthened its quality assurance framework. By integrating insights from partner institutions into its QA processes, PMA ensures that its programs remain relevant and competitive. The collaborative efforts also reinforce AUN-QA principles, as the Academy aligns itself with global standards of excellence.

Through these partnerships, PMA fosters a culture of excellence that is deeply rooted in international collaboration. The exchange of knowledge and practices with foreign counterparts underscores the interconnectedness of quality assurance, curriculum innovation, and professional development. These efforts collectively enhance PMA's ability to produce military leaders who are prepared for both national and global challenges.

The Philippine Military Academy's pursuit of international standards reflects its unwavering commitment to excellence, quality assurance, and global competitiveness. By aligning its vision, mission, and core values with international benchmarks, PMA creates a unified and disciplined community dedicated to producing military leaders of character and competence. The integration of quality assurance frameworks, such as AUN-QA, and the adoption of best practices from foreign military academies ensure that the Academy remains at the forefront of military education.

The strategic implementation of AUN-QA standards will not only enhance PMA's academic and operational processes but will also foster a culture of continuous improvement and innovation. By prioritizing outcomes-based education, faculty development, and stakeholder engagement, PMA demonstrates its readiness to meet the challenges of a rapidly evolving global defense and security environment. The Academy's emphasis on excellence permeates every level of its operations, inspiring cadets, faculty, and staff to achieve their highest potential.

PMA's foreign engagements have played a pivotal role in enriching its programs and practices. Collaborations with esteemed institutions worldwide have provided valuable insights into curriculum design, faculty development, and infrastructure enhancement. These partnerships underscore the interconnectedness of quality assurance, international collaboration, and the pursuit of excellence. Together, these efforts position the Philippine Military Academy as a leader in military education, preparing its graduates to excel in both national and global arenas.





Baron's Dissemination

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

Siklab-Laya Year

As the corps moves on to the Siklab-Laya year, a new journey and opportunities await. The leadership and perspective have altered on its betterment, some have succumbed to the alluring privileges of their respective ranks, but many have prevailed over their wants. The desire to lead is now apparent to all classes, preparing to move to the next chapter of their cadetship. The future leaders are indeed starting to act and think like young lieutenants, focusing on the consequences before acting on something. It is not just a simple decision anymore, these are the lifetime decisions that will mold them in their path as the leaders of our nation. The biggest thing that the corps has learned throughout the year 2024 was resiliency; indeed, there were a lot of problems that occurred, but the corps remained steadfast in embodying its values. Mistakes are normal, but making them without learning anything is futile.

"Cadets no more, officers not yet." A term that first-class cadets use to describe their status, as they march to the remaining months of their cadetship. The firsties are now transforming themselves to respond to the continuous demand of the officer corps, where pressure and challenge are but common. Passionate cavaliers were helpful to encourage and mentor these future lieutenants. It is normal to feel anxious. However, if we succumb to fear, it would be hypocritical to say that we embodied the courage our alma mater has taught us. True courage means moving forward amidst danger or pain; fear is the greatest enemy of progress, and fear is nothing more than a state of mind. As these valorous cadets approach yet another demanding year, the mission is selfsame: to serve the country with devotion. Their upcoming Officer Preparatory Course will aid them in incorporating their lessons into practical knowledge; it is expected of them to cope immediately, to rise above all. Hence, this would be the time for them to showcase what they learn in the four formidable years in the academy and to possibly change the way they perceive things.

The cows are now on their toes, with the scrutinizing eyes of their immaculates and the intense assessment of the tactical officers, the second-class must now show their dedication to lead. The qualification for the next cadet officers is fast approaching; competition is a must in the qualification board. The acting cadet officers will go through various rigid selections to qualify them as the best of the best, many are called, but few are chosen. The will to lead will be an arduous life, but to see the corps' development would be fruitful. The second-class will need to lead their fourth-class squadmates while assuming the role of cadet officers, this will test their patience if they indeed possess the determination to serve.

The greatest glory lies not in staying on one's feet but in rising after falling. Mistakes are inevitable, but the way they are handled is what makes them worth remembering. The academy taught us positive mental attitude, we began to realize that if we wanted to change the situation, we first had to change our perceptions.

The tigers of the corps are now ready to be the next squadleaders that always seek exquisiteness to their plebes. They will need a lot of preparation and patience to the ceaseless endorsements of the plebes. The year of practicing self-mastery will now come to an end, it's time to share these wisdoms and values to the next generation of cadets that will continue to preserve our life-long mission. As they are excited to finally hurdle calculus, they now have to filter out unwanted

frequencies, for they are about to undergo engineering and the gravitational forces of physics.

The corps, unlike before has already changed a lot. As time proves its worth as an unforeseeable event, the corps remains steadfast in proving itself to be unbreakable. The greatest glory lies not in staying on one's feet but in rising after falling. Mistakes are inevitable, but the way they are handled is what makes them worth remembering. The academy taught us positive mental attitude, we began to realize that if we wanted to change the situation, we first had to change our perceptions. Our attitude will determine our altitude, because true change will start within. That is what makes the Philippine Military Academy the cream of the crop.



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 Holds Successful Annual General Membership Meeting

• **CAV NARCISO A VINGSON, JR '85**

The Philippine Military Academy Retirees Association, Inc. (PMARAI) successfully conducted its Annual General Membership Meeting (AGMM) on January 10, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. at the Main Dining Hall of the Camp Aguinaldo Golf Club. This significant gathering brought together PMARAI members from across the nation to review the association's key accomplishments, ongoing initiatives, and future plans.

The outgoing Board of Directors presented a comprehensive report on the association's achievements over the past year. Highlights, included the continued success of PMARAI's webinar series, the raffle project, and the Game of the Cavaliers (GOC). These initiatives not only fostered camaraderie but also enhanced the professional development of its members. Special recognition was given to activities that promoted both personal and collective growth among retirees.

A key agenda item of the AGMM was the election of the new Board of Directors, who will lead PMARAI for the 2025-2026 term. The newly elected officers are:

Chairman: Cav Ricardo A David, Jr '77
President: Cav Felipe H Buena, Jr '78
Vice President: Cav Ramon C Liwag '79
Corporate Secretary: Cav Edmund C Tan '80
Treasurer: Cav Domingo J Tutaan, Jr '81
Corporate Auditor: Cav Job Nolan D Antonio '82

Members:

Cav Marcelino J Llorca, Jr '83
Cav Rafael G Mariano '84

Cav Narciso A Vingson, Jr '85
Cav Jonny R Gulla '86

Ex Officio Member:

Cav Ramon T Punzalan '76

The new board expressed heartfelt gratitude for the trust and confidence placed in them by the membership. They committed to preserving PMARAI's legacy while actively seeking new opportunities to advance the association's mission.

The AGMM concluded with a fellowship session, where members exchanged ideas and discussed plans for the future. This opportunity to strengthen camaraderie underscored the enduring bonds among PMARAI members. The event's success set an inspiring tone for another productive year ahead.



*Newly Elected Board of Directors
of PMARAI, AY 2025-2026*

Photo Gallery: PMARAI Annual General Membership Meeting (AGMM) 2025



Cavalier Ricardo A David Jr. '77 presents the PMARAI Annual Report for AY 2024-2025.



Cavalier Edmund C Tan '80 delivers the Financial Report AY 2024-2025.



Cavalier Ramon C Liwag '79 facilitates the Ratification of all Acts and Resolutions of the Board and Management.



Cavalier Raul S. Gonzales '75, Chairman of PMAAAI, administers the oath of office to the newly elected Board of Directors of PMARAI.



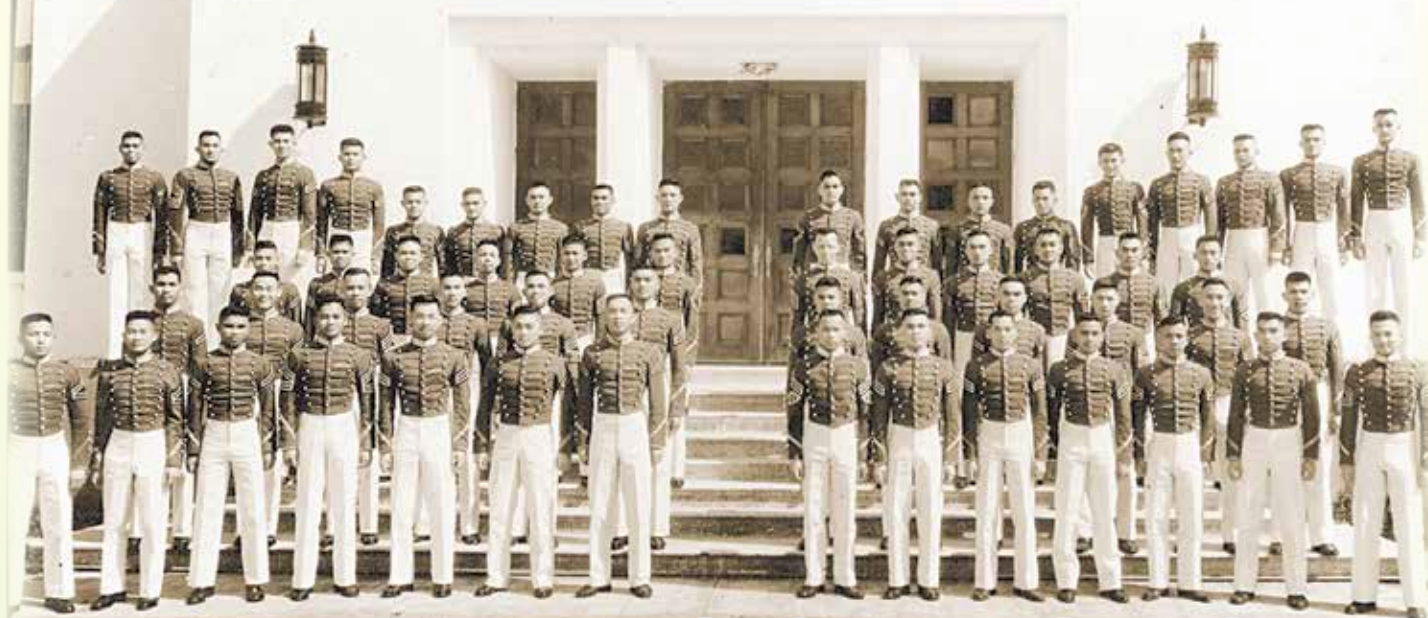
Cavalier Ramon T. Punzalan '76 delivers the Chairman's Address, highlighting the significance of collective effort in advancing PMARAI's objectives. He urged new members to uphold their commitment to the association's mission with unwavering dedication.



The event was well-attended by PMARAI members, both physically and virtually reflecting their support and active participation.

THE DIAMOND JUBILARIANS: PMA CLASS OF 1965

MELCHOR HALL



REMINISCENCES

of Things Past (PMA from 1961–1965)

• CAV RAOUL V CAUTON

INTRODUCTION

From all corners of our country we came. From motley backgrounds and all walks of life we came. We were sons of farmers, civil servants, fishermen, military officers and enlisted men, school teachers, businessmen, ordinary laborers and simple folks. We knew not one another then, we knew not one another's origins, families and friends, travails and triumphs, pains and joys; we knew not of the dignity or nobility of each other's birth. At most we shared a few things then. But we were all held together by one common desire, a common ambition, a common dream; we all dreamed of pursuing the noble profession of arms.

WE ARE THE PROUD MEMBERS OF THE PHILIPPINE MILITARY ACADEMY CLASS OF 1965, AND THIS IS OUR STORY.

THE MEMORABLE YEAR OF PLEBEHOOD

The "Reception"

It all began on a bright, sunny day on 8 April 1961 at Camp Murphy (since renamed Camp Emilio Aguinaldo) in Quezon City where we had been ordered to report. One hundred (100) aspirants had earlier passed the mental and physical examinations

for cadetship in the Philippine Military Academy (PMA); of these, one was foreigner from the United States and nine were former PMA cadets from previous classes; furthermore we were joined by another 20 cadets from PMA Class 1964. All full of youthful dreams and anticipation, and pursuant to GHQ General Orders 353 dated 4 April 1961, we assembled for the first roll call of PMA Class 1965; one failed to report for the roll call and was subsequently dropped from rolls. Thus the PMA Class of 1965 originally started with 119 members.

Following the roll call, we were instructed to board the buses which would transport us to the headquarters of the PMA in Fort del Pilar in Loakan, Baguio City. The trip itself was inconsequential, but with every kilometer travelled we pulsated with anticipation and steadily mounting anxiety; after all, we were about to enter what we envisioned to be the glamorous life of a PMA cadet, complete with the glitter, pomp and ceremony associated with cadetship. Just before entering the portals of Fort del Pilar, we were met by a ramrod-straight and handsome PMAYER captain in a smart uniform; gazing at the officer with his aura further fueled our dreams of glamour and adventure. After a briefing from the officer, he proceeded to lead us, instructing us to alight from the bus and form two lines in front of Melchor Hall, the headquarters of the PMA which also housed the barracks of the cadets.

Subsequently the plebe detail, composed of “first classmen” of Class 1962 and the “yearlings” of Class 1964, emerged, marched towards us and halted right in front of us. As we admired the impeccable uniform, the erect posture and smart drill execution of the plebe detail, our visions of a glamorous cadet life were further reinforced. Shortly, we heard the plebe detail commander give the order “Fall out!”, and the plebe detail rushed towards us, the wide-eyed youth, with a thunderous roar presaging something. That moment, all illusions of glamour, adventure, and mystique instantly evaporated.

We were individually picked by the upperclassman assigned to us and the real “reception” of the plebes of Class 1965 started. We were shouted at, quizzed all kinds of strange questions, and ordered to do pushups and squat jumps, run back and forth up and down the hill, duck walk and whatever exercise the upperclassmen could think of. While into all these, we kept wondering who the “dumb guards” and that the non-horrific title would be used whenever we referred to ourselves for the rest of plebe year. The approximately 30 minutes of the rude “reception” was a blur, as the shock, confusion and exhaustion combined to somehow mercifully end the stupefying ritual.

What followed was the two-minute plebe haircut for us, shaved all around the head except for a small patch of half-inch-long hair on top. All drenched in sweat with odors that came with it, we were then instructed to tidy ourselves up with water from a single steel helmet each. Today we can only laugh when we recall that in our extreme thirst after the “reception”, many of us actually drank the water from the helmet which we used in cleaning ourselves from the helmet which we used in cleaning ourselves hair, sweat and dirt therein notwithstanding! As a token to console us for the rite of passage, we were finally issued our very first complete uniform, the field gray khaki. As to the clothes



and baggage we brought from home and carried, the weight of which only aggravated our misery during the reception, they were all deposited, to be available to us only after plebe hood.

All dressed in our new uniforms, we were finally formed into six platoons of the “New Cadet Company,” and the plebe company marched into Borromeo field, the hallowed parade grounds of the PMA. In front on the grandstand we took our oaths. At last, we became officially cadets of the Philippine Military Academy.

SUMMER CAMP

Summer Camp for plebes is also called “beast barracks”, and it is left to one’s imagination why it is called such. It lasts for about six weeks, during which a plebe is oriented on military life, with the gamut of all its customs and traditions, rules and regulations, discipline, attitudes and views. It is during this time that plebes begin to imbibe the values considered foremost in the PMA--- its motto of Courage, Integrity and Loyalty. Plebes are also introduced to the cadet honor system which dictates that a cadet does not lie, steal or cheat, and does not tolerate anyone doing so. It is during this time too that cadets are subjected to a rigorous physical regimen which would help them cope with the future demands required of them not only during plebehood, but also the rest of their cadetship and military career.

Plebe orientation during summer camp begins immediately after the oath-taking. During the ensuing six weeks, we were taught the basics of cadet and plebe life in general. Thus, aside from rudimentary instructions such as preparing and wearing our uniforms, arranging our assigned lockers, fixing beds, plebe manner of “square meal” in the mess hall, proper military posture (exaggerated for plebes), and so on, we were also taught how to take care of our Garand rifles, and pounded with endless instructions on drill and parade techniques and regulations. During summer camp we began our series of instructions on military subjects too; thus, we had lessons on map reading, military communication, squad tactics, and of course the use of and target practice with our rifles.

The mess hall was a special place for us, since it was not only a place for dinners but also a venue where we most prone to commit “offenses” against the upperclassmen; in the mess hall, we had to be ready to answer any and all questions of the upperclassmen, i.e., the menu for the next meal, the movies showing in downtown Baguio, the serial members of upperclassmen, the name of their dog, etc. We had better be ready! Moreover, we had to recite the so-called “plebe knowledge” items such as the long Cadet Prayer, the number of days (converted to seconds and ticks) before a significant event such as Christmas, and so on. All this time, day and night, the demands of constant, incessant upper class orders to undertake physical exercises hounded us, this in addition to the regular physical education periods required.

During our summer camp, a significant incident took place which affected the course of our Class, as would be shown by subsequent event. One night, some plebes who went to the barber shop for a haircut were unfortunate enough to be “ambushed” by some yearlings who were not members of the plebe detail. As a result, one of the plebes suffered physical injuries and had to be brought to the hospital. This prompted an investigation which ended up with seven yearlings involved in the incident being suspended for one year, even as another yearling was dismissed with them to boot.

The physical, mental and emotional rigors of summer camp exacted a heavy toll on our Class. Before the six weeks were over, numerous resignations began to deplete our ranks (for the whole year of plebehood, we lost 17 classmates who resigned for various reasons). This development prodded the PMA to replace those who resigned with additional new plebes; thus, just a few days before the end of summer camp, 13 new plebes were added to our roster, hence raising to 132 the total number of young men who eventually joined Class 1965 in the summer of 1961. Nonetheless we somehow survived the summer camp, and

before we knew it, “incorporation” to the cadet corps, each one assigned to one of the four cadet companies.

The Interlude before the Start of Academics

Following incorporation Day, we were mixed with all the upperclassmen of the Corps, no longer with just a few upperclassmen of the plebe detail for us. We had to survive with many more upperclassmen around, memorize more upper class names, birthdays, residences, girlfriend’s names, etc. We met, ate, slept in the same room and dealt with more “úppies” and we became more vulnerable to commit more “offenses” against them. Our continuing instructions on military subjects relieved us, fortunately, of many grueling periods under the “uppies”.

A form of respite came for us when the PMA scheduled a training trip for the Corps of Cadets to Cebu. The Corps motored down to Poro Point, La Union from where we boarded two navy vessels. Unfortunately, a typhoon visited the country at that time, turning the boat trip to Cebu into a very rough experience. Many cadets could hardly get up due to seasickness, which in a way was a blessing to us plebes since there were fewer “uppies” moving about. In fact our ships had to seek shelter in Subic Bay due to the huge waves which seemed to be as tall as a cathedral. While waiting for the typhoon to abate, we had the opportunity to view modern U.S. navy vessels there, such as aircraft carriers and submarines. Arriving in Cebu, we were able to hold some military exercises, putting into practice what we had learned in our military subjects; we were even able to relax a bit in a resort in Liloan, and experience our first grand “boodle fight” hosted by the military commander of the area.

The trip back to Luzon was uneventful and before we knew it, we were back at Fort del Pilar to face the challenges of plebe hood. Before the start of academics, however, the PMA authorities decided on a drastic step that changed the course of Class 1965. As a result of the earlier mentioned hazing case during our summer camp, the PMA decided to “segregate” the plebes from the upperclassmen, and our entire plebe class was transferred to what used to be the PMA armory building, Cunanan Hall, located beside the gymnasium. Our entire Class was thus billeted in the cramped spaces of Cunanan Hall, with only three firstclassmen and three secondclassmen in each of the four companies to supervise us and act as the plebe detail. This was definitely not a welcome development for the cadets, not for the upperclassmen, and not even for us plebes who had no desire to be different from and construed as having an easier life than previous classes. Nevertheless, the decision had been made and implemented, and this set-up would continue until the end of our plebehood (and well into the first nine months of Class 1966).

Academics

The month of June ushered in a new phase of our cadet life. It was the start of our first academic year with its curriculum of Mathematics (Algebra, Trigonometry and Geometry), Chemistry, Natural Science, Graphics, Philosophy and English. Meanwhile our military subjects continued to form part of our curriculum, as they would for the rest of our cadet days. Adjusting to our new schedules was no mean task, what with constant pressure from our “uppies”. With the onset of academics, we found an unexpected blessing: the time we spent on classes during the day and observing the two-and-a-half-hour study period at night meant more time away from the hawk-eyed “uppies”. Coping with academics as a plebe while still adjusting to rigid military

life eventually exacted its toll on our Class. During the first term (semester) alone, 43 of our classmates were either dismissed or turned a year back due to academic deficiency.

Soon we entered the second term of academics, and it sent an adrenalin-like surge to the plebes' morale, for Christmas was a sight and all the upperclassmen would be going on Christmas break, leaving us plebes all by ourselves. Thus, with much anticipation and a sense of "freedom" we welcomed the holding of the traditional PMA Christmas-time "One Hundredth Night Show," which was held 100 days before graduation day of the first classmen. With suppressed rejoicing and shedding crocodile tears after the show, we bade the upperclassmen adieu as they started their Christmas leave exodus. At last, since our "reception" day in April, we found ourselves free from the clutches of the "uppies"; we were organized into a plebe company, with our very own classmates to lead it. This time we had come to finally feel like real cadets and no longer as "dumb guards," as for a brief but cherished period of two weeks we became the "kings of barracks," even holding our own social activities such as cadet "hops" (dances)! Ah, sweet freedom!

Alas, the two-week Christmas break flew swiftly and the "uppies" were back! Re-adjusting to our reverted status as "dumb guards" proved a little difficult, but we found inspiration in the thought that "March Week" was already in sight, and this would usher in "a changing of the guard", bringing us nearer to what we then considered our "Nirvana".. a period of enlightened accomplishment to end our status as plebes. So with renewed vigor we ploughed back into our academic studies and faced further challenges of plebe life, which by this time we had already well adjusted to. The second term of academics proved to be much kinder to our Class, with only a single casualty for academic deficiency; in addition, another classmate was discharged for "physical unfitness", while another was discharged for physical disability. One of our classmates also elected to leave us to join the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis after successfully passing its requirements.

"Recognition Day"

Our year-long perseverance as plebes was finally rewarded as "March Week" arrived; before the graduation of Class 1962, a "Recognition day" parade was held. After the parade, all the plebes were ordered to form a single file; subsequently to the tune of "Auld Lang Syne", the upperclassmen passed by our file and individually shook the hand of every plebe as the ultimate gesture that they were "recognizing" us as full-fledged PMA cadets and no longer as plebes and "dumb guards," worthy to be welcomed into the ranks of "immaculate" upperclassmen.

THE NEW UPPERCLASSMEN: "YEARLING YEAR"

The Start of Yearling Year

The rigors and pitfalls of academic and plebe life during our first year had exacted a heavy toll on Class 1965. Academic deficiencies, resignations and physical shortcoming had decimated the ranks of

our Class from 132 to just 68 at the end of our plebe year.

At the start of summer, we moved back from Cunanan Hall to the cadet barracks in Melchor Hall. Within a few days thereafter the plebes of Class 1966 were "received," but our Class was not involved in this activity; thus after successfully hurdling the rigors of plebe years, we were still not able to interact with the incoming plebes and finally enjoy the underclassmen. Hence, during that summer we diverted our attention and energy to our military subjects, getting acquainted with and actually firing varied types of weapons, and participating in athletic activities. That summer also offered us the opportunity to start to enjoy going on "privilege" to visit Baguio City, to watch movies, visit friends and attend socials, activities denied to us during plebe year except for the two weeks of Christmas break. Meantime, selected members of our Class were organized to compose the "Silent Drill" (a half-hour drill exhibition with no commands being given) contingent, which would have the honor and privilege of representing the PMA Corps of Cadets in public exhibitions in various parts of the country.

Soon after the "incorporation" of Class 1966 (just like our Class, the plebes were also segregated in Cunanan Hall), the Corps of Cadets went on a "Southern Cruise" aboard the Presidential Yacht, RPS Lapu-Lapu. This was a PMA public relations project designed to bring the PMA closer to the people and display the Corps through parades and drill exhibitions. Thus during this cruise, we had the opportunity to visit the cities of Zamboanga, Cagayan de Oro, Bacolod and Iloilo. In each of these cities the Corps conducted parades, while the "Silent Drill" contingent of Class 1965 wowed the crowds with their precision and drill executions. As an added bonus, the PMA also held cadet "hops" (dances), providing us the opportunity to socialize with the pretty lasses up these cities. Undoubtedly, this cruise brought the PMA closer to the people, raised the public image of the cadets and attracted future candidates to the PMA.

The Academic Year

After the cruise the summer period soon ended and the academic year began anew. We faced new subjects such as Calculus, Psychology, Physics, Surveying, World Literature, and Spanish. These presented new challenges, even as we learned new skills like surveying and the preparation of topographic maps. As throughout our cadet days during the academic years, we



continued to take up new military subjects (or review important ones), get acquainted with new weapons, undertake physical education and athletic activities, hold parades and inspections, even as we periodically enjoyed socials. External resources such as a time and internal personal resources such as motivation, effort, energy, and diligence had to be tapped to face all these in order to succeed. Once more, academics took their toll on our Class; at the end of the first term, we lost 11 classmates due to academic deficiencies.

After the start of the second term, our spirits were buoyed up by thoughts of the fast-approaching Christmas season, and we were excited in particular about going home to our loved ones on Christmas leave for the very first time. Thus after the "100th Night Show," we eagerly packed our suitcases and hurriedly left for our hometowns. Those two weeks were filled with the warmth and joys of many a homecoming as we spent Christmas and welcomed the New Year with our families and loved ones once more.

Feeling somewhat homesick after our leave, we encountered upon our return a surprise to distract us from our low morale: the PMA authorities suddenly made the decision to end the segregation of the plebes in early January of 1963 and to integrate them back with the upperclassmen. Thus, the Class of 1966 vacated Cunanan Hall and joined the other classes in the cadet barracks at Melchor Hall. Finally, we had underclassmen with us and could at last feel like bonafide upperclassmen! Dealing with the plebes was a new experience for us, but it gave us the opportunity to apply what we had learned during plebe year and to help mold the plebes into men of character, worthy of "recognition" as upperclass cadets of the PMA come March Week.

As the second academic term came to an end and the Class 1963 graduated, we collectively enjoyed the feeling of having hurdled another challenging year. However, our joy was diminished because we lost ten more of our classmates due to academic deficiencies. Moreover, during our yearling year, we lost three classmates for violating the liquor ban and one for physical disability, while another classmate resigned. Thus, at the end of our yearling year, the Class of 1965 was whittled down to only 56 members.

THE JUNIORS: "COW" YEAR

The Start of "Cow" Year

At the start of the year, we welcomed to our Class nine members from Class 1964; thus the Class of 1965 began its adventure in junior ("cow") year with 65 members. This new phase of our cadet life was met with much elation and anticipation, largely due to what welcomed us at the start of summer that year—a month-long furlough! We eagerly left the portals of Fort del Pilar for respective destinations, mostly our hometowns, to formally begin our leave. A whole month of freedom! This was perhaps foremost in our hometowns, to formally begin our homes--- a month to enjoy and do whatever we desired, a month with neither tactical officers nor upperclassmen looking over our shoulders. This was an excellent opportunity to rekindle bonds with our families, friends and loved ones; we indeed took advantage of the opportunity. We spent treasured moments with our families, visited and socialized with young ladies of our affections, watched practically all movies available in cinemas, went on picnics to beaches and resorts, or simply relaxed and lazed around our homes. It was a "heavenly





or celestial interval." But all good things must end; our furlough swiftly ran its course and we were soon back at Fort del Pilar, just in time for the "incorporation" of the plebes of Class 1967.

The southern cruise of the Cadet Corps in the summer of 1963 took us to more cities in the country. We visited the cities of Legaspi, Tacloban, Surigao, Dumaguete and Cebu. Even before that trip, most of us had already been promoted to cadet non-commissioned officers, performing the duties of platoon or supply sergeants, squad leaders or other non-officer positions; thus in the activities of the corps during the cruise, we assumed newer and higher responsibilities. As in the previous year, the Cadet Corps again performed parades and drill exhibitions, even as the cadets once more met and interacted with the populace.

Following the end of the southern cruise, academics soon started to once more preoccupy us. This time we had to contend with new and more technical subjects such as mechanics, thermodynamics, electrical engineering subjects, Rhetoric and Speech, Philippine History and History of the Far East. Alongside the formidable academic subjects, we still had to attend to our duties in the corps as squad leaders or platoon sergeants. The situation probably enabled and trained us to budget our time more efficiently, a skill we would need throughout our military careers and even beyond.

At the end first term of academics, we lost another six classmates due to deficiencies, further reducing our ranks. Thus at the start of the second term, our class was pared down to only 59. However, the academic yoke was somehow lightened by the happy thought of the approaching Christmas leave; indeed it arrived soon after the hearty claps of the audience had died down in the 100th Night Show of 1963. A second homecoming, a second Christmas for us! What joy and delight was in store for us weary "cow!" But alas, our leave was swiftly over and the trek back to Fort del Pilar was, as usual after an enjoyable leave, a melancholy one.

When despite trials, hardships, and ordeals a group sees the "finish line", there is no stopping its energies. First Class year was clearly within sight now! Hence, we doggedly moved on with our academic head-on, hoping the days would quickly roll by and lead us into March Week. As if in answer to our prayers, the end of the second term finally came but with an unhappy twist, as three of our classmates suffered the same fate as those who earlier left our Class due to academic deficiencies. At the culmination of our junior year, the Class of 1965 ended up with only 56 members.

As the activities of March Week in 1964 commenced, our anticipation steadily grew and reached its peak during the graduation parade for class 1964. As members of the graduating class left the ranks of the Corps and formed a single line in front of grandstand during that parade, the members of Class 1965 formally took over the command of the Corps of Cadets. Thus on that memorable day, we led the Corps as we passed in review in front of the graduating class and the public in the

grandstand, as if proudly announcing to them that the Class of 1965 was the new master of the barracks.

THE NEW MASTERS OF BARRACKS: "FIRST CLASS YEAR"

The Summer of 1964

Learning the ropes" of senior cadetship and smoothly gliding into the new status became the key endeavor of our Class immediately after graduation of the previous class. And we must say that it felt great! No upperclassmen above us, only underclassmen below us, indeed we felt like the new masters of the barracks! At the same time it now dawned on us the accompanying responsibility our new status entailed, we were now responsible for the entire Corps of Cadets, and that realization probably helped to keep us level-headed amidst the euphoria. At the start of our First Class year, a member of Class 1964 joined our Class, thus raising our membership to 57. As we started our final year in the academy, a question which probably haunted us was "How much more attrition will our Class suffer in the course of the year ahead."

Our first major task as first-classmen was the "reception" of the new plebes of Class 1968, to include their orientation and training during their "beast barracks" to prepare them for eventual incorporation to the Corps. Assisting us in this task were the yearlings of Class 1967. The "reception" of Class 1968 was a novel activity for us, as it was the only "reception" we ever participated in as upperclassmen. Nevertheless, the event went on smoothly, even as we remembered the shock and exhaustion we ourselves experienced during our own "reception" three years earlier. The summer camp for Class 1968 was perhaps our first real experience of exercising command over a unit of men, with all its concomitant problems, trials and experiences, but we successfully completed our task to prepare the plebes worthy of incorporation to the Corps.

The summer camp of Class 1968 was handled by two batches of our Class; our members from the first battalion “received” the new plebes, while those from the second battalion went on a “first class trip” for about 20 days. In the middle of the summer camp, we switched roles as from the second battalion took over the summer camp, while our first battalion classmate went on their “first class trip”. This “trip” was actually an orientation-tour of the four major services of the armed forces then (army, constabulary, navy and air force). We were given extensive briefing by the services and we visited some of their major installations. The main objective of the whole exercise was actually to help us decide later which service to join come graduation in March the following year.

After the incorporation of the new plebes, the Corps boarded the RPS Lapu-lapu on a southern cruise to the cities of Iloilo, Iligan, Tagbilaran, as well as Jolo. As in previous cruises, the Corps again performed parades and drill exhibitions in said cities, but this time with the Class of 1965 in command during those parades! Our members of course basked in the limelight as commanders and leaders of the Corps of Cadets. As in previous cruises too, but now with flair and confidence, the Corps socialized with the people during formal dances, dinners, and similar events.

The Final Academic Year

After a reinvigorating, morale-boosting summer cruise, the first term of academic soon began, this time challenging us with more technical and newer subjects such as Theory of Structures, Strength of Materials, Ordnance Engineering, Military Engineering, Law, Government, Economics, History of Military Art, International Relations, and Leadership in the Service. Looking back now at all the subjects in our PMA curriculum, one could justifiably say that our course then, BS (PMA), was quite technical, perhaps hewing towards Civil Engineering. This should not be too surprising, considering that the PMA traces its roots to the American period during which the US Military Academy served as the model, which itself was originally a military engineering academy.

The days rolled on smoothly as we attended to our academic and military subjects, even as we performed other routine activities, parades and Saturday inspections, drills and athletic intramurals, “hops” and other social events. But most importantly, the Class of 1965 ran the Corps of Cadets, supervising and directing all of its activities, a situation which served as a training ground for our entry as officers of the Armed Forces of the Philippines. Meantime, representatives from various branches of service of the AFP visited the PMA to brief us and “advertise” or attract us to their respective branches. These briefings most likely helped convince us regarding our own individual priority choices, as we in fact soon formally indicated our individual order of priorities in our choice of a branch of service.

After the 100th Night Show in December of 1964 and the ensuing Christmas leave we enjoyed, our high expectations and excitement kept pace with each day’s passing, as our graduation day crept tantalizingly closer and closer. The finish line loomed more clearly than ever, like the sun giving off its rays of light on a cloudless day! Soon our academics officially came to an end; in its first class year, Class 1965 did not suffer a single casualty, not for academic or any other reason! As we prepared for March Week and our graduation, our family members and guests began trickling in to Baguio City to attend “our big day”, and not too soon indeed March Week finally arrived.

Following all the festivities and events of March Week, the day we had all dreamed about in our cadet years finally arrived--- our graduation day. Thus on the morning of 28 March 1965, we assembled with the Corps for the graduation parade, our final parade as PMA cadets. Towards the culmination of the parade, following a revered ritual, the Class of 1965 formally turned over command of the Corps of Cadets to Class 1966, as all the members of our Class marched towards the front of the grandstand and formed a single line. As the underclassmen passed in review before us, a flood of mixed emotions and nostalgia engulfed us; visions of bittersweet memories of our four-year cadetship seemed to rush before us; and it was perhaps at that moment that it really sank in that we were leaving our beloved Alma Mater for good! After the parade the underclassmen “abducted” each of us and bodily carried us to the sun dial area for the traditional “dunking” in the ponds thereat.

On the afternoon, we assembled at the PMA gymnasium for our graduation rites. As our names were called according to our order of merit, each of us mounted the stage to accept our Bachelor of Science diploma from President Diosdado Macapagal, who was also our guest speaker, and BGen. Felimon C. Reodica, our superintendent. The rest of the rites that afternoon now seem to be just a gentle haze to us, what remains etched in our memories was our proud feeling of accomplishment then upon receiving our precious and well-earned diplomas. And with a toss of our caps into the air, we put to a close a major phase in our lives.

The final event of March Week took place that evening--- the “pinning ceremony.” Pursuant to GHQ General Orders 303 dated 26 March 1965, all 57 members of Class 1965 were commissioned as second lieutenants of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) effective 28 March 1965. We were then already wearing the “white duck” uniform of an AFP officer, minus the rank insignia. Thus as the orders were read, we were assisted by two persons of our choice (mostly our parents) to “pin” the second lieutenant insignias on our shoulders, as if to formalize our comissionship through this symbolic ceremony.

Based on our indicated priorities, and depending on the requirements of the AFP, we received our orders, GHQ Special Orders 192 dated 26 March 1965, assigning us to our respective major branches of service: 27 of us were assigned to the Philippines Air Force and 15 to the Philippine Navy. Although the Philippine Constabulary was still a major service at the time, the AFP hierarchy had earlier decided that none of us would be assigned therewith. Perhaps as a bonus to us, we were also granted a 30-day vacation leave before formally reporting to our respective assignments.

CONCLUSION

As in the refiner’s fire that purifies gold of its impurities to yield its purest sheen, the 4-year long academic and military training alongside the Academy’s tenacity of traditional must have extracted in us that which shines and elevates every worthy PMAYER to the nation’s ranks of the finest officers and gentlemen!

Our Class originally had 132 members in the summer of 1961; there were 24 more who joined the Class in the course of the next three years, for a total of 156 who, at one time or another, became a part of or Class. We lost 99 of them during our four-year adventure, and we ended with 57 + 1 proud members of the PMA Class of 1965.



THE GOLDEN JUBILARIANS



PMA “Makabayan” Class of 1975 Embracing Our Defining Moments

Every individual inevitably encounters daunting obstacles and hardships in life. At such junctures, they are presented with the choice of embracing significant challenges or retreating to a place of comfort, opting for the unconventional path, settling for the familiar, confronting difficulties head-on, or relinquishing their aspirations. When everything appears to be going awry, only those who possess unyielding determination, resilience, and unshakable belief in the potential of divine intervention are predestined to achieve success.

Discovering Our Class Identity: Name and Crest Unveiled!



It has been customary and practiced in the Academy that every class must have a name and a crest. The Class opted to have “Makabayan” as its class name as an embodiment of its aspirations and nationalist ideas. The class crest, on the other hand, is a seal depicting various national icons. Charlemagne Alejandrino, a notable member of the class, designed it.

The Makabayan seal of PMA Class 1975 stands as the first Academy class crest that embodies the spirit of nationalism. The different elements of the crest are closely identified with our nation, the Philippines. The following are the descriptions.

Firstly, the Salakot signifies the leadership attributes of courage and nationalism. Secondly, the Green Laurel leaves symbolize honor, dignity, and the privilege of becoming a member of PMA Class 1975. Thirdly, the Carabao, as the national animal, represents strength, diligence, and perseverance. Fourthly, the Kalis, consisting of a Kris and the Tabak, signify non-submissiveness to the enemy and the

willingness to die for the country. Fifthly, the three stars represent Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao, where the Makabayans originated. Lastly, CCAFP, which stands for Cadet Corps Armed Forces of the Philippines, is where all the Makabayans were molded and trained to become future leaders. The Makabayan seal is a powerful symbol of patriotism and nationalism. It perfectly embodies the Filipino spirit and the values we hold dear.

Our Journey: How It All Began

In December 1970, 3,311 young dreamers flocked to testing centers nationwide to take the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) cadet entrance examination. We came from all walks of life. No matter how diverse our backgrounds were, we had one common aspiration - to acquire free quality education and training from the premier





military school in the country. Most, if not all of us, would have been motivated by stories of heroic and gallant deeds displayed by alumni of the Academy during World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam wars, and the counter-insurgency campaigns against local threat groups and lawless elements. Others have been inspired by alumni who have distinguished themselves in the military and government service to the nation and people. Only 384, or 8.6 percent, passed the examination and underwent further physical and medical tests at the V. Luna Medical Center. Eventually, 120 would compose the PMA Class of 1975.

Our Exciting First Day at Summer Camp

And so, it came to pass. On April 5, 1971, the successful candidates reported to PMA in Loakan, Baguio City. We were sworn as Cadet Corps, Armed Forces of the Philippines (CCAFP) members as fourth-class men, or "plebes". During the unique PMA tradition called

"reception," we were told in no uncertain terms that we were scholars of the government and belonged to the "cream of the crop."



As the newly sworn cadets, we pledged to live up to the highest standards of excellence in academics, physical fitness, sports, discipline, and conduct imposed by the PMA Academics Group, Tactics Group, and First-Class Policy Board. The Cadet Honor Code and the virtues of Courage, Integrity, and Loyalty highly sculpted our transformation



to the profession of arms. The core factors were the confines of the cadet barracks, the academic classrooms, the hallowed grounds of Borromeo Field, the Jurado Hall, the mess hall, and the conduct of field exercises, marches, and bivouacs simulating actual battlefield conditions. This crucible sculpted us to what we are today.

Celebrating Achievement: Graduation Day - February 17, 1975

Finally, on February 17, 1975, ninety-one PMA "Makabayan" Class of 1975 cadets were declared graduates. Only 57 of the original 120 passers of the 1971 examinations graduated. Thirty-four rejoinders from the previous classes were assimilated into the Class of 1975, making the final strength of PMA Class 1975 to 91.



The graduation came a month earlier than the traditional "March Week" ceremonies due to the urgent need for platoon leaders of infantry battalions of the Philippine Army (PA), and the line units of the Philippine Constabulary (PC). The Philippine Air

Force (PAF) and the Philippine Navy (PN) also needed young officers to fill up crucial positions required to operate air and naval assets.

Before the graduation ceremony, General Order No. 490 was issued by GHQ, AFP on February 12, 1975, appointing us as second lieutenants or ensigns in the Regular Force, Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and subsequently



assigning us to the AFP Major Service Commands. After a month of well-deserved academic leave, we were ready to start our lives as newly commissioned officers. We were confident that the education and training we received from the academy, especially the Military Science (MS) subjects and the Scout Ranger Orientation Course (SROC) we completed in Pasonanca, Zamboanga City as 1st class cadets, had provided us with the essential leadership skills and competencies to face the challenges that lay ahead.

As we began our careers, two major groups posed threats to national security: the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF), which sought Mindanao's secession, and the New People's Army (NPA), the armed wing of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP), which aimed to overthrow the government across the archipelago.

In 1976, the Tripoli Agreement was signed between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the MNLF. Still, Hashim Salamat rejected it and left the MNLF to form the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) in 1984. The MILF rejected the Jakarta Accord in 1996 and continued confrontations with government forces in Central Mindanao and Lanao provinces.

The Philippine Army Group -



On March 17, 1975, some 31 members of the Army Group reported for duty at the Philippine Army Headquarters in Fort Andres Bonifacio, Metro Manila. The Headquarters Personnel Administration (HPA) briefed them on

the enemy situation, ongoing Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) operations, and other administrative matters, mainly focusing on the core values of the Philippine Army and the AFP. Following the briefing, the Philippine Army Headquarters issued special orders to implement their assignments.

1st Infantry Division - Alex Aleo, Joseph Castro, Reuben Crisologo, Rudy Guligado, Dominador Makinano, Manuel Mariano, Sofronio Pasillao, George Quisido, Jeffrey Sodusta, and Benjamin Tesoro.

3rd Infantry Division - Romeo Dayao, Isagani Garcia, Alejandro Geronimo, Benjamin Gonzales, Silverio Ilagan, Jovenal Narcise, Renato Navarro, Bonifacio Ramos, and Lyel Tugbang.

4th Infantry Division - Arsenio Arugay, Ernesto Boac, Armando Cunanan, Dante Ganir, Napoleon Malana, Wilfredo Pabalan, Raul Subala, Edward Tolentino, and Ruperto Tumada II.

2nd Infantry Brigade (Separate) - Raul Heredia, and Antonio Medina.

5th Infantry Brigade (Separate) - Willy Bactad.

After serving as platoon leaders in Mindanao, they completed the Infantry Officer's Course (IOC) and the PA Staff Course (PASC) in Metro Manila. After training, they returned to their units as company commanders and staff members. After serving as company grade officers, 11 of the PA Group chose to enter the civilian sector.

Before relocating to Canada and the USA, Willy Bactad obtained an engineering degree and taught at the College of Engineering, Saint Louis University, Baguio City. Romeo Dayao and Isagani Garcia settled in the U.S., while Dante Ganir moved to Davao City after starting a business in Zamboanga City. Benjamin Gonzales and Alex Geronimo transitioned from the Army Management and Information Center to careers in IT, settling in the USA and Canada, respectively. Renato Navarro served as chief of security at Cebu Plaza Hotel and Hotel Marco Polo before retiring as a corporate security manager. Wilfredo Pabalan worked at the RSBS before becoming the Philippine Veterans Affairs Office administrator.

Raul Subala left his commission to start a private business, while Benjamin Tesoro authored military service books before being elected mayor of San Manuel, Tarlac. Lyel Tugbang opened an ice plant in Iloilo City. Armando Cunanan served as the Assistant Chief of Staff for Personnel in the G1 Division of the PA, while Nap Malana was the Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel in the J1 department of GHQ, AFP.

Arsenio Arugay became the Chief of the Intelligence Service, AFP, with Jeffrey Sodusta and Reuben Crisologo in key roles. Silverio Ilagan was named Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence (G2) in the PA, and Jovenal Narcise led the Counter-Intelligence Unit. Manuel Mariano was appointed Defense Attache to Vietnam, and Fernando Mesa was assigned to France, Germany, and Spain from Paris. At the same time, Bonifacio Ramos was designated to the USA in Washington, D.C., as Défense Attaché.

Alex Aleo and Bonifacio Ramos served as Assistant Chief of Staff for Operations, G3, PA. Dante Ganir was the only scout ranger among the Makabayans of the PA Group. Ruperto Tumada II commanded a Special Forces battalion (Airborne) and later became Chief of Staff of the Special Forces Regiment (Airborne). Jovenal Narcise was named Deputy Commander of Special Operations Command (SOCOM) PA. Arsenio Arugay, Raul Heredia, and Jeffrey Sodusta participated in UN Peacekeeping Operations in Tokyo, Japan.

Ernesto Boac led the PA Logistics family's Army Support Command (ASCOM). At the same time, Raul Heredia commanded ASCOM's Forward Service Support Unit (FSSU) and served as Assistant Chief of Staff for Logistics, G4, PA. Ernesto Boac, Armando Cunanan, and Fernando Mesa joined the Défense Resource Management. Boac served as Assistant Chief of Staff for Comptrollership and Chief of the Army Resource Management Office. Cunanan and Mesa held comptroller roles at the Presidential Security Group and ISAFP, respectively.

In Civil-Military Operations, Rudy Guligado led the Civil Relations Group in the Cordillera Administrative Region. At the same time, Cardozo Luna became the Assistant Chief of Staff for CMO, and Napoleon Malana commanded the Army CMO Battalion.

Cardozo Luna was the Commandant of Cadets at PMA, and Jeffrey Sodusta served as Deputy Commander of the PA Training and Doctrine Command. Boac and Jovenal Narcise headed the training and command directorates at the Command and General Staff College.

The PA Group comprised senior officers who led major units, aided government sectors, and conducted disaster relief. Fourteen members commanded battalions, 12 led brigades, 10 became commanding generals of divisions, and nine held key positions in AFP Area Commands or GHQ.

The Philippine Constabulary/Philippine National Police Group



Twenty-nine Philippine Constabulary (PC) Group members reported for duty at Camp Crame in Quezon City and were assigned to combat battalions in Mindanao. The 54th PC Battalion welcomed Florante Baguio, Teodorico Capuyan, Dominador Flores, Ismael Rafanan, and Albert Villanueva in the Davao provinces. The 56th PC Battalion in Jolo, Sulu, took in Napoleon Cachuela and Wilfredo Dulay as platoon leaders. The 57th PC Battalion at Camp Parang welcomed Dante Ferrer, Raul Gonzales,

Prudencio Regis Jr., Roberto Robles, and Antonio Viray, who opted to be reassigned to the Sulu Constabulary Command.

In Zamboanga Peninsula, the 58th PC Battalion welcomed Eulogio Baltazar, Sofronio Cabrera, and Richelieu Logronio. In Zamboanga and Basilan, the 61st PC Battalion included Leonardo Bernabe, German Doria, Cardozo Luna, Van Luspo, Fernando Mesa, and Napoleon Delos Santos. Eulogio Baltazar later transferred to the 61st PC Battalion during the 58th's retraining and became the Company Commander in Davao City, where he retired. Teodorico Capuyan became a Company Commander at Bukidnon Constabulary Command after swapping roles with Ismael Rafanan. German Doria was transferred to Zamboanga Del Sur as a company commander and later to Regional Command 9 in Zamboanga City.

Ismael Rafanan joined the intelligence community with the Constabulary Security Group and became its commander in Zamboanga City. Dante Ferrer was assigned to Surigao del Norte PC Provincial Command before pursuing intelligence training at Fort Bonifacio, later serving as an instructor. Upon establishing the PNP, he joined its intelligence community and eventually retired from the highest intelligence office. Dominador Flores reported to Gingoog City and then Surigao Sur PC Provincial Command after his time with the 54th PC Battalion. Jose Monico Garcia and Charlemagne Alejandrino joined the 54th PC Battalion and later became company commanders in Zamboanga del Norte and Surigao del Norte, respectively.

Several Makabayans were reassigned to local commands: Raul Gonzales to Davao City, Roberto Robles and Florante Baguio to Davao del Sur PC Provincial Command, while Ray Roderos stayed with the 4th PC zone in Parang, Maguindanao, as aide-de-camp to BGen Ernesto Gidaya. Albert Villanueva served with the Presidential Security Command before returning to Mindanao to lead the Regional Special Action Battalion in Davao City.

Sergio Alcubilla reported to Iloilo and later to Bataan. Geary Barias served at the 3rd PC Zone in Cebu, while Leo Bernabe joined the PC Finance Center before retiring early; he later became a lawyer and CPA. Sofronio Cabrera was a company commander in Aparri, Cagayan. Napoleon Cachuela worked in the Metropolitan Command Intelligence Unit and the 56th PC Battalion in Palawan. Richelieu Logronio served with the Constabulary Anti-Narcotics Unit and became Police Provincial Director of Kalinga. Fernando Mesa joined the Intelligence Service, AFP, and Van Luspo was assigned to the Comptroller Unit at Camp Crame. Ronald Roderos reported to Ormoc City, and Napoleon Delos Santos joined the Civil Relations Service, GHQ, AFP.

Prudencio Regis Jr. and Noe Wong were pioneers of the Light Reaction Unit and Special Warfare and Tactics, which became the Special Action Force (SAF) and SWAT units of the PNP.

On December 12, 1990, Republic Act No. 6975 established the Philippine National Police (PNP) by merging the INP and the PC under the Department of Interior and Local Government. Fernando Mesa and Cardozo Luna opted to remain with the AFP and joined the PA, while Army officer Joseph Castro became a member of the PNP. Former members of the PC Group are now referred to as the PNP Group.

Florante Baguio served as the director of the Negros Occidental PNP Office after initially being assigned to Regional Command 7 in Cebu City, later becoming the Regional Director of Police Regional Office 10 before retirement. Napoleon Cachuela was reassigned to PNP Regional Command 4, while Joseph Castro, Richelieu Logronio, and Geary Barias joined the Constabulary Anti-Narcotics Unit. Teodorico Capuyan and Dominador Flores opted to stay in Mindanao, and German Doria was stationed in Zamboanga City before taking on the R3 position of RECOM 9. Van Luspo remained a Fiscal Officer in the Directorate for Comptrollership. Wilfredo Dulay joined the PNP Highway Patrol

Group, and Napoleon delos Santos was assigned to the PNP Civil Relations Service.

Raul Gonzales, Ronald Roderos, and Charlemagne Alejandrino volunteered for foreign assignments with the United Nations Peace-Keeping Force in Cambodia as part of the PNP Group. Dante Ferrer served as the police attaché at the Philippine Embassy in Washington, D.C., and after his tour, he was appointed Director for Intelligence in Camp Crame. Other members of the Makabayan group held key positions in the intelligence community: Ray Roderos led the Production Division, Prudencio Regis Jr. was chief of the Counterintelligence Unit, and Ismael Rafanan headed the Regional Security Unit 9 in Zamboanga City. Noe Wong served as aide-de-camp to Minister of National Defense Juan Ponce Enrile in Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City.

Philippine Air Force Group



On March 19, 1975, sixteen Philippine Air Force (PAF) Group members reported for duty at Headquarters, Philippine Air Force, located at Villamor Air Base. Intended initially to undergo pilot training, their program was delayed by three months. Known as the "wingless eaglets," they received a briefing on the peace and order situation in Mindanao and the ongoing operations of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP). In March 1975, the PAF Headquarters ordered the group to report to units under the Regional Air Command for Mindanao (RACMIN). They were assigned roles as administrative, personnel, intelligence, and operations officers, following a strict "buddy system."

Pete Cadungog and Meynardo Santiago were assigned to Task Force Davao in Davao City, while Emerito Calica and Jaime Silvestre served with the Composite Air Support Cotabato in Cotabato City. Osmando Hernandez and Alfredo Pamong were part of the Sulu Air Task Group in Jolo, Sulu. Willie Palugod and Marcelo Soriano were assigned to the Tactical Operations Squadron in Cagayan de Sulu, Tawi-Tawi, and Merito Quijano and Romeo Tropicales were with the Tactical Operations Squadron Sibutu in Sibutu, Sulu. Rene Badilla and Prudencio Maligalig served with Task Force Palawan in Tarumpitao, Palawan, and Rodolfo Petican and Michael Rosales were in Task Force Sanga-sanga in Tawi-Tawi. The only Luzon-based pair, Bernardo Julianda and Lucrecio Figueras worked with Task Force Albay in Legazpi City.

Three months after their assignments, they underwent physical and mental evaluations as part of HPAF requirements, preparing for pilot training. They became PAF Flying School Class 1976-B student officers, also taking on roles as tactical officers for aviation cadets and NCO Academy students. Their pilot training included three phases: academics, primary, and advanced flight training, involving classroom instruction and various maneuvers.

On November 04, 1976, Class 76-B was awarded the aeronautical rating, which placed them on flying status effective November 10, 1976. They were declared graduates on November 10, 1976, by Special Orders No. 22, PAF Flying School. Andy Hernandez received the McMicking Award for graduating with the highest proficiency in the flying phase. Meynard Santiago received his diploma the following year.

On 25 November 1976, the Philippine Air Force (PAF) assigned various members to major units. Alfredo Pamong went to the 5th Fighter Wing at Basa Air Base. At the same time, Pete Cadungog, Osmando Hernandez, Bernardo Julianda, and Michael Rosales were placed in the 100th Training Wing at Fernando Air Base. Rene Badilla

and others were assigned to Mactan Air Base's 220th Heavy Airlift Wing. Prudencio Maligalig, Jaime Silvestre, and Marciano Soriano went to the 205th Airlift Wing at Nichols Air Base. These members participated in air strikes, close air support, surveillance, medical evacuations, troop transport, and disaster relief efforts. Some, holding key positions as squadron commanders and staff officers, left the PAF for higher-paying jobs in commercial aviation. Notably, Emerito Calica, Bernardo Julianda, and Prudencio Maligalig joined Philippine Air Lines, with Maligalig later moving to Cebu-Pacific Air.

Several Makabayan pilots joined PAL, including Emerito Quijano, who later worked for various airlines before returning to PAL in 1997. Rodolfo Petican became Chief Pilot and Director of Flight Operations at Trans-Afrika International. Meanwhile, Fred Pamonag and Mike Rosales moved to the USA with their families, while Meynard Santiago and Osmando Hernandez opted for retirement in Lipa City and California, respectively. Mar Soriano followed suit in 1998.

Out of sixteen members of the PAF Group, only three—Pete Cadungog, Willie Palugod, and Rene Badilla—remained with the PAF. They were promoted to lieutenant colonel in 1994 and attended CGSC in Indonesia, Spain, and the USA. Pete Cadungog eventually became the Commanding General of the Philippine Air Force.

The Philippine Navy Group



The PN Group's journey began in November 1974 when 15 cadets started on-the-job training (OJT). Eight were assigned to three US Navy destroyers and two destroyer-escorts, while seven joined the

BRP Datu Kalantiaw (PS 76). During this time, they gained hands-on experience in shipboard operations, participated in naval exercises with neighboring countries, and joined patrols near Vietnam. The OJT ended in early January 1975.

Upon reporting for duty at PN Group HQ in Roxas Boulevard, Manila, the PN Group was initially expected to join the Philippine Marines. However, they were directed to undergo the Naval Officers' Qualification Course (NOQC) Alfa at the Naval Training Command in Cavite City. After completing the course and the Supply Officers' Course on October 27, 1975, they were assigned to various major PN units. Reynaldo Ansay, Pedro Binuya, Carlito Claudio, Adrian Espera, Art Gosingan, Petronilo Magno, and Octavio Pabuayon were assigned to frigates and patrol ships of the Naval Operations Forces (NOF). They played a key role in naval operations, providing gunfire support to ground troops, conducting surface patrols, and preventing smuggling and illegal entries, significantly contributing to regional security.

The Military Sealift and Transport Command (MSTC) assigned Arthur Alviar, Cesar Carranza, Tirso Danga, Manuel Gonzales, Juanito Samuya, and Walter Villagonzalo to various Landing Ships Tanks (LSTs) for transporting military personnel and cargo, and for disaster relief operations. They also participated in amphibious operations in Mindanao and naval exercises. Ruperto Rico Borromeo and Antonio Chanco stayed with the Naval Training Command (NTC) as instructors for probationary ensigns and officers from the Technical Services. After a year, Rico served with the BRP Bukidnon (FB 84) of the Philippine Coast Guard, while Antonio was assigned to the NOF's BRP Rajah Lakandula (PF 4).

In 1976, Rey Ansay and Juanito Samuya left sea duty to train as pilots at the PAL Aviation School. After earning their badges, they joined the Naval Air Unit (NAU), which later became the Naval Air Group (NAG). Their duties included maritime patrols, aerial photography, medical evacuations, disaster relief, search and rescue,

and troop transport, primarily for Pag-asa Island. Arthur Alviar, Pedro Binuya, and Carlito Claudio advanced through various shipboard roles before being assigned ashore. Ruperto Borromeo and Walther Villagonzalo joined the PN Computer Center, while Cesar Carranza, Pepo Chanco, and Manuel Gonzales entered the intelligence field. Adrian Espera joined the Philippine Coast Guard.

While ashore, PN Group members pursued professional development through courses and higher education in Metro Manila. In the 1980s, eight members transitioned to civilian careers. Rey Ansay, a former Navy pilot, migrated to the U.S. in 1989, establishing a business in Arizona. Antonio Chanco worked in the intelligence community and managed the Zamboanga City Golf and Country Club before starting his own business in California. Carlito Claudio migrated to Canada in 1989; he was a commanding officer with the AFP and completed an electrical engineering degree at the University of the Philippines.

Adrian Espera briefly worked with the Philippine Coast Guard before seeking opportunities in the Middle East. He later joined 2Go, a major cargo and courier company. Juanito Samuya was a pilot for various aircraft, including the Boeing 747, and retired in 2018 after 43 years with PAL and Sri Lankan Airlines. Walter Villagonzalo migrated to Melbourne in 1987, engaged in community service, served as Councilor and Deputy Mayor of Wyndham City, and held roles in PNCC and AFP Mutual Benefit Association, Inc.

The nine remaining members aimed to advance their careers while navigating the archipelago. Cesar Carranza and Manuel Gonzales focused on human resources and logistics management, while Pedro Binuya joined the Corps of Professors at the Philippine Military Academy. They completed mandatory courses at the Naval Staff Course and Command and General Staff College, with some pursuing master's degrees in National Security Administration. After sea duty, Art Alviar served as ROTC Commandant for four schools in Cebu City and held staff positions in Zamboanga City. In the early 1990s, he returned to sea duty, commanding PG376, PG386, PS28, and PS74, and later became Commander of Naval District Eastern Mindanao and Chief of Naval Special Service.

Ruperto Borromeo led ships PG383, AW33, and LC551, including the navy's largest vessel, completing critical missions in East Timor and Langkawi, Malaysia. He served with the Naval Forces Southern Luzon, Joint Task Force "Malampaya," and Western Command in Palawan. Borromeo graduated from NDCP and earned an MBA degree from De La Salle University in Manila.

Cesar Carranza had a distinguished career in the PN's intelligence units during the 1980s, serving as Special Assistant to the Postmaster General and Chief of the Security and Intelligence Unit at the Bureau of Post. He also held roles at the NTC and represented the country in Manado, Indonesia. Tirso Danga showcased leadership while overseeing multiple vessels during his sea assignment and held key roles in the Navy's intelligence units and the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

Manuel Gonzales had a notable Navy career as an intelligence and logistics officer, including a stint at Subic Command and experience as a patrol gunboat skipper. He transitioned to logistics management onshore instead of pursuing a command role at sea.

Art Gosingan commanded five navy vessels: PG60, PG64, PG104, PS28, and PS31. He served at key naval bases, including NTC, PMA, PCG, HPN, and GHQ, and he holds a Master's in Development Management from the Asian Institute of Management. Petronilo Magno specialized in communication and electronics after his sea service. He worked at the Naval Communications Facility, which merged into the Naval Communications-Electronics and Information Systems Center. He completed sea duty in 1994 as commanding officer of AF72, PS21, PS19, and LT 87. He earned a BS in Electronics-Communications Engineering from the University of the East and a

Master's in Management from the Philippine Christian University. Octavio Pabuayon completed his naval service with commendable leadership of various navy vessels and undertook tours with PNCC, HPN, NFSL, NTC, and other Philippine Navy divisions.

The unwavering dedication and relentless determination of those who opted to continue their service were rightfully celebrated. Over time, seven esteemed members of the PN Group ascended to the prestigious flag officer rank, each taking on pivotal leadership roles that showcased their commitment and expertise. Their journey was a testament to their resilience and skill, significantly impacting the organization's success and direction.

The Philippine Coast Guard



On March 30, 1998, the Navy underwent a big change in its structure. Because it is a civilian organization, the PCG was separated from the PN and put under the direct supervision of the

Office of the President. Later, the PCG was moved to the Department of Transportation and Communications (DOTC) under Executive Order No. 477 dated April 15, 1998, making it a government bureau at the same level as the AFP. Art Gosingan chose to move from the PN to PCG. His choice was wise as he achieved all his star ranks in two years. In 2002, he was promoted to commodore, and in 2003, he was appointed the Commandant, PCG. In the same year, he was promoted to the rank of rear admiral and vice admiral, becoming the first member of the class to earn the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd stars.

PMAAAI Cavalier and Distinguished Makabayan Alumni Awardees

The Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association, Inc. (PMAAAI) honored exceptional "Makabayan" Class of 1975 members for their outstanding achievements in various fields. Eight members were presented with the prestigious Cavalier Award, while four others



were bestowed with the esteemed PMAAAI Distinguished Alumni Award. According to PMAAAI records, the PMA Class of 1975 ranks second in the number of Cavalier Awardees, with eight recipients, following closely behind PMA Class 51, which has 15 awardees. Among the Cavalier Awardees are Armando Cunanan for Army Combat Operations, Cesar Carranza for Special Operations and Administrations, and Arthur Gosingan for Naval Combat Operations, all in 1987. In 1995, Ronald Roderos won the Police Operations Award. In 2000, Ernesto Boac and Charlemagne Alejandrino garnered the Staff Functions and Police Operations, respectively. Raul Heredia was awarded the Staff Functions Award in 2001. Noe Wong was granted the Command and Administration Award in 2007. Geary Barias followed suit in 2009 with the same Command and Administration Award. After retirement, Fernando Mesa was conferred the Public Administrator Award for his service and achievement as chief executive of Alabat, Quezon.

The Makabayans who were bestowed awards as distinguished alumni are Arthur Gosingan as Commandant of the Philippine Coast Guard in 2005, Pedrito Cadungog as Commanding General, Philippine

Air Force, Noe Wong as Philippine Ambassador to Cambodia in 2009, and Cardozo Luna as Philippine Ambassador to the Hague, Netherlands in 2010.

Retirement Highlights

After years of dedicated service, the remaining individuals from the PMA "Makabayan" Class of 1975 have officially concluded their tenure in the military and police force. This significant transition signifies the commencement of a new chapter in their lives, allowing them to pursue personal interests and activities beyond the regimented structure of military and police life. Importantly, retirement enables them to savor precious moments with their families, particularly their grandchildren, a luxury constrained during their active years of service. Post-retirement, certain members have chosen to apply their expertise in various capacities within national and local government agencies.

In foreign service, two Makabayans served as the president's alter ego in foreign lands. Noe Wong was appointed ambassador to Cambodia and the Republic of South Korea. Cardoso Luna was appointed as Philippine Ambassador to The Hague, Netherlands. and at present, Undersecretary, DND

Noe A. Wong concluded his distinguished career as a Police Major General with the Philippine National Police on August 11, 2007. President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo appointed him as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Cambodia, where he focused on the Filipino community and coordinated with the Samahan ng mga Pilipino sa Cambodia. He signed a Memorandum of Agreement with Cambodia to import rice, initiate direct flights between Manila and Siem Reap, and organized trade fairs for Philippine products. After resigning in 2012 when Arroyo's term ended, he was reappointed by President



Benigno Aquino Jr. and became Dean of the Diplomatic Corps in Cambodia. Wong served as AEP to South Korea from February 2019, assisting during the 30th anniversary of ASEAN-ROK dialogue relations. He resigned on February 28, 2020, amid the COVID lockdown, with his resignation accepted on March 16, 2020.

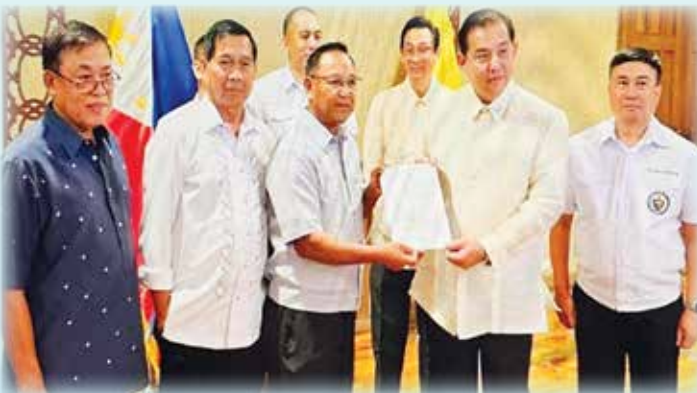
Cardozo Manalo Luna served as the Vice Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) before becoming the Ambassador to the Kingdom of the Netherlands on May 1, 2009. During his tenure, he addressed the needs of Filipino nationals, countered Jose Maria Sison's influence, and was instrumental in the Philippines' membership application





to the International Permanent Court of Arbitration. He also averted a potential case of crime against humanity regarding the Maguindanao massacre. Luna's service ended on October 31, 2010, earning him the Distinguished Service Medal from the Department of Foreign Affairs. From 2016 to 2022, he served as a Senior Undersecretary at the Department of National Defense.

After retiring, Raul Gonzales dedicated his time to his family, seeking to make up for the years he had missed due to his service commitments in the Philippine National Police (PNP). Nevertheless, he ensured that he did not neglect his passion for golf and continues to be recognized as one of the top players in his category. When Raul was unanimously elected as the tenth-class president, he took on various roles to promote the well-being of his classmates. He started preparing for the Golden Jubilee Homecoming in 2025 by launching a



fund-raising program. He worked diligently to assist those previously "not in good standing" to achieve "good standing." During the early days of the pandemic, when many people were confined to their homes, Raul proposed that anyone interested could write about how they coped with the boredom caused by the lockdowns. True to his word, the class president shared how the lengthy quarantine allowed him to develop new skills like leisure farming while bonding with his loving wife and children. He presented a position letter to Speaker Martin C. Romualdez, addressing the misinformation that polarizes communities. Our president led the class in expressing unwavering

support for the duly constituted authorities and adherence to the laws and decrees, encouraging unity among compatriots and firmly opposing any actions threatening economic, social, and political progress. In his role as class president, he also became the chairman of the Philippine Military Academy Retirees Association Inc. (PMARAI), a chapter of the Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association Inc. (PMAAAI), which aims to promote the general welfare of its members and contribute to national development. As a culmination of his post-retirement services, he assumed the role of PMAAAI chairman for activities during 2024-2025.

Pedrito S. Cadungog retired on January 10, 2009, after 37 years, nine months, and 10 days of active service in the Armed Forces of the Philippines, where he held the position of Commanding General of the Philippine Air Force and attained the rank of lieutenant general. Following his retirement, he resumed his role as Chairman of the Board at his family-owned private school, registered with the SEC as Integrated Montessori Center, Inc. His wife, an educator, is the driving force behind the school, and their two children assist in managing daily operations and academic activities. Pete, fondly called, provides guidance and strategic direction for the school. He focuses on



recruiting and retaining highly qualified teachers, developing a curriculum relevant to the needs of the 21st-century workforce, and investing in modern educational facilities, including classrooms, a library, and IT tools. He also promotes parental involvement by encouraging active participation in their children's education. Currently, IMC has two school buildings in the AFP Officers' Village Association near Fort Bonifacio: one in Diego Silang

Street, housing the Preschool and Grade School, and another in Bayani Road for High School. For the School Year 2024-2025, IMC has 1,478 students.

As a former Commanding General of the PAF, he continues to participate in annual events like PAF Retirees' Day, the PAF Founding Anniversary, and the "Night with the Air Chiefs" to honor former Air Chiefs. He also attends national day celebrations and Armed Forces Day events of other countries.

Mayor Fernando L. Mesa of Alabat, Quezon, affectionately known as Andy, recently received the Gawad Parangal for Outstanding Local Chief Executive, showcasing his commitment to poverty alleviation. His efforts include promoting agribusiness initiatives that enhance farmers' livelihoods and diversify the local economy through rice farming, coconut production, fishing, cacao



cultivation, and more. He also introduced a unique stingless honeybee culture with support from UP Los Baños, providing new opportunities for residents. Andy's achievements reflect how strong leadership and good governance can address various challenges.

After retiring, Charlie Alejandrino took on the consultant role for Stanch Security and Investigation Agency, Inc., a family-owned enterprise renowned for delivering comprehensive security services. Their clientele includes prominent establishments like SM Malls, various private individuals, and government agencies, ensuring a wide range of protective measures are in place. Charlie also oversees the CSA Security Training Institute, a dedicated facility that equips aspiring security guards with the necessary skills and training to excel in their roles. In addition to his consultancy work, Charlie ventured into agriculture, establishing 4KCA Farms Corp. This agricultural enterprise specializes in broiler chicken production under a contract with San Miguel Foods, contributing to the local food supply chain. Furthermore, he runs a charming 11-room bed and breakfast named 4K Bed and Breakfast, offering a cozy and inviting atmosphere for guests seeking comfort and relaxation during their stay.

Ray Roderos served as the Assistant Director General (ADG) of the National Security Council (NSC) from 2013 until 2022, placing him at the forefront of national security strategy in the country. During his tenure, he played a pivotal role as the chair of the joint committee responsible for developing the NSC's 2021 Agency Service Continuity Plan, a comprehensive strategy designed to ensure the seamless continuation of critical services in times of crisis. In addition to his significant responsibilities with the NSC, ADG Ray also functioned as the assistant head secretariat for the cabinet-level National Crisis Committee. His expertise was particularly crucial during the Lahad Datu crisis in March 2013, where he supported the committee in its coordinative management efforts. His adept handling of complex situations and ability to navigate high-stakes environments underscored his commitment to fostering national stability and security.

After retirement, Ernesto Boac was appointed Assistant Secretary for Comptrollership within the Department of National Defense, marking a significant advancement in his career. In this pivotal role, Boac oversaw the intricate financial planning and budgetary processes essential to the department's operational effectiveness and strategic objectives. His responsibilities included managing the allocation of resources, ensuring compliance with financial regulations, and coordinating with various units to develop budgets that align with the department's goals. Boac's leadership undoubtedly enhanced fiscal discipline and drove efficient financial practices

within the department, ultimately supporting the overall mission of the national defense.

After retirement, Willie Palugod joined the Department of National Defense and assumed a pivotal role within the Plans and Programs Division. In this capacity, he was appointed Assistant Secretary, which entailed significant responsibilities and influence in shaping defense policies. In this role, Palugod concentrated on strategic planning initiatives to advance the department's objectives. He worked collaboratively with various stakeholders to develop and implement programs that aligned closely with the defense sector's overarching goals. These efforts were



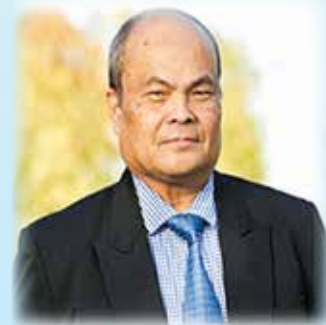
crucial in addressing emerging security challenges and ensuring the nation's preparedness and resilience in the face of evolving threats. Through his leadership, Palugod enhanced the effectiveness of defense operations and contributed meaningfully to the overarching mission of safeguarding national security. His expertise played an important role in shaping policies that supported the country's defense infrastructure and operational readiness. Willie Palugod and Inday Palugod, with Boni Ramos's dedicated support, embarked on a heartfelt philanthropic mission



St. Michael the Archangel Church, Macrohon, So. Leyte, before and after repair due to damages brought by Typhoon Odette, 2021.

to restore the St. Michael the Archangel Church in Macrohon, Southern Leyte. The church, a cherished local landmark with deep historical significance, had suffered extensive damage due to the destructive forces of Typhoon Odette in December 2021. Their efforts aimed not only to repair the physical structure but also to revive the spirit of the community that had come together to support one another in the aftermath of the disaster.

Walter Villagonzalo migrated to Australia with his family in 1986 after serving in the Armed Forces of the Philippines. An expert in computer and information systems, he has become a respected community leader in Filipino and Australian communities. Walter received the Cavalier Award for his contributions to the Philippine Military Academy and was named Citizen of the Year in Wyndham, Victoria—the first migrant to



receive this Honor. He also became the first Filipino elected City Councillor and Deputy Mayor. Over nearly 35 years in Australia, Walter has dedicated himself to community service without compensation in over 50 roles. He co-founded the Association of Filipino-Australian Generation of Inspiring Leaders (AGILA) and is recognized for his entrepreneurial spirit, having launched several successful community and business projects. His achievements reflect the values learned at the Philippine Military Academy.

Rodolfo Petican, a retired AFP member, joined TransAfrik in 1988 after flying for Philippine Air Lines. He operated C-130s in Africa, managing 18 Filipino pilots and an international crew for humanitarian missions, evacuating foreign nationals during conflicts. Over 35 years, he logged more than 30,000 flying hours without accidents. Despite experiencing significant losses, including a C-130 crash in Afghanistan in 2010 that killed six Filipinos, he continues his work as Director of Operations and now lives in the USA with his family.

Willy T. Bactad had a significant military career before leaving the Philippine Army in September 1976 to pursue a degree in industrial engineering at Saint Louis University in Baguio City. After becoming a math instructor at the College of Engineering, he migrated to Canada in August 1984 after marrying his fiancée. He later obtained a diploma in Licensed Practical Nursing, leading to a rewarding career in healthcare until his retirement in July 2021. Now, in retirement, Willy enjoys community work at Saint Andrew's Parish Church in Vancouver. He cherishes spending time with his grandchildren, often traveling to the Philippines to reconnect with family.

After retiring, Arthur Gosigan started a lending company, which he ran for three years before closing it. He then pursued real estate, becoming a licensed broker and assessor, and ventured into agriculture, focusing on mango farming in Guimaras and Negros Oriental and palm oil in Palawan. Despite his diverse experiences, he faced financial struggles as a retiree. His life changed when his sister petitioned for him to migrate to the United States, where he has lived for over seven years. Initially, he worked various odd jobs, and he currently serves as a Forensic Care Associate 2 at Western State Hospital in Tacoma, Washington, while still dealing with ongoing financial challenges.

German Doria. After 38 years of dedicated service in both the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and the Philippine National Police (PNP), German B. Doria finds himself on the brink of a new and

exciting chapter in his life—one that he fondly refers to as “my apostolic duty.” He is immensely grateful for the experiences and lessons learned throughout his long career. The challenges he faced have shaped him into the person he is today. He is profoundly thankful to God Almighty for guiding him and his family through this incredible journey. Gerry, as he is fondly called, witnessed the ebb and flow of life, the importance of service, and the value of unwavering faith with each passing year. With a heart full of hope, he steps forward into this new phase, embracing the opportunities and responsibilities that come with it. He fervently prays for His continuous love,



goodness, faithfulness, protection, and provision as he navigates this blessed chapter of his life. He declares, “To Him, I offer all my glory and praise, acknowledging that every milestone reached and every challenge overcome has been a testament to His grace. I look forward to the adventures ahead, secure in my faith, and ready to serve in new and meaningful ways.”

Nearly three years after entering retirement, Petronilo Magno embraced a new chapter in his life by joining the illustrious Order of the Knights of Columbus in November 2011. This organization is the world's foremost catholic, family, fraternal, and service organization, dedicated to community support and charity. Jomags, as he is fondly called, took on the esteemed role of Grand Knight, demonstrating exceptional leadership and commitment, which earned him two prestigious Star Council awards. He expanded his responsibilities by serving as the District Warden for the entire



Diocese of Parañaque. His dedication to service and leadership culminated in his appointment as District Deputy until 2022. He distinguished himself as a standout leader, consistently recognized with the Outstanding District Deputy award for his unwavering commitment

to the organization and its members. In addition, Jomags served as a Fraternal Counselor from 2013 up to the present and as a Unit Manager from 2020 up to the present. In these capacities, he played a vital role in helping members and their families enhance their lives through the Fraternal Insurance Systems. His service has not gone unnoticed; he has been a consistent recipient of the Annual Family Service Awards, both locally and internationally, reflecting his dedication to the welfare of families within the community. Today, he has ascended to the role of State Officer and serves as the Cluster Director, overseeing the communities of Parañaque, Pasig, Las Piñas, and Muntinlupa. He continues to inspire and uplift members there, fostering a spirit of fellowship and support that defines the essence of the Knights of Columbus.

Dante T. Ferrer completed 38 years of dedicated service in the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and the Philippine National Police (PNP) before retiring on February 22, 2009. He chose not to pursue further career offers for personal and health reasons, instead focusing on his wife and family. This new chapter of his life allows him to compensate for lost time during service. Dante is grateful for the experiences and lessons learned throughout his career. As class secretary, he managed meeting agendas, wrote for the Cavalier Magazine, and handled correspondence for the class president. He embraces this new phase with hope, thanking the Lord for His continuous love and support as he navigates this blessed time in his life.



****Chasing Our Dreams, Achieving Our Aspirations****

The other members of the class actively pursued their interests and passions. As they enter their senior years, many remain deeply engaged in various business ventures, leveraging the skills they developed during their education. Some have ventured into livestock raising, embracing the challenges and rewards of managing farms and caring for animals. Others have chosen the consultancy path, harnessing their acquired competencies and expertise to provide



valuable guidance and insights to clients across different industries. Each person has carved out a unique niche for themselves, reflecting their dedication and commitment to their chosen fields.

Looking back, the dedicated members of PMA "Makabayan" Class of 1975 have wholeheartedly fulfilled our solemn pledge to safeguard the Filipino nation and its people. We have fearlessly put our lives on the line to ensure the safety and freedom of our fellow citizens. As commissioned officers, we have valiantly confronted and conquered formidable challenges in defense of our country.



Guided by the noble principles instilled in us by the PMA, AFP, and PNP, we have consistently discharged our duties with honor and integrity. The numerous accolades and decorations, both military and civilian, are a testament to our selfless and distinguished service. These enduring legacies will forever fill our families and future generations with immense pride and honor, knowing that their predecessors were esteemed members of the PMA "Makabayan" Class of 1975. We remained steadfast in our aspirations, and our perseverance has undoubtedly led to triumph.



CLASS OFFICERS

In the years following our graduation, we take immense pride in the election of dedicated class officers who skilfully provided the leadership needed to uphold the unity of the “Makabayan” Class of 1975. These individuals took it upon themselves to thoughtfully plan, coordinate, and oversee various meaningful class activities, including vibrant alumni homecomings, engaging class meetings, festive Christmas celebrations, and other special events. Their efforts went beyond mere organization; they fostered an atmosphere of camaraderie and support, nurturing strong and healthy relationships among class members and extending to our families. Their commitment ensured that the bonds formed during our school years continued to thrive in the years that followed.

The Past Presidents:

Noe A. Wong
 Napoleon M Delos Santos
 Cardoso M. Luna
 Geary L. Barias
 Chalemagne S Alejandrino
 Pedrito S. Cadungog
 Arthur N Gosingan
 Ismael R Rafanan
 Pedrito S. Cadungog
 German B Doria
 Willie A. Palugod

Class Officers (2020 - 2025)

Raul S. Gonzales - President
 Ernesto D. Boac - Vice-president for Army Group

Pedrito S. Cadungog - Vice-president for Air Force Group
 German B Doria - Vice-president for PNP Group
 Petronilo P Magno - Vice-president for Navy Group
 Dante T Ferrer - Secretary
 Noe A. Wong - Treasurer
 Jeffrey S. Sodusta - Sports Coordinator
 Reynaldo P Ansay - Overseas Coordinator
 Willie A. Palugod - Ex-Officio Officer

Celebrating Our Adopted Class Members

“Feeling thankful and not expressing it is like wrapping a present and not giving it.” - William Arthur Ward.

Now is the perfect time to express our gratitude for our honorary and associate members who have helped our class. By including them in our yearbook, we honor their invaluable contributions and positive impact on our journey. Their unique talents and dedication have fostered a sense of belonging. Reflecting on shared laughter, collaborative projects, and friendships, we appreciate the lasting memories they’ve helped create. We are excited to celebrate their remarkable contributions and hope this acknowledgment inspires continued engagement as we move forward.

Conrado Leyes was the Finance Service and Comptroller at the PNP Regional Office 6, managing financial operations and ensuring fiscal accountability. He has since moved to the private sector and is now a successful businessman in Bacolod City, leveraging his expertise to drive growth in his ventures.

Corleto Lopez served as Comptroller for the PNP Regional Office 10. During his active service, he supported the class during fund-raising campaigns.

Rene Aguinaldo served as the Finance Officer at Camp Crame for many years, managing financial operations and ensuring fiscal responsibility. He handled budgeting, financial reporting,

and resource allocation until retirement, playing a key role in the class's financial stability.

Domingo Manuel, a dedicated Finance Officer for the National Capital Regional Office, has now transitioned into retirement. His journey reflects a wealth of experience and insight from the public and private sectors.

Benito Brizuela, owner of Book Media Press, is a notable philanthropist and businessman. He previously held the position of Vice Chairman of the League of Councilors of the Philippines and has shown his commitment to the community by printing the alumni yearbook.

Robert Barbers, the esteemed former Senator from Surigao and a dedicated Secretary of the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), left an indelible mark on his community and the nation. His legacy continues to inspire those who strive for meaningful public service.

Apolinario Lozada, a notable political figure and former Congressman, dedicated his career to public service. He served as the director of the Philippine National Red Cross, contributing to nationwide humanitarian efforts, and worked as a consultant in the Presidential Management Staff at Malacañang Palace, offering insights for governance and policy-making.

Benjamin Dy, the late and influential former governor of Isabela Province, was known for his significant contributions to the area's development and progress during his tenure.

Rosario Uriarte, former General Manager of the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office, offered vital support to the class through his hands-on approach, fostering collaboration and encouraging active participation among the mistahs.

The Philippine Military Academy "Makabayan" Class of 1975 welcomed former classmates who had been separated from the cadet corps, embracing them with open arms and a spirit of camaraderie. The bonds forged during their rigorous training days as cadets are deeply rooted, creating a lasting sense of brotherhood that continues to thrive. This strong connection demonstrates these individuals' enduring loyalty and unity, transcending the passage of time and distance. The adopted former classmates are German Aguilar, Jr., Remberto Cataluna, Rodolfo Espino, Noel Garcia, Mario Icaro, Crecencio Moreno, Sabino Paculio Jr., Quintin Quitlong, Rico Reyes, Arthur Segovia, and Carlos Blanco.

Our Departed Classmates: *In Memoriam*, A Homage

In this moment, we pause to honor and remember the dear friends we have lost, whose love and camaraderie profoundly enriched our lives. Though they are no longer physically with us, their spirits live on in the cherished memories and invaluable camaraderie they imparted. As we reflect on the precious moments we shared, we are reminded of the enduring power of friendship, the joy of laughter, and the strong bonds that transcend time and space. May we carry their legacy forward, nurturing their light in our hearts and honoring their impact on us all.

In the line of fire -

Edward "Tintoy" Tolentino	-	02 May 1975
George "Jing" Quisido	-	23 October 1975
Antonio "Kiks" Viray	-	18 March 1976
Jose Monico "Monet" Garcia	-	04 July 1979
Sofronio "Nito" Cabrera Jr.	-	13 July 1984
Sergio "Sergs" Alcubilla Jr.	-	20 February 1986
Alberto "Albert" Villanueva	-	09 July 1987

Sudden crossover -

Abelardo "Bong" Salango Jr.	-	12 July 1981
Roberto "Obet" Robles	-	22 August 1983
Raul "Pitong" Heredia	-	23 December 2003
Eulogio "Baltic" Baltazar	-	10 September 2009
Rene "Bady" Badilla	-	30 October 2010
Florante "Egay" Baguio	-	15 November 2021

Covid curtain call -

Prudencio "Dennis" Regis Jr.	-	24 March 2020
Manuel "Naning" Mariano Jr.	-	18 August 2020
Octavio "Pabie" Pabuayon	-	21 August 2020
Rudy "Guligs" Guligado	-	25 September 2021

Under the weather -

Sofronio "Pasi" Pasiliao	-	09 June 1978
Dominador "Maki" Makinano	-	20 October 2000
Richelieu "Richie" Logronio	-	11 January 2002
Bernardo "Juli" Julianda	-	30 January 2008
Napoleon "Anto" delos Santos	-	08 February 2008
Wilfredo "Willie" Pabalan	-	09 April 2011
Antonio "Medynes" Medina	-	20 January 2013
Lyle "Lyle" Tugbang	-	28 April 2017
Ismael "Raffy" Rafanan	-	07 July 2021
Prudencio "Dempo" Maligalig	-	20 September 2021
Benjamin "Benjie" Tesoro	-	02 February 2022
Tirso "Pip" Danga	-	22 April 2022
Adrian "Espe" Espera	-	02 August 2023
Romeo "Romy" Tropicales	-	09 October 2023
Benjamin „Ben“ Dy Sr.	-	25 December 2005
Robert "Bobby" Barbers	-	16 February 2013
Jose Apolinario "Jun" Lozada Jr.	-	31 July 2018
Corleto "Budag" Lopez	-	27 September 2019

***"Close now thine eyes and rest secure;
He that loves thee, He that keeps and guards
thee, never slumbers, never sleeps."***

– Francis Quarles



Attachés and Liaison Officers: Key Players Among the MAKABAYANS



The Philippine Defense and Armed Forces Attaché (DAFA). Appointed across various embassies of the Republic of the Philippines, they serve as the highest-ranking representative of the Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and the Secretary of National Defense. This pivotal role encompasses many responsibilities centered on fostering collaboration and communication between the Philippines and its host countries concerning defense and security.

One of the DAFA's primary responsibilities is to establish effective channels of communication with the defense ministries, military establishments, and security organizations within the host nation. This involves networking with key officials and coordinating defense-related activities and initiatives that enhance mutual understanding and cooperation. The DAFA is the principal liaison, ensuring that both countries are aligned in their security objectives and can effectively address emerging regional threats.

The overarching goal of the Philippine DAFA is to bolster defense relationships through cooperation, joint exercises, and



Bonifacio B Ramos – Defense and Armed Forces Attache, Washinton, DC, USA.



Fernando L Mesa - Defense and Armed Forces Attache, France.

information exchanges between the armed forces and defense agencies of the Philippines and the host country. In addition to this collaborative spirit, the DAFA advises Philippine diplomatic officials about the host country's current security and defense posture, offering insights that inform strategic decisions made at the national level.



Manuel E Mariano – Defense and Armed Forces Attache, Vietnam

Notably, several distinguished members of the Makabayans have made significant impacts during their tenures as DAFA, enhancing bilateral relations and fostering defense cooperation at a strategic level. Bonifacio Ramos, for instance, served as the Defense and Armed Forces Attaché at the Philippine Embassy in Washington, D.C., USA, from February 25, 1999, until March 31, 2002. His time in this influential position was marked by strengthened ties between the United States and the Philippines, particularly in joint military exercises and counter-terrorism efforts.

Similarly, Fernando Mesa held the post of DAFA at the Philippine Embassy in Paris, France, from October 10, 1996, to October 31, 1999. His contributions included securing defense agreements and promoting collaborative training initiatives that benefited both nations.

Manuel Mariano's assignment as the Defense and Armed Forces Attaché in Vietnam from March 11, 1997, to May 31, 2000, further illustrates the pivotal role of the DAFA. Mariano played a key role in navigating the complexities of Philippine-Vietnamese



Raul F Heredia – AFP UNCR Representative



Jeffrey S Sodusta – AFP UNCR Representative

defense relations, aiding in aligning military strategies that addressed regional security challenges.

Moreover, although not officially classified as DAFA, Jeffrey Sodusta contributed significantly to the diplomatic landscape during his service with the United Nations Contingent (Rear) in Japan from July 1987 to July 1988. His experience exemplifies the commitment of Filipino military personnel to international peace and security operations. Alongside Sodusta, fellow members of the AFP PMA Class 1975, such as Arsenio Arugay, Raul Heredia, and Raul Gonzales—in his capacity as the sole representative of the Philippine Constabulary at that time—also contributed to the UN's mission. Furthermore, Cesar Carranza was assigned as Liaison Officer with the Philippine Consular Office in Manado, Indonesia.

The Armed Forces of the Philippines is dedicated to enhancing its global presence while ensuring that its diplomatic corps



Raul S Gonzales - AFP UNCR Representative



Cesar Carranza - Manado, Indonesia



Arsenio Arugay - AFP UNCR Representative

robustly represents the Philippines' interests on the international stage. Through various initiatives and the strategic deployment of its attachés, the AFP aims to foster deeper bilateral relations and collaborate effectively with global partners to secure peace and stability in the region.

The Police Attache System:

The Philippine National Police (PNP) employs a Police Attaché (PA) system wherein senior Police Commissioned Officers (PCOs) fulfill dual roles as law enforcement agents and diplomatic representatives. These officers, who may also be referred to as Police Liaison Officers (PLOs) or Police Liaison Attachés (PLAs), are tasked with responsibilities that encompass both policing and diplomatic engagement. They operate under the administrative oversight of the head of the diplomatic mission in the host country, such as an ambassador or consul general, while their operational activities are directed by the PNP's Directorate for Intelligence. This structure ensures that PAs effectively coordinate security interests and international cooperation in policing matters within their designated jurisdictions.

The establishment of the Philippine National Police (PNP) Overseas Filipino Help Desk at all overseas posts that feature police attaché stations marks a significant step in enhancing support for Filipinos living or working abroad. This initiative aims to ensure that the complaints and concerns of overseas Filipinos are addressed swiftly and effectively, with appropriate actions taken by the relevant Philippine government agencies. Currently, there are



Dante T Ferrer - Police Attache, Washington, DC, USA

eight designated posts where this Help Desk operates, providing crucial support to overseas Filipinos. These posts are strategically located in major cities around the world, including Washington, DC, and Los Angeles in the United States; Islamabad in Pakistan; Riyadh in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia; Beijing in China; Kuala Lumpur in Malaysia; Paris in France; and Jakarta in Indonesia.

Among those who have played a pivotal role in this initiative is Dante T. Ferrer, who served as the sole PNP Makabayan officer. He was assigned as a police attaché at the Philippine Embassy in Washington, DC, where he fulfilled his duties from December 2002 to June 2006. During this time, he was instrumental in addressing the needs and concerns of the Filipino community in the United States, acting as a vital link between them and the Philippine government. Ferrer's efforts contributed significantly to the well-being and security of Filipinos overseas, reinforcing the commitment of the Philippine government to its citizens abroad. – dft12/12/2024

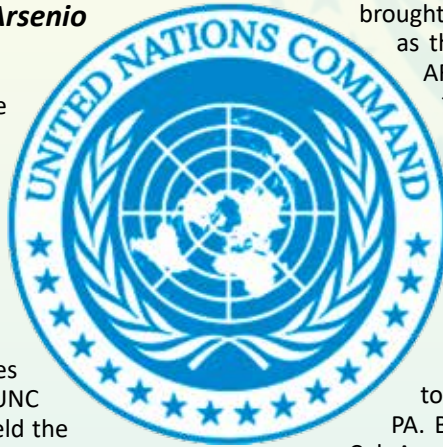


MAKABAYANS -

Force Representatives to UN

United Nations Command (Rear) – Arsenio Arugay '75

Four distinguished members of the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) Makabayan Class of 1975 were deployed in various significant roles as Philippine Force Representatives (PFR) to the United Nations Command (Rear), thereby fulfilling the commitment of the Armed Forces of the Philippines to support the broader goals of the United Nations. This collaboration marked a notable period when the Philippines provided skilled officers to serve within the UNC (Rear) Operations division. The Philippines held the position of Operations Officer at UNC (Rear) from 1979 until 2003, when Thailand assumed this role. Throughout these years, the PFR stood out as the sole non-U.S. Forces personnel, which contributed immensely to legitimizing the UNC (Rear) in the eyes of the international community and reinforced its recognition as a bona fide United Nations Command Unit.



brought valuable experience from his previous role as the Chief of the Foreign Liaison Division of J2, AFP, contributing to his adeptness in navigating the complexities of international relations and operational coordination at UNC (Rear).

Next in line was Major Jeffrey S. Sodusta, PA, appointed PFR after serving as the Chief of the Area Research Center and U2, NOLCOM, AFP. Major Sodusta's expertise fortified the operations of UNC (Rear), and he served in this capacity from November 1990 to November 1991.

The final Makabayan representative to serve as PFR was Lt. Col. Arsenio R. Arugay, PA. Before his appointment to the UNC (Rear), Lt. Col. Arugay held pivotal positions as Chief of a Military Intelligence Group (MIG) and later as the Inspector General of ISAFP. His service as an Operations Officer lasted from November 1992 to April 1994, during which time he continued the legacy of dedicated service.

The UNC (Rear), established in 1957 at Camp Zama, Japan, functioned as a subordinate unit of the United Nations Command (UNC) in Korea. Its foundation followed the signing of the 1953 Armistice, which formally ended active hostilities but did not conclude the state of war between the two Koreas. This scientific distinction necessitated the continued existence of the UNC in Korea and the UNC (Rear) in Japan, ensuring an ongoing presence and support for peacekeeping efforts. The primary mission of the UNC (Rear) is to bolster the UNC's activities in Korea by overseeing logistical, administrative, and liaison operations beyond Korean borders. This includes facilitating the mission's objectives, particularly in maintaining operational readiness, hosting military forces, and supporting international agreements pertinent to the Korean Armistice.

UNC (Rear) has shared joint authority with the United States over seven UN-flagged bases located in Japan, which include Camp Zama, Yokota Air Base, Yokosuka Naval Base, Atsugi Naval Air Station, Sasebo Naval Base,



The first Makabayan representative appointed to the PFR was Major Raul S. Gonzales, who then served as an officer of the Philippine Constabulary. Major Gonzales possessed impressive credentials, having commanded the 1st Regional Security Unit of the defunct Constabulary Security Group. His tenure as the Operations Officer for UNC (Rear) lasted from July 1986 until July 1987, during which time he played an instrumental role in coordinating operations.

He was followed by Major Raul F. Heredia, PA, who took over the PFR position from July 1987 until July 1988. Major Heredia



White Beach Naval Facility, and the Marine Corps Air Station Futenma. In 2007, the command moved from its long-established headquarters at Camp Zama to a new strategic location at Yokota Air Base—home to U.S. Forces-Japan and the U.S. 5th Air Force.

At present, the UNC (Rear) consists of a small contingent of five organic personnel provided by Australia, the United States, and Thailand, alongside a Liaison Group that engages with the nine SOFA Co-Signer States: the United States, the United Kingdom, the Philippines, Australia, Canada, New Zealand, France, Turkey, and Thailand. This multinational composition enhances the UNC (Rear)'s ability to meet its operational obligations efficiently. The facility enhancements at Yokota Air Base and Japan's enduring alliance with the United States and other UNC member nations empower the UNC (Rear) to fulfill its critical responsibilities effectively and adaptively.

Three former Makabayan PFRs have completed their respective military and police careers. Tragically, Colonel Raul F. Heredia lost his life to an assassination in December 2003 while serving as a Division Head at the Department of National Defense, concluding a promising and impactful military career far too soon.

PBGen Raul S. Gonzales retired honorably as the Regional Director of the Police Regional Office 1 (PRO 1) of the Philippine National Police (PNP) in 2007 and currently serves as the Chairman of the PMA Alumni Association, where he continues to inspire future generations. Major General Jeffrey S. Sodusta concluded his military service in 2009, having served as Commander of the 9th Infantry Division of the Philippine Army, while Major General Arsenio R. Arugay also retired in 2009, holding the position of Commander of the AFP National Capital Region Command (AFP NCRCOM). Their remarkable careers exemplify the legacy of service and dedication that resonates throughout their contributions to the Filipino nation and beyond. — Arsenio Arugay '75

Philippine National Police: Peacekeepers In Cambodia (UNTAC)- Ronald Roderos '75

During the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), 371 Filipino police officers arrived on April 3, 1992. They donned khaki uniforms, blue berets, and UNTAC Police armbands, marking the final deployment among the 32 countries participating in the mission. The UNTAC operation featured a multinational presence of 22,000 personnel, including



Charlie Alejandrino

3,600 police from 100 nations. Its primary objective was to oversee the disarmament of conflicting factions and facilitate free elections following a protracted 20-year civil war.

Amid challenging conditions, the Filipino contingent was vital in supervising local police during the electoral process. Three PMA Class 1975 members, Raul Gonzales, Charlemagne Alejandrino, and Ronald Roderos, saw action under the UNTAC. Their effectiveness earned them recognition, and they conducted training for local officers in various domains, encompassing fundamental police duties and martial arts. The Filipino police were vital to the success of the UNTAC mission, earning praise for their professionalism. Cambodia faced dire conditions, with most citizens as subsistence farmers amidst a violent history and ongoing conflict with factions like the Khmer Rouge, compounded by a lack of infrastructure, unexploded landmines, and widespread malaria. Despite the challenging historical context, UNTAC enabled Cambodia's most successful election, with 90% voter participation. The UN Security Council certified the election as free and fair. The Filipino contingent proudly observes its contributions as UNTAC Cambodia Veterans by awarding UN Peace Medal. — Ronald Roderos '75



Ronald Roderos



CivPol representatives from Indonesia, Malaysia, Brunei, Thailand, India and other African countries.



Originally published by the Fellowship of Christians in Government, Inc. (FOCIG) and authored by Amyjay Riconalia, this article examines the practical framework and strategies implemented by Fernando L. Mesa, member of PMA Class 1975 and former mayor of Alabat, Quezon. His leadership has significantly contributed to the progress and development of this rural municipality, showcasing exemplary governance. – Ed.

FOCIG, INC.

LGU ALABAT: A MODEL OF TRANSFORMATION



How do you increase a Local Government Unit's collection from 7.1M to 24.3M in eight years? Reduce its poverty incidence from 30% to 7.6%? And become debt-free, insurgency free, drug-free, with almost zero-crime?

How could a high school of a 5th income municipality be awarded the Most Transformative School for Learning and Effectiveness and School Efficiency nationwide by Bayan Academy in 2019? And why did the LGU Alabat win the Galing Pook Award in 2021?

IT'S A LONG STORY THAT BEGINS WITH A RETIRED MAJOR GENERAL WHO NEVER LET GO OF A DREAM.

Here's a shorter version:

There are three municipalities on the island of Alabat, Quezon: Perez, Alabat, and Quezon. To get there, you will have to cross Lamun Bay from Atimonan, Quezon.

Retired General Fernando "Andy" L. Mesa was born and raised poor in the municipality of Alabat. But poverty did not deter him. What most people saw as obstacles he saw as challenges and opportunities.

Lovingly supported by his gentle and intelligent wife, Evangeline "Vangie" Lumio Mesa, and their children - Angel with Mike, and Ferdie, Mayor Andy Mesa soared!

In the course of his life, he eventually became a PMA graduate. A shortened leg caused by a bullet wound in the line of duty did not keep him from becoming a military diplomat in Paris; retiring as a 2-star general; being appointed Executive Director by the National Security Council; and serving for 3 terms as Mayor of LGU Alabat from 2013 to 2022.

Not wanting to be influenced nor be politically beholden to anyone, Gen. Andy ran as an independent candidate. God made him win! For his first term, he won with 144 votes, the beginning of the amazing transformation of LGU Alabat!

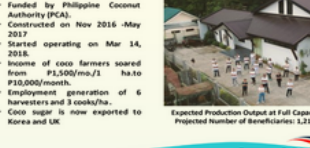
In 2013, Mayor Andy Mesa focused on strategic planning with the Sangguniang Council. With the help of Ms. Shelia M. Encabo, former FOCIG Board Member and AVP of Land Bank of the Philippines, they came up with the Alabat Development Framework:

Mayor Mesa also convinced the Sangguniang Council to come up with Ordinance No. 3, Series of 2016, to dedicate Alabat to Almighty God and establish a day of prayer.

THE BLUEPRINT FOR PROGRESS:



THE FRAMEWORK IN ACTUALIZATION AND ACTION:

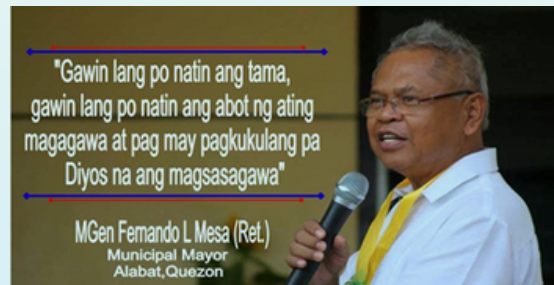
HEALTH	EDUCATION	LIVELIHOOD	PEACE & ORDER
ANNUAL SURGICAL OPERATION  Conducted Annual Surgical Operations with UP PGH Pahinungod benefiting 2,160 Alabatins. On September 29, 2014, Alabat was declared a Rabies-Free Zone by the Department of Health and Department of Agriculture.	CONSTRUCTION OF CLASSROOM  Several school buildings were funded and constructed by the National Government, NGOs, and Foundations. Almost all elementary graduates are enrolled in High School.	Alabats Magapapa, Maunab, Maganda at Masayang Bayan BRIEF HISTORY OF ALABAT ORGANIC COCO SUGAR  The farmers were organized by crops and the fisherfolks association from 2013-2021. He also connected the farmers to direct buyers (Chow King and Jollibee) and did away with the middle persons to increase their profit. They were also given 49 farm machineries to improve farm output efficiency. Several agricultural products were also developed i.e., cacao, sili, calamansi, lipote wine, swine production, meat processing, corn and rice, and macapuno.	UPDATES ON BARANGAY DRUG CLEARING OPERATION AS OF FEBRUARY 1, 2022  LGU Alabat partnered with the police, local church, FOCIG, and public school teachers for the rehab of the drug dependents.
TANK AND TREATMENT FACILITY  After 30 years, started work on the Alabat Waterworks System. By 2022, water connections for households rose 96% both in urban and rural areas. This project was jointly funded by DILG, DOLE, LGU, Congressional District, and Provincial Government.	YOUTH LEADERSHIP SUMMIT  Regular conduct of Youth Leadership Summit and Youth siyema amidst the pandemic to make the youth a responsible citizens. YLS Summit down to Barangay Level. Impact: - Teenage pregnancy drastically reduced. - Zero case of bullying.	 Special projects were also undertaken like mangrove board walk, fish hatchery, fish processing, slaughter house, carabao upgrading.	

AFTER HE WON HIS 2ND TERM (2016 - 2019), MAYOR MESA...

- Continued the conduct of Annual Surgical Operations with UP PGH Pahinungod.
- COVID 19: Was properly managed with only one (1) doctor and a few nurses in Alabat Island District Hospital (AIDH).
- LGU bought from local farmers/producers to keep the economy moving.
- The LGU also did not buy canned and processed goods but received donations from government and private Institutions/individuals.

BY WINNING HIS 3RD TERM, (2019 - 2022) ALABAT ...

- Miraculously, business registration in 2021 was higher than in 2019 (Pre-COVID).
- Moreover, 281 farmers, mostly women, were trained for barangay-level Coconut Oil Mill. The VCO produced were used as cooking oil for their homes and became an additional source of income.
- A Joint MOA was signed by LGU-Alabat, AIDH, and SLSU for the Clinical Trial of VCO.
- Other Livelihood Programs: Processing of Meat, Lipote, Cacao, Cassava, Virgin Coconut Oil, and the Alabat Kaanib-Coco Hub Project.
- Also, projects with FEEDMIX and ALTERNERGY started.



More programs and projects were in the pipeline but Mayor Mesa had maximized his term. Still, God had mightily used one godly leader to make a difference in the lives of almost 16,000 people! And this transformation saga continues but no longer in Alabat.

Greatly inspired by the LGU Alabat Transformation, a first class municipality is aiming for cityhood with the help of FOCIG.

Let us all pray that more LGUs will embrace the Transformation principles that Mayor Mesa had started.

ALL GLORY TO GOD!





THE ESSENCE OF SERVICE: 25 Years and Beyond

• CAV RIFIEL G SOTTO, CLASS 2000

In a career spanning 25 years, I have witnessed the Armed Forces of the Philippines, especially the Philippine Air Force, evolve, adapt, and thrive amidst the changing tides of history. As a graduate of the Philippine Military Academy Class of 2000, I embarked on this journey with a heart full of purpose and a mind eager to embrace the challenges of military service. To serve one's nation is a calling that demands unwavering dedication, resilience, and an unyielding sense of duty. The journey has not been without trials, but it is these very trials that have defined the essence of my service. This milestone is not merely a marker of years but a celebration of a life's work dedicated to the defense and betterment of our beloved country.

Being a pilot in the Philippine Air Force has allowed me to traverse the skies and witness the beauty and complexity of

our archipelago. Every mission, whether in times of peace or conflict, reinforces the crucial role we play in safeguarding our nation's sovereignty and supporting our countrymen during their most vulnerable moments. From disaster response operations to ensuring peace in far-flung areas of operation, our responsibilities go beyond warfare. They encompass compassion, swift action, and strategic leadership. To fly is a privilege, but to serve is an honor—a sacred trust that has shaped my character and fortified my resolve to serve with integrity and excellence.

Sa bawat tagumpay at hamon na aking hinarap, isa lang ang nananatiling malinaw: Ang serbisyo ay hindi lamang isang propesyon, ito ay isang misyon. Ang pagiging bahagi ng Hukbong Himpapawid ng Pilipinas ay nagbigay sa akin ng malalim na pang-unawa sa halaga ng pagkakaisa, tapang, at

disiplina. Sa bawat himig ng makina ng eroplano, sa bawat utos na ibinababa, at sa bawat desisyong kailangang gawin sa gitna ng kagipitan, napatunayan ko na ang tunay na esensya ng serbisyo ay ang pag-alay ng sarili para sa kapakanan ng iba. Ang pagsubok na protektahan ang ating kalayaan at magsilbing gabay sa panahon ng sakuna ay hindi madali, ngunit ito ang nagsilbing inspirasyon ko upang ipagpatuloy ang aking sinumpaang tungkulin. Sa mga bagong henerasyon ng sundalo, nawa'y maging huwaran tayo sa kanilang landas ng paglilingkod.

As I reflect on this 25-year journey, I am reminded that service is not measured by medals or promotions but in the lives touched and the legacies built. The Philippine Air Force, as an institution, embodies a spirit of camaraderie and excellence that fuels our collective success. My experiences across various areas of operation have taught me that leadership is not about commanding authority but inspiring trust and fostering a shared vision. As I look ahead, I carry with me the lessons of the past, the strength of the present, and the hope for a future where every Filipino can soar to greater heights, united in purpose and unwavering in spirit.



The Marilag Class of 1995 as a **FORCE** for **GOOD**

The Philippine Military Academy (PMA) Class of 1995, known as “*Marilag*,” exemplifies the institution’s dedication to produce outstanding leaders. This exceptional class, forged in the fires of rigorous military training and scholastic discipline, has left an indelible impact on the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and the nation as a whole. The Class of 1995 has produced numerous high-ranking officers who have exhibited remarkable leadership, strategic insight, and unshakable dedication to service since graduating from the PMA.

Shaping the Leaders of Tomorrow

The Marilag Class is distinguished by their persistent devotion to mentoring the next generation of military commanders. Their mentorship has ingrained in young officers and cadets the essential qualities of discipline, courage, and excellence. Members of this distinguished class have served as educators, trainers, and role models, ensuring that their knowledge and experiences are passed down to future leaders. Their mentoring goes beyond technical skills to emphasize the value of integrity, strategic thinking, and servant leadership. The repercussions of their mentorship have not only reinforced the ranks of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), but have also fostered a culture of excellence and resilience inside the military.



Driving Reforms and Modernization

Members of the Marilag Class in the AFP have played an important role in pushing modernization and implementing reforms to address developing difficulties. Their forward-thinking leadership has resulted in substantial improvements in military operations, logistics, and training methods. They have assured that the AFP is a formidable and adaptable force by implementing cutting-edge techniques and technologies. Moreover, they have made significant contributions by streamlining training programs to better prepare soldiers for contemporary warfare, improving operational efficiency, and promoting a culture of continual development. Their efforts have established the AFP as a responsive entity capable of efficiently handling internal and international security threats.

Recognition of Excellence

The Marilag Class has received various awards, demonstrating their outstanding dedication and service. Members have received distinguished service awards, bravery commendation, and even civilian recognition for their contributions to societal development and national progress. These distinctions honor their leadership and the long-term impact of their work, both individually and collectively. In hindsight, their continuous and progressive efforts highlight their critical role in defining the future of the AFP and the nation. The awards, whether in the form of commendations for valor in the field or recognition of their inventive reforms, serve as testaments to their exceptional efforts.



PMA 'MAGITING' 1970



The Rise of 'THE WORKING CLASS'

• CAV RUFO A DE VEYRA '70

Our transformation into a '*Working Class*' happened unexpectedly and certainly came unplanned.

The term working class does not refer to its role in the socio-economic context of world economies but simply to its literal sense.

After graduation and sitting on lofty brands such as "*The Thinking Class*," a member, Cav Mao Mauricio, fresh from graduate school in management, brazenly called a dare in an open forum to serve PETFI that would eventually yield a hefty Php193,000 from a project in 1974 without investing a single centavo. That gift was well remembered especially at a time when its coffers were near empty.

In retrospect the Magiting Class of 1970 went through a perilous and marvelous journey in its time.

The Past

From 1966-70, some 69 hopefuls joined the fray, spent their best years crafting their individual marks in and out of the service.

From 1971-2020 as Golden Jubilarians after retiring from the service at age 56 by law they quickly traced their career paths either in the military service professionally or in politics or business to live, wither or die.

But wait, there's still life after 56. That feeling of emptiness, unfulfilled legacies, uninspiring heritage stoked the fires in their bellies!

On one score, the Class crafted the Cavaliers' Pledge, a single sentence of 35 words that reminds Cavaliers where their hearts and minds should be. Now recited at the start of every official function, it passed the 2020 PMAAAI GMM in PICC as Board Res 19-46 under my term as PMAAAI Chair.

On yet another, The Beacon, a 140-ft spire rose at the far right side of Borromeo Field. Conceived in 2014 to honor the Academy as a beacon of hope and an alumni unifying symbol also during my term as Class President, it was launched with then SND Voltaire Gazmin and Cav Oscar Lopez, PMA Superintendent. Finally, it was turned over in 2023 after nine faithful years under the auspices of the DMCI team of Class Honorary Jorge Consunji. To this day a solar lamp on its loft continues to emit light after dark.

Soon after we started believing the adage that our Class is truly "*Ahead of its Time*."



The Cavaliers' Pledge At The Beacon pedestal BField.

The Present

So between 2021-24 *'The Working Class'* emerged. Absolutely driven by its previous sparks the Class naturally lusted for greater heights. This time it came in two storeys with remarkable state-of-the-art amenities - the **M70WW** known as the **Magiting 70 Wellness Wing** right in the heart of VMCC.

It started in 2019 and grew into 12 rooms and two floors impelled by the perceived lack of scale and depth of existing VMCC facilities.

And here lies the Class 70's golden nugget - raising the bar of excellence of the veterans' healthcare facilities open up opportunities that benefit them in a systemic way.

If we consider the seven years it took to complete the project and some PHP130M later, then work is never done.

The project was steered under an inclusive project monitoring system by the sitting Class President Cav Nesty Carolina on his 2nd term, and he will not dismiss any loose talk of a Hyperbaric Therapy module to top the M70WW in the foreseeable future.

The Future

Between 2024-30 what then becomes of the Working Class?

Well, we don't plan to yet expire in our early eighties. Less energetic perhaps, maybe a bit lethargic, we definitely plan to

continue working - not quite as animated as before but certainly more circumspect and unyielding.

For Class 1970, the only time work becomes obsolete is if tomorrow never comes. In the meantime, as long as the horizon cheerfully beckons, work must go on in the hope that the *'Working Class'* also rises.



'The Working Class' in recess, 2024 Xmas party.



M70WW as work-in-progress 2023.



M70WW Completed 2024.



The Beacon at ground level Borromeo Field.

THE GOOD DIE YOUNG

• CAV DOMINGO C CARBONELL JR '80

It was a sunny summer morning of May 15, 1977, when the whole yearling class were aboard six buses (five 6X6 trucks and one PMA bus) on our way to Pantabangan Dam for a picnic since it was a Sunday and a rest day from our weapons training in Fort Magsaysay, Nueva Ecija. What was expected to be an enjoyable day turned out to be a nightmare for 24 Bud Daho (Delta) yearlings.

When we were approaching the spill way, most of us were wondering why the truck we were riding was still moving fast. The truck apparently had lost its brakes and the driver decided to drive the truck to the sides of the road, thinking the truck would hit the elevated part of the side of the road, and stop (this was the statement of the driver during the investigation conducted after the incident). But, unfortunately, for some unexplainable reason, the truck "flew" and fell in the ravine, catapulting most of us out of the truck. There were five who died: four cadets and one military escort.

May I bring back snippets of my memories of these four cadets and some scenes I still vividly remember from the accident.

ALFREDO "FRED" G HUSMALAGA –

He was an original class '80 member and an enlisted personnel from the Phil. Air Force before entering PMA. I still recall in one instance when we were plebes, I went to his room at the wee hours of the morning so that we could comply with the orders of an upper class man who was our table mate. When I entered his room I found him asleep in his study table. I woke him up so we could start doing the given "orders", but he said 'bok, mag-aaral nalang ako ng Algebra, hindi na bali malasin kay cadet.....', that was how Fred valued his academics even at the expense of suffering the consequences of not complying to orders of a "magan" upper class! After Recognition Day, I had a casual talk with him and found out that we were "kababayans" since he was from Dumarao and my mother hailed from the adjacent town of Dumalag, Capiz. He confided to me that when he graduates from PMA, he will get back at those persons who have mistreated his family. He also dreamt of improving their family life.

On the day of the accident, I saw Fred already dead, with a big crack in his forehead. When Fred was to be buried at the Libingan ng mga Bayani in Fort Bonifacio, I asked permission to join the cadets who were assigned as burial escort of the coffin of Fred to his burial



The funeral cortege with cadet escorts of one of the Pantabagan accident victims.

site (I was confined in V. Luna Gen. Hospital, due to my head injury which I sustained and miraculously survived during the accident but that's another story). When I reached the mortuary, Fred's mother saw me. She approached me and was hysterically crying while asking me... "bakit ninyo pinabayaan si Fred," but she calmed down when I replied "pati po ako kasama," pointing to my bandaged head. Then I noticed Fred's three younger siblings, who were clinging close to her. Their cloths and haggard appearances showed how poor they really were. One of them, who was about four years old, had an eye defect. I suddenly remembered when Fred was telling me his dreams of a better life for his family, I could only bow my head and weep hidden tears of sympathy knowing the dream of Fred's family, for a better future, died with him.

ANANIAS "NANI" E SUYO – Nani was an original member of class '79. I thought he would have been better entering the seminary rather than PMA. When he was our upper classman, I never heard Nani shout at us. He was very "brotherly" in his dealings with plebes, giving positive advises with a smiling face. Nani got "turned back" and eventually joined our class as a "yearling," again.

The night before the accident, Nani was busy finishing his master piece article "the carabao in seven moods" in our billeting barracks in Ft. Magsaysay. Rustico "Paco" Francisco, his bunk mate, kept on bugging him and criticizing what Nani was writing, trying to get the ire of Nani. But Nani just continued what he was writing, disregarding the destructions of Paco.

The following morning at the accident site, I saw Paco on a kneeling position, holding the head on Nani in his lap and tearfully egging the lifeless Nani to wake up! Wow! the love and true camaraderie of a mistah, personified!

JOSEPH A SIMAGAN – Joseph was formerly a member of class '78. Joseph was very good looking. In fact, years later, after the death of Joseph, I had a charming lady "barkada" in college who was Joseph's former girlfriend. When she found out Joseph and I were classmates, she asked my help if she could retrieve the high school year book that Joseph borrowed. But I said to her, I do not have contact with Joseph's family anymore. At the back of my mind, probably Joseph already cut the beautiful pictures of her and other classmates to show to upper classmen in the mess hall!



Picture of cadets about to put the coffin of Cdt. Orlino Corpuz, inside the tomb.

But kidding aside, during the accident, Joseph was still helping other wounded classmates be evacuated to the Pantabagan clinic. I even saw him busy helping rescuers attend to other wounded classmates as the first batch of us, who were seriously injured, were boarding the bus going to the helicopter to bring us to V. Luna General Hospital in Quezon City. When we were in V. Luna, to our sad surprise, we were informed that Joseph was already dead, reportedly of internal bleeding. He disregarded his own physical pain and tried to help others! Clearly, not only was Joseph good looking physically, but also had a heart of a hero!

ORLINO F CORPUZ Or "Copong" (in PMA, a cadet whose surname is Corpuz is fondly called "Copong") – was also originally from class '78. He joined our class after summer camp and was my squad mate. He would visit my room during study periods, to tutor me in math and motivate me to study hard since I was 'terribly' deficient. But I could sense that he was trying to win me to his side since his roommates, who were also our squad mates, were not in good terms with him. Copong, apparently, was always "lagging behind" or using the cadet jargon "very lax." One Saturday morning, most of us were already in formation at the central barracks quadrangle for our regular Saturday Inspection. Copong was still unaccounted but suddenly showed up coming from Regis Hall in full dress and shako. We, his plebe squad mates, could not help but laugh after seeing that the shako of Copong had an underwear stuck in his pompom. I was anticipating that my squad leader and assistant squad leader would also get mad at Copong. But no, I heard them whispering to each other sympathetic remark for Copong...saying "yan ang effect ng pagka (.....) sa kanya ni cadet (.....)", they apparently knew how Copong suffered under that upper classman. My impression of Copong suddenly changed from a very lax plebe to a struggling one, not giving up his dream of becoming a member of the 'long gray line.' To my mind, seeing that the upperclassman who hazed him, returned back to the Corps, could have been 'double torture' for Copong.

On the day of the accident, Copong was behind me when we were about to board a banca, to be evacuated to the other side of the river bank. He tapped me on my back calling my attention. As I turned to him, he said "*bok makikilala pa ba ako ng mga shota (girl friends) ko?*" I was about to assure him not to worry, but seeing blood oozing out of his nose and ears, I helplessly replied "*bok pasensya na, wala na akong magagawa!*"

It has been more that 47 years after that tragic incident. I would find my self waking up in the early mornings or having "flash backs" of the accident. I pondered and searched for an answer to the question. "why my four classmates, why them? Was it their fate? or maybe just accept "Murphy's Law" and take as an adjunct a passage from a song which goes '... tomorrow is promised to no one!' I found my self recalling these sad memories that I decided to write about them in the hope that these fine gentlemen be "immortalized!", even for just a moment (apologies for the oxymoron!). I could also say to my squad mate Copong, "*bok, ito lang ang magagawa ko sa iyo!*"

Rest in Peace, in God's loving embrace mistahs Fred, Nani, Joseph and Copong! for indeed, the "good die young!"





PHILIPPINE MILITARY ACADEMY SANDIWA CLASS 1985 INC

SANDIWA

PMA “SANDIWA” Class 1985: Adopt a Ward Project



One of the Refurbished Rooms at VMMC Ward.

Since its inception in 2019, our class’ “Adopt a Ward Project” has been a beacon of support and compassion for veterans at the Veterans Memorial Medical Center (VMMC). Through this initiative, we have adopted and sponsored the fit-out and maintenance of five rooms, ensuring these spaces provide comfort and dignity for those who have served our nation.

The “SANDIWA CHARI-Tee Golf” event, held on March 22, 2024, during our 39th Anniversary, marked another milestone in our commitment. The funds raised from this event were dedicated to enhancing VMMC facilities for AFP personnel and their dependents. A total of P350,000 was allocated to this noble cause.

In collaboration with VMMC, nine rooms were identified for comprehensive refurbishment. Under the meticulous management and supervision of our Project Officer, Relly Sapo, the renovation works were successfully completed by November 21, 2024. These upgrades have restored the rooms to optimal condition, providing a more comfortable environment for patients.

On December 17, 2024, a solemn blessing and unveiling ceremony for two SANDIWA markers was held to commemorate this meaningful achievement. The event was graced by the Sandiwa Board of Officers, the newly appointed VMMC Director, Peter Paul G. Galvez, and officiated by Rev Tirso Dolina.

This project exemplifies PMA “SANDIWA” Class 1985’s steadfast dedication to the welfare of our nation’s heroes. As we reflect on this endeavor, we reaffirm our commitment to honoring and uplifting the lives of our veterans, ensuring they receive the respect and care they deserve.



Sandiwa Board of Officers with the Newly Appointed VMMC Director, Peter Paul G. Galvez, MD

From left to right: Tony Treñas, Bob Quenery, Rev Tirso Dolina, Raul Farnacio, Jun Padilla, VMMC Director Peter Paul Galvez, MD, Frank Mabanag, Manny Salamat, Eric Velasquez, Jun Kintanar, RellySapo.



Photo opportunity with the dedicated staff of the Veterans Memorial Medical Center – A moment of gratitude and camaraderie with the healthcare professionals who serve with excellence and compassion.



VISITOR'S ACCOUNTS

CAV EUGENIO G LARA '38

(A Tribute by Lieutenant Commander Reynaldo Ansay PMA Class 1975 Aboard the USS Midway CV-41, San Diego, CA April 6, 2024)

Good morning! My name is Reynaldo Ansay. I belong to the Philippine Military Academy class of 1975. I am what I am today, in large part, because of the man we honor, Colonel Eugenio Lara, PMA 1938.

When I finished high school in 1970, I did not continue on to college because I came from a poor family from the town of Binangonan in the province of Rizal.

It was a blessing that Colonel Lara's son, Eugenio Junior, was my best friend and classmate in high school, and it reached his father that I had stopped going to school. Colonel Lara called for me and introduced me to the idea of pursuing a military profession by applying at the PMA.

His assistance and guidance did not end after I passed the entrance exams, he drove me to the different appointments to complete my application and during this time he gave me a glimpse of what was to come.

On April 5th, 1971, I reported to Fort del Pilar in Baguio City as a newly appointed PMA Cadet. As expected, life in the Academy was so strange to me and sometimes I found it extremely difficult to continue but remembering Colonel Lara's advice, I never considered quitting.

Four years later I graduated and was commissioned as a Naval Officer in the PN. I returned to Binangonan to spend time with my family and to pay my respects to Col Lara, the man who started it all. We were colleagues in some way and certainly we shared a common experience.

We sat for hours talking about cadet life, of the things we were taught as cadets, the concept of Honor and Dignity, the virtues of Courage, Integrity and Loyalty, and the ideals of Service to country and humanity. We now spoke the same language.

Let me speak to you now, Colonel Lara Sir, wherever you are. I have lived a life in the fullest traditions of our beloved PMA, in the time-honored ideals of the man in uniform and I practiced what you told me, those many years ago. I am happy to report to you, that, I am what you hoped I would be.

My heartfelt gratitude and a most respectful salute, Colonel Eugenio G Lara.

Cavalier Lara was born in Angono, Rizal. PMA Class 1938 was the first class to graduate from the newly-named Philippine Military Academy during that time. As a cadet, he was a member of the Board of Governors, Honor committee, Wrestling and Gymnastics teams.

As an army officer, he was an instructor and a tactical officer at PMA; veteran of United States Army Forces in the Far East (USAFPE); ROTC Commandant, Ateneo De Manila University. Bataan and Corregidor veteran. He survived the Bataan Death March. He was strongly against graft and corruption in the government during that time. He refused juicy government positions offered to him and instead he resigned from the service and supported his family through honest hard work.

After he resigned from the service, he settled in Tayuman, Binangonan, Rizal, where he changed forever the life of a 17-year old poor boy from Binangonan.

On April 6, 2024, Col Eugenio G Lara was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal by the United States government as a recognition of his service during WWII as a member of USAFFE. I was requested by the family to say a tribute to honor their father. The event was held aboard USS Midway CV-41 in San Diego, California, USA. PMA Alumni from Southern California were also present and sang the PMA Alma Mater Song.

Note: All USAFFE veterans are entitled to the same award and recognition.



“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

2024 Yearend Report

In 2024, TGPMA HOP sustained its avowed mission in providing assistance to victims of disasters, this time due to fire and typhoon. The Foundation, within its resources, and in tandem with partners and other stakeholders, successfully launched five relief operations:

1. Mar 8: Fire victims in Bgy San Roque, Quezon City
2. Jul 30: Typhoon victims in Bgy Imelda, Quezon City
3. Sept 25: Fire victims in Bgy 105, Tondo, Manila (With 11th CMO Bn, and other stakeholders)
4. Nov 12: Typhoon victims in Sanchez Mira, Cagayan, thru Mayor Cavalier Abraham Bagasin
5. Dec 18: Typhoon victims in Gonzaga, Cagayan



Cav Mayor Abe Bagasin Cl 83 with his constituents received the financial assistance from TGPMA HOP intended for the typhoon victims in Sanchez Mira, Cagayan.

TGPMA HOP Foundation, Inc. Balance Sheet (November 30, 2024)		
	2024	2023
ASSETS		
<i>Current Assets</i>		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	1,898,836.09	1,684,973.24
Accounts Receivable	0.00	0.00
Total Current Assets	1,898,836.09	1,536,461.03
<i>Non-Current Assets</i>		
Property and Equipment – net	0.00	0.00
Other non-current assets	0.00	0.00
Total Non-current Assets	0.00	0.00
Total Assets	1,898,836.09	1,536,461.03
LIABILITIES		
<i>Current Liabilities</i>		
Accounts Payable and accrued expenses	0.00	0.00
Income Tax Payable	0.00	0.00
Total Current Liabilities	0.00	0.00
<i>Non-Current Liabilities</i>		
Deferred Credits	0.00	0.00
Total Non-Current Liabilities	0.00	0.00
Total Liabilities	0.00	0.00
Fund Balance	1,898,836.09	1,536,461.03
Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	1,898,836.09	1,536,461.03



TGPMA HOP Partners prepare for the conduct of relief operations for typhoon victims in Gonzaga, Cagayan on December 18, 2024. Cav Nori Azcueta Cl 68 coordinated the activity on behalf of the Foundation.



Some recipients pose with organizers during the actual distribution of relief goods.

Legacy of Combat Leadership: Honoring COL MELCHOR F DE LA CRUZ

BARRACKS and STRATEGY

• CAV JAIME S DELOS SANTOS '69

On Nov. 12, Camp Melchor de la Cruz in Gamu, Isabela, celebrated the 53rd death anniversary of its namesake, Col. Melchor F. de la Cruz, a valiant soldier whose legacy epitomized courage, dedication, and exemplary combat leadership. The headquarters of the 5th Infantry (Star) Division, Philippine Army, this camp's area of responsibility spans the strategic regions of Cagayan Valley, the Cordillera Administrative Region, and the Ilocos Region. This camp was named in honor of a man whose life was dedicated to defending the nation, even at the cost of his own.

Col. de la Cruz perished in a helicopter crash on Nov. 8, 1971, along with six officers, leaving only one survivor. At the time, he was the commanding officer of the 10th Infantry Battalion and deputy commander of Task Force Lawin. The tragic incident occurred while he was on a reconnaissance mission to preempt an insurgent attack and ensure the safety of the local election—a mission that reflects the enduring struggle against insurgent forces undermining democracy. In fact, the local communist movement has long used electoral unrest as a funding source, wielding threats to compel cooperation from local politicians. The insurgency's persistence has solidified the necessity of counterinsurgency efforts, which Col. de la Cruz embodied.

An illustrious figure within the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), Col. de la Cruz was a pioneer in special units such as the Special Forces (Airborne) and Scout Rangers, elite groups specializing in unconventional warfare. His experience extended beyond local insurgencies to the battlefields of Vietnam as part of the Philippine Civic Action Group to Vietnam (PHILCON). His commitment and expertise were grounded in a warrior's spirit that prioritized national security and counterinsurgency efforts.

The physical courage and commitment required to join elite units like the Special Forces (Airborne) and Scout Rangers stand as a testament to the dedication of soldiers like Col. Melchor F. de la Cruz, who was among the select few to survive the intense training and test missions these units demand. Membership in these national strike forces is reserved for those who excel in the most hazardous conditions, with a training regimen that includes a prerequisite "test mission" involving direct combat engagement. Only soldiers who demonstrate unwavering courage and combat readiness graduate, with a significant number eliminated along the way due to the rigorous standards.

In these units, combat leadership is essential, fostering a culture where physical and mental resilience are paramount. These leaders are charged with the responsibility of responding to crises of grave urgency, embodying a "warrior spirit" that requires not only tactical expertise but also the capacity to confront fear

and inspire those under their command. Col. de la Cruz's ability to endure such demanding training and his later roles in these elite units underscore his valor and serve as a lasting example of the courage needed to defend national security.

Combat leadership is forged in the crucible of danger, uncertainty, and sacrifice. For commissioned and non-commissioned officers alike, leading troops into combat requires more than tactical skills; it demands resilience, an unyielding resolve, and the courage to overcome fear. Combat leaders cultivate a "warrior spirit," a commitment to annihilate the enemy, win battles, and endure the physical and mental tolls of warfare. Paraphrasing the words of Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr., and Aristotle, soldiers are defined by the courage to persist in the face of death and the unyielding resolve to fulfill their mission.

Col. de la Cruz's leadership exemplified the essence of combat leadership, demanding men who understand fear but do not succumb to it, who inspire unwavering obedience by their example. His legacy is preserved not only in the name of Camp Melchor de la Cruz but in the calling it represents for the soldiers who serve there today.

The 5th Infantry Division, now designated as one of the Enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement (EDCA) sites, is transitioning its mission to meet the growing need for external defense, in response to geopolitical shifts. Maj. Gen. Gulliver Senires, its current commanding general and former head of the Army Training and Doctrine Command, is well-suited to steer this transition, as training is the keystone for achieving operational readiness.

Col. Melchor F. de la Cruz's life may have been short-lived, but his legacy endures as a beacon of combat leadership, patriotism, and resilience. The renaming of Camp Melchor de la Cruz stands as a testament to his enduring impact, calling on future generations to embody the same courage, resolve, and commitment to national security. As the 5th Infantry Division shifts its focus to external defense, Col. de la Cruz's legacy will continue to inspire soldiers to face emerging challenges with the same valor and determination that he exemplified in life and service. Combat leadership means duty above self even to the extreme sacrifice of giving your life to accomplish the mission.

(Lt. Gen. Jaime S. de los Santos served with distinction as a military professional, 42nd Commanding Gen. Philippine Army, 1st Force Commander, UN Multi-National Peacekeeping Force in East Timor, former member, UP Board of Regents and Professorial Lecturer II (part-time), UP-Diliman.)



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

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

CLASS CALL



EDUARDO R ERMITA
President

After cancelling the previous year's Christmas party celebration due to the sudden demise of some members of the PMA Class of 1957, the batch decided

to once again reunite and celebrate the yuletide season of 2024 together. This was much anticipated by all and it happened on Sunday, December 1st at the Social Hall of Valle Verde 3 in Pasig City.

Kicking off the day was a mass held at 10 a.m., quickly followed by a hearty, early lunch an hour later shared by around 80 people in attendance. This included around ten members of the PMA Class of '57, around 12 of their better halves, and dozens of their children, grandchildren

and friends, all wearing red, green and gold which were the stipulated theme colors of the event. Class president Gen. Ed Ermita delivered the opening remarks, the Christmas message and the closing remarks as well. A raffle was held too, with prizes being given out to a few lucky ones.

It is very heartening to note that although the number of those in attendance are not the same, the spirit and camaraderie is kept alive, and the PMA Class of 1957 family is as solid as ever!





**CHRISTMAS PARTY AND CELEBRATION
OF BIRTHDAY CELEBRATORS
FOR LAST QUARTER OF 2024
AGFO HALL, CAMP AGUINALDO, Q.C.
11:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.**

The Christmas Party begins with a Thanksgiving Mass.

As members of PMA Class 1962 ushered into the AGFO HALL with their wives, children and grandchildren, we collected ourselves to a solemn state to commence the celebration of the Second Sunday of Advent/Thanksgiving Mass as celebrated by Father Leo Balanlay,



chief chaplain of Camp Aguinaldo. We have offered our prayer intentions for the souls of our departed *mistahs*, we prayed for the healing and special intentions of our *mistahs* and our loved ones.

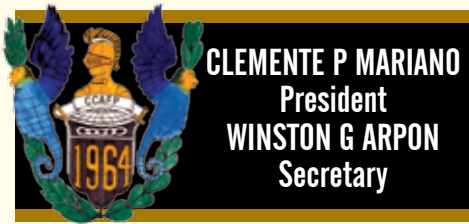
Following the mass was the opening remarks of Gen Atayde, Ret. good and memorable. We will not add anymore because his speech is actually trivias of the members of our class. This will be expanded to cover other trivia of our classmates and we decided that this will be an article for our Class Call for the 2nd Quarter Issue of our Cavalier Magazine for 2025.

The lunch prepared was such a feast, there was display of abundance and sharing of good quality food was such a pleasant experience. While enjoying the lunch feast, we had a great time playing a Bingo Game, where we were even able to receive some Christmas gifts for fun. As we continued our celebration, we collected the birthday and anniversary celebrators to go in front of the stage for the traditional cake candle blowing, along with more picture taking opportunity and of course we did not leave the stage without singing our nostalgic PMA Alma Mater Song. This moment was emotional and poignant not just for the *mistahs*, but for everyone.

Although the major activities were already done, the Bingo Game continued since there were more Christmas gifts to be given away. Concluding the party was a closing remark by PMA Class 1962 President BGen Manuel Mariano, Ret.

The Christmas Party ended at 3:30 p.m.





Oh Proud and Bold: They Still Stand

- o Jorge Agcaoili * Winston Arpon *
- Santiago Bunoan *
- o Santiago Diño * Renato Garcia *
- Clemente Mariano *
- o Leonardo Odoño * Rolando Pabellano *
- Ernesto Padilla *
- o Salvador Peran * Reynaldo Reyes *
- James Valeros * Ismael Villareal *



BIRTH

January

- 12/1943 - Billy Villareal
- 25/1980 - Vanessa Vandevort
- 31/1943 - Ding Odoño

February

- 20/1942 - Clem Mariano

March

- 08/1944 - Emmet de Guzman
- 25/1944 - Vicky Garchitorena



WEDDING

January

- 04 (1968) Ding and Ester Odoño
- 05 (2010) Arfs and Vicky Garchitorena
- 11 (1965) Jimmy and Glo Valeros

February

- 13 (1965) Rey and Sandy Reyes

Christmas Lunch at Vikings SM Aura, Dec 10
Attendees

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Jorge Agcaoili | Ellen de la Cruz |
| Arfs Arpon | Emmet de Guzman |
| Rene Garcia | Sandy Reyes |
| Clem Mariano | Lina Pilapil |
| Rey Reyes | Betty Villareal |
| Billy Villareal | Joyce Bas |
| Minnie Bas | Apollo Agcaoili |

PMA ALUMNI of the Midwest

Christmas Party, December 7, 2024. In attendance: Tagoy and Sophie Dino



SIX of the 13 still standing, sitting during Class Christmas Reunion: Clem, Afs, Jorge, Rey, Garlic, Billy



Unplanned Reunion, Las Vegas, USA November 18, 2024.
In attendance Rey and Sandy Reyes; Rolly and Siony Pabellano; Billy and Beth Villareal. Hostess Siony so thoughtful baking a birthday cake for Beth

Planned Vacation, November-December 2024 - Reyes Family and Bro Jim Vandevoort, at Carlos 'N Charlie, Flamingo Hotel, Las Vegas, USA



After mass for the departed Guzi de Guzman, Nov 17 2023.



THE PMA MULAWIN CLASS 1965 greeting one and all a HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR 2025!!!

We are once again enveloped with sadness, just three (3) months after the July 17, 2024 demise of Mulawin Col Joselito F Tapia (Ret.) as the Class suffered a double whammy with the passing away, two days apart, of COL JESUS TACAC TOLING PA (Ret.) on November 2, 2024 and CAPTAIN FELIX LEGPIT TURINGAN PN (Ret.) on November 4, 2024. Jess T died at age 84 while Boy T, our Class Baron (First Captain) died at age 81. The latter, although a great Marathoner, died due to his lingering respiratory illness. He was inurned with Full Military Grave side Honors, befitting a hero, in the presence of entire family, Mulawin classmates of PMA Class 1965, comrades from the Philippine Navy and the services (PA, PAF, PM, PN and PC/PNP) and the CSAFP Gen Romeo Brawner.

With the death of the above three Mulawins, the Class, as of this date, have 26 Regular members and five Associates remaining with a very positive hope that they will all be in the Borromeo Field Parade ground to receive the distinction of having attained a milestone as DIAMOND JUBILARIANS on February

15, 2025. these 26 members and five associates are:

1. Ramon M Azurin - US based
2. Robert R Bruce - US-based
3. Domingo F Tucay, Jr - US-based
4. Nicanor S Lugtu - US - based
5. Cesar A Flor - Canada-based
6. Feliberto T Camacho - Canada-based





7. Jose Vicente B Mendoza - Australia downunder- based
9. Adolf Borje - Davao-based
10. Anacleto P Arque, Jr - Iloilo based
11. Eugenio N Candelario
12. Onofre Q Marcelo
13. Everlino P Nartatez
14. Raoul V Cauton
15. Jose C Lapus
16. Alberto S Acenas
17. Enrique T Bulan
18. Warlito V Chee
19. Eladio T Tangan
20. Patrocel N Duque
21. Guerrero E Guzman
22. Alfonso T delos Santos
23. Jose Maria G Solquillo

24. Domingo Habos
25. Andres M Superable - US based
26. Ernesto Clement L Sacro

ASSOCIATES: Rogelio D Bergado, Benson H Rimando, Edgardo T Velasco, Ricardo D Papa, and Noli N Fabric.

The Class held its Christmas get-together and fellowship earlier than usual due to some constraints, availability of venue, traffic and health concerns. It was held last December 5, 2024 at the Philippine Navy Golf Clubhouse inclusive from 1000H to 1400H. We had it scheduled noontime to insure that those who have difficulties travelling at night can attend and indeed we were able to have a remarkable/satisfactory

attendance. The food arranged and coordinated by Mulawinette Lita Marcelo was superb and appropriately designed for our age-group as well as for the younger ones, the Junior Mulawins who came in bigger number than usual. Spouse Lita was also in-charge in the decors Christmas motif, while Mulawinettes Lynn Nartatez, Dona Acenas and Dina Velasco took charge in insuring the availability of exchange gifts, gifts for some games and other give-away gifts as well as in the program preparations to include, entertainments and music for every one's enjoyment in a once a year Christmas get-together and fellowship of the Mulawin family Class of 1965. Indeed there was much fun, music, singing and



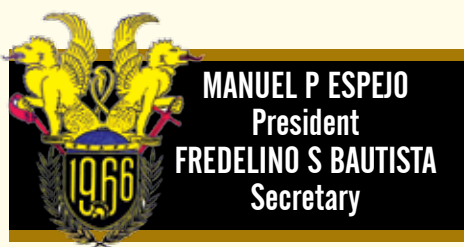


dancing. Joey Mendoza had the fun of his life dancing with Mulawinette Janette Lapus the famous dances of the sixties - Chacha, Boogie, Rock and Roll as well as others, Mulawinette Baby Duque and Junior Mulawinette daughter had fun too, dancing their signature Hula/Hawaiian dance while hubby Mulawin Pat Duque was singing the accompanying song. Dona's singing prowess was again a real revelation with the audience in awe and even her OAO was caught attentively and appreciatively listening to her. Mulawin Gadoy Bergado rendered a dozen songs ala Matt Monroe and Frank Sinatra and together with his OAO Gloria, they did a couple of their famous tango tandem. And for the first time after 64 years, Mulawin Doming Habos, in duet with Patdukes sang the original MY KAYDET GIRL in the tune of WOODEN HEART.



The triumverate Ofring Marcelo. Doming Habos and Tates Nartatez together with their respective OAOs - Lita Marcelo, Mimi Habos and Lynn Nartatez went on heritage tour in the provinces of Guimaras and Iloilo from Dec 1 to Dec 4, 2024. Sayang at off season ang famous Guimaras mangoes, so sori Guys wala kaming napasalubong but it was fun and gastronomically satisfying ang attendant food travel that went with the planned and designed heritage tour. We also had a mini get together with Mulawin Atty Anacleto P Arque Jr and family who treated us with an All Seafood Lunch at a famous beach resto in Jaro, Iloilo City.

So, again we wish everyone a HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR 2025. AND TO US PMA MULAWIN CLASS 1965, HAPPY DIAMOND JUBILEE. // epn



PAMBUNGAD

Isa na naman taon ang lumipas sa ating buhay. Marahil napupuna ng halos lahat sa atin na habang tumatagal ang mga panahon, mukhang bumibilis ang paglipas ng mga araw. Kailan lang, pinaghahandaan natin ang pagdiriwang ng kapaskuhan ng 2024, nakalipas na pala! Sa kasalukuyan, ang pag-iisip natin ay nakatuon sa Pebrero 2026, na kung kailan, marami sa atin ang naghahangad na magtungo sa Fort del Pilar, Baguio upang ipagdiwang ang ika-60 taon ng ating pagtatapos ng pag-aaral bilang mga kadete. At upang sariwain

din ang mga naganap sa ating kabataan sa pamamagitan ng panonood ng mga tanawing malaki na ang pagbabago sa paglipas ng maraming mga taon.

WELCOME NEW YEAR 2025

Because of publication constraints, the pictures of our traditional Christmas program held on 08 December at the PN Officers Club, PN Marines area, Fort Bonifacio were not included in the October-December 2024 issue of the Cavalier. Nevertheless, the enthusiasm for memories of the activity has not waned because it was primarily planned and managed by Class 1966 "brats" (not a derogatory term in alumni lingo), composed of sons and daughters including grandchildren. Needless to say, the affair was a tremendous success! A hit so to speak.

They were all over the floor of the clubhouse (the site made available

courtesy of management for Edd Santos, former FOIC and now MAAP President). They managed the activities consisting of games, raffles, picture-taking, etc. They even succeeded in persuading the senior sixty-sixers to join fun games (fortunately, not the trip to Jerusalem). All told, many of them went home happy, with umbrellas and gift certificates, courtesy of the brats and Edd.

Without doubt, the 2024 Class '66 Christmas Program was the most attended, one of the best if not the best, in years. To the brats, you just established a tradition. Carry on and many thanks. The pictures next page tell the stories that could not be adequately expressed in words.

GETTING BIGGER, STRONGER

Yes from 4-7 attendees from Classes 1964-1967 of the Tuesday breakfast boodlers at Lartizan Café, Serendra, Bonifacio Global City, more are attending,



The sixty-sixers present and their ladies.



The most attended Christmas Program so far, with the "brats" outnumbering the sixty-sixers and their ladies.

albeit some irregularly. Surely, they have in mind what health gurus advise. To stay healthy, socialize with friends.

What sixty-sixers living in the vicinity of Bonifacio Global City started as a daily walking/breakfast group even before the COVID-19 pandemic, has caught fire, so to speak. Today, as we have previously written in previous issues of the Cavalier, we have the so-called C6-4567, which means Cadet Corps of the 60's, composed of Classes '64, '65, '66 and '67. We expect that the group name would become C6-4567+, the plus sign to mean others have joined.

Likewise, we have added a venue for our get togethers – AFPCOC in Camp Aguinaldo to bring in those living in the vicinity of Quezon City. Here, the expanded group meets once a month, also on Tuesdays. Why Tuesday? WAGA could explain this. WAGA who? The picture



Looking confused? These seniors are enjoying a fun game.

below shows the December 17, 2004 (also a Tuesday) lunch at the AFPCOC.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATORS

In closing, we would like to greet sixty-sixers and spouses who celebrated or will celebrate their natal dates, as indicated below:

January – Bautista, Paz (10), Catral, Malou (28)

February – Alvez, Leo (14), Belo, Vic (01), Totanes, Vir (20), Jabile, Bert (24), Millena, Pons (22), Nicolas, Jelly (18), Andres, Graciela (20), Payumo, Beth (25).

March – Arugay, Tem (10), Bruce, Robert (29), Varona, Bert (16), Parrenas, Rhoda (01), Alvez, Carol (13), Cuison, Fe (16), Gador, Susan (14), Dauz, Mercy (25).

Happy birthday, fellow octogenarians, and spouses!



The first C6-4567 Christmas Program at the AFPCOC. Faces look familiar.



Twenty-two (22) years ago, our Class Valedictorian and STARMAN from yearling year until our graduation on March 19, 1967, our Mistah, Anselmo “Jun” Avenida, became the 8th president of the PMA Dimasupil Class of 1967. In the last several years, he pleaded with the Class be replaced, but his pleadings were rejected. In fact, the Class even thwarted any more proposals to elect a new president as it was the consensus that he would be our “President for life” (without him declaring martial law).

The reason is obvious, he had served the Class with dedication and leadership, despite of his many other commitments as an officer and member of the PMA Alumni Association, Inc. and its affiliate organizations. Everyone was happy how he and his wife, Agnes, led the Dimasupils all those years. Jun A is a natural-born leader and his innate leadership was reinforced at PMA where he graduated as Second Captain of the Cadet Corps, Armed Forces of the Philippines.

We have two (2) other STARMEN among the Dimasupils, namely: Rufino “Jun” Ibay, Jr. and the late Alberto “Bert” Solomon. Incidentally, we are the first class to graduate from PMA that adopted a Filipino theme: Dimasupil.

Sadly, a few months ago, Jun A suffered a “mild” stroke. He was followed a week later by Vir Odulio and later by Jun Ibay’s wife Ronnie. While Jun A and Vir O apparently made a quick recovery, it is taking a little longer in the case of Ronnie, since she suffered a severe stroke. We are glad though that she is apparently doing great at the moment.

There are now only 39 living out of 85 original Dimasupils and 16 out of 30 adopted classmates. We are doubly sad

when three (3) Dimasupils passed on, one after the other, this year. There were 21 Tagasupils who had gone ahead to the great beyond.

Last 2 December 2024, Jun A presided over the annual Christmas celebration of the Dimasupils and Memorial for our deceased classmates, spouses and adopted classmates. In that celebration though, the Class gave way to Jun A’s and Agnes’ appeal to let him rest and recover fully, hence, a new Board of Directors for



PMA Class ‘67 Organizational meeting at Cavaliers Restobar



CY 2025 was elected composed of the following, namely: (in alphabetical order) (1) Alino (2) Andaya (3) Austria (4) Din (5) Dionisio (6) Espinosa (7) Gatmaitan (8) Ibay (9) Lastimoso (10) Patino (11) Sales (12) Santiago (13) Sibal.

On 11 December 2024, during the organizational meeting of the Dimasupil Board of Directors, Jun A expressed his *"thank you for your support, cooperation, understanding, and forbearance extended to me and the other Class Officers during our more than 22 years of service to the Class. If we have done something good, it's because of the teamwork displayed by everybody in the team. If there have been shortcomings, I take the blame."*

Mar Santiago was unanimously elected as the new and 9th Class President,

following Arturo C. Aruiza, Mariano A. Cordero, Marlo T. Mensalvas, Rosauo V. Sibal, Diony A. Ventura, Roberto T. Lastimoso, Rufino G. Ibay, Jr. and Anselmo S. Avenido, Jr..

After expressing his sincere thanks and gratitude to all Dimasupils for the trust and confidence that was reposed in him, Mar S announced the following officers elected with him:

Rufino "Jun" Ibay - Vice President
Rosauo "Ross" - Secretary/Treasurer
Jovencio "Jovy" Sales - Auditor

Sergio "Sergs" Austria attended the organizational meeting but resigned as member of the Board. He recommended Manuel "Manny" Dalipe as his replacement

and the Board nominated and elected him in absentia, "whether he likes it or else". He later accepted his election to the Board.

Ross S will remain as Chair of the Special Amelioration Fund (SAF) and, with the guidance of Jun A and Rudy Gaerlan, will brief the Class on the status of our Class fund.

Bobby Lastimoso and Joe Andaya will lead our Ways and Means Committee and they will take steps to generate funds for the Class. Abe Din volunteered to be our Survivor officer.

We will soon have discussions about our annual homecoming at PMA given the scarce resources that we have.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all.



Dimasupil Ladies during Remembrance Day and Christmas Party at AGFO.



Pres Mar Santiago and his wife Beth visiting Ronnie Ibay.



Tagasupils visiting Ronnie at home.



Merle and Glo P with her daughter visiting Ronnie.



ARTURO B CARRILLO
President
WILFREDO G NUQUI
Scribe

1. The Class had a great and cheerful time celebrating our Diamond anniversary Xmas party on Dec 4, 2024 at the McKinley Hill Club House. Present were 13 CMs: Art J, Bobby, Willy, Patrick, Volts, Rene, Abe, Oscar, Nori, Mel, Hector, Sony and Rudy. The 19 excited and joyful ladies were Paulene, Purita, Isay, Bebot, Angging, Rhodie, Roxanne, Gigi, Candy, Dolly, Blet, Tess P, Milette, Luth, Cecille, Julie, Hilda, Arlene and Tita. In the context of Advent, Willy led the prayer



Christmas Party 2024. Thank you, ArtJ and Paulene, for accommodating us in your McKinley Hill Clubhouse.



with the Class and for our departed loved ones and those most in need. The traditional exchange of gifts was done.

2. Especial thanks to President Art C and his staff for the admin arrangement, Art J and Lecel for hosting the event at McKinley Hill and Nori and Candy for once again planning and supervising

the highly participatory and enjoyable Christmas games. The exciting games were participated in by all CMs and ladies. The games included a) the most enjoyable 'numbers', b) 'meet, greet and forget', and c) 'Xmas think fast'. Prizes were given to winners courtesy of four '68 Class couples.

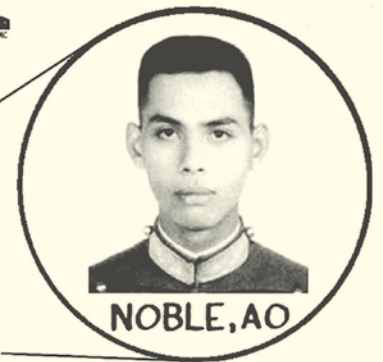
3. It was decided to reschedule our annual Class officers' election sometime in March 2025 when we celebrate our 57th PMA graduation anniversary. Bobby, Rudy, Purita, Arlene and Tess P. ably represented the Class during the 40th day mass on Dec 15 for our departed and beloved CM Alex at PAFCPIC.



Warm Birthday Greetings to our Suaviter celebrants in the First Quarter 2025:

JorieA – 6 Jan, GTomL – 10 Jan, +CutesB – 11 Jan, +RudyG – 13 Jan, TereS – 22 Jan, +AlexN – 30 Jan, MegD – 31 Jan; EllenM – 11 Feb, BabyCarino – 14 Feb; OdetteA – 4 Mar, +ReyB – 11 Mar, AmyM – 16 Mar, +LarryM – 17 Mar, DidiGarcia – 21 Mar. *Taken from Bingbo's vault file.*

So long, Mistah Big Man Alex. On 5 Dec 24, the Suaviter were shocked by the news from the South. The tallest and one of the youngest Suaviter succumbed to the call of the Great Beyond. Here's the blown-out photo of Alex picked out from our Class Graduation picture, courtesy of Mistah Willie Wong's artistic virtuosity.



ALEXANDER NOBLE
Jan 30, 1948 - Dec 5, 2024

"A man who touched many lives as a friend, brother, father, husband, and beloved. May his legacy live on forever in our hearts."



Suaviter President, Jimmy De Los Santos, flew from Manila to Cagayan de Oro City to represent the class in mourning with the family during the wake and traditional farewell rites. At the same time, he brought with him the Class's humble **abuloy** for the bereaved: a check donation from the Class Fund and another check representing the modest additional amount pooled from voluntary, straight from the heart, pass-the-hat contribution from the members of Class 69.



Rest in the arms of our Lord, Big Man Alex! Here's something for you:

Alex's thoughts and words are a trespass against our generation's vested ideas. I sensed this when he provided me with literary masterpieces for our Corps magazine, an undertaking he continued when he decided to go against the AFP. What he did was taking a wide circuit thru the pure expanse of our military life to which the best description would be 'banat' but carry on! When he was captured and brought to Manila after negotiations by the class with the then SND de Villa, his first request (actually order) to me was to produce shorts which I did.

There's a room for you in the Father's house, Mistah Alex!

(Benjie Defensor's tribute to Mistah Alex, the Big Man.)

Farewell, Big Guy. The Suaviterers will greatly miss you.

 **Mary Clarisse Khezia Hernandez** updated her profile picture.
December 5 at 6:13 AM · 🌐

As I reflect on the extraordinary life of my father Col **Alexander Noble** —a man who was not just one person, but many: a soldier, a revolutionist, a poet, an artist, an idealist, a rebel, a datu, and a deeply spiritual being. To the world, he was a force to be reckoned with, but to me, he was my hero, my mentor, and my closest friend.

My father lived a life that defied boundaries. As a soldier, he embodied courage; as a revolutionist, he championed change; as a poet and artist, he saw beauty in the raw and rugged edges of life. His ideals, his rebellion against injustice, and his spiritual grounding defined his every action. But it was in the quiet moments that I truly saw the man he was—the moments we shared as father and child.

He instilled in me a wanderlust—a yearning to explore, to question, to seek out the world's mysteries with a curious mind. From him, I learned humility, the kind that recognizes the vastness of life and one's small but meaningful place within it. He lived with a reverence for the world and its Creator, and that reverence became the compass for my own journey.

At 3:10 a.m., a time when he often found solace in meditation, he made his final ascent—rising to the next plane to be with his Master. It is fitting that he left us in the stillness of early morning, a time when the world is quiet and full of possibility, much like the man he was.

He leaves behind a legacy not just of accomplishments, but of spirit—a life lived with passion, conviction, and boundless love. His lessons will continue to guide me, and his memory will forever be my anchor and my light.

Above posting was lifted from Alex's daughter's FB page. Compliments to FB and Mary Clarisse.



Marle M. Noble

Dear Family and Friends,

On behalf of our family, I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to each and every one of you for the love and support you have shown during this difficult time.

Your presence, kind words, and thoughtful gestures have provided us with comfort and strength as we navigate the loss of our beloved Col. Alexander Noble. Whether you joined us in person, sent your condolences, or kept us in your prayers, please know how deeply we appreciate you.

Alex touched so many lives, and seeing the outpouring of respect and admiration for him has been a powerful reminder of the incredible man he was. Your stories and memories have brought us both tears and smiles, and they mean more to us than words can express.

Thank you for standing by us, for honoring Alex's life, and for reminding us of the amazing people that surrounds us. We are forever grateful for your kindness and support.

With love and gratitude,
Marle Noble

Marle's tribute to Alex and her grateful and heartfelt response to their Family and Friends

The SUAVITER'S 2024 Christmas Party Pictorial
Place: PA Officer's Club, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City
Date: 3 December 2024 1700-2200H



Merry Christmas, Suaviter Family!!! And a Blessed Prosperous 2025!!!



Wedding Anniversary Celebrants: Jimmy and Lulu



Celebrated our 53rd wedding anniversary at Mary the Queen Church and lunch after. Toast to more anniversaries ahead. God is good. God is great.

Christmas Messages from Marlyn, Marian and Decdec:

MSG from:

MARLYN SUA:

I'm very much interested to attend such sp celebration but sad to say that I got into a vehicular accident a couple of months ago and until now i'm unable to walk still undergoing my rehab 3x a week. Thnx 4 d invitation Adv merry christmas to all God bless!

12:27 PM

MSG from:

MARIAN TANTINGCO

Mistah I am sorry I won't be able to attend. I will attend a wedding in which I will be one of the Ninangs. Merry Christmas to all.

12:28 PM

MSG From:

DECDEC BACUNGAN

Thank u for d invitation mga Mistah..I but am based in Cebu..Merry Christmas to all class 69.

12:30 PM

The Suaviter Grand Kids Section:



**Caitlin Clark Santos ...
... superstar on the rise...!**



Granddaughters corner, Caitlin right, daughter of my daughter Grace, excels in basketball. She is the only 1st yr HS member of their Varsity team mostly composed of Jrs and Srs. --Jimmy de los Santos.





Magiting 70 Wellness Wing Now Operational

The Preventive Healthcare Program of the Veterans Memorial Medical Center (VMMC) has just acquired a new facility that is devoted to serve the defenders of our nation. This is the Magiting 70 Wellness Wing. It was conceived as a class project to construct an annex to the VMMC. The Wellness Wing bears the trademark of PMA Class '70 as the *Thinking Class*, one that is *Ahead of its Time*. The annex project began as a lofty concept that was full of challenges mainly from the apprehension of where to source the funds that were estimated to run way beyond the one hundred million mark. The class had created the Amethyst Corps Seventy Foundation Incorporated (ACSF) long before the annex project was contemplated. The Foundation was one of the key success factors (KSF) of the project. It served as the legitimate and official channel for managing the influx of funds and expenditure of the project. Another KSF was technical support from a proven construction firm that was provided by DM Consunji Inc., Its President and CEO Jorge Consunji is fortuitously an Honorary Member of Magiting '70. The sourcing of funds was put into motion by renowned class members. Honorable Romeo Acop representative of the second district of Antipolo, Zambales Governor Honorable Hermogenes Ebdane Jr., former Secretary of Natural Resources and Environment Roy Cimatu, and former Class '70 presidents teamed up to explore the possibilities of acquiring financial commitment from PAGCOR and corporate social responsibility (CSR) programs of private corporate units. Here we again see a pair of KSFs, the class' network of corporate supporters tied up with the strategic fit of Magiting's lofty concern for veterans with the CSR programs of leading private business groups. The masterful merging of these KSFs attests to the corporate skills and singular class energy of Magiting '70. It must be mentioned that Secretary of National Defense Honorable Gilbert Teodoro provided very valuable impetus plus the diligence of the VMMC



leadership led towards a successful project culmination. The first cement pouring ceremony in September 2023 incepted into the full completion of the new hospital annex that is now known as the Magiting 70 Wellness Wing. The facility is now fully operational following its inauguration on November 18, 2024 with the Secretary of National Defense as Guest of Honor ably represented by Undersecretary of National Defense Irineo Espino.

A Christmas and Year-end Reunion 2024

Another year has passed so swiftly, seemingly made faster by the brisk and gratifying turn of events surrounding the Magiting 70 Wellness Wing. The year of 2024 was a busy but very interesting period of anticipation, preparation and pride. Another reunion in the same venue last year at Mira Nila by the Blue Leaf in Quezon City made it even appear zippier. One feels like the reunion was an extension of last year's with the familiar warm glee and company of gentlemen and ladies of Magiting 70. Food, drinks and venue were generously taken charge for the second time by Teddy and Beth Delarmente, and their QC councilor daughter Dra. Doray. Gift packages were provided for everyone by Honorables Romy Acop, Jun Ebdane and Doray Delarmente. Class crooners Sonny Atienza, Rudy Garcia, Egay Galvante, Boots de Veyra and Nesty Carolina tried to outdo one another as Mas-Magittings danced with abandon. Mistahs from the US and Canada sent their video and text messages, all captured in a Powerpoint rendition. A thanksgiving prayer preceded the happy chatter, the fine meals, gift giving, singing, jibing and laughter. The Christmas party and reunion by customary practice is highlighted by the nomination of a new Magiting class president. Nesty Carolina was however hailed as the president for another term. Just like Honorables Romy Acop and Jun Ebdane, Nesty was "re-elected" unopposed. The reunion is truly a blessed handiwork of our Almighty.

Fairway Habitués

GOLF is an apt acronym for "Great Outdoors, Loyal Friends." The fellowship meals and drinks are just as enjoyable as the games. It seems like everyone knows or at least is familiar with the faces that mill around the club before and after the fun at the fairways. The more "official" golf outing for the quarter was the Game of Cavaliers 2024 that began on October



25, 2024 This tournament was played consecutively in three military courses at Camp Aguinaldo, PNGC and Veterans Golf Club. The championship leg was played at Villamor golf course on November 24th this year. Magiting golfers made a good turnout. Ed Israel arrived in time from his trip to Canada with Jessie to visit their son and grandchildren. Roy, Boots, Ed, Nesty, Vic, Eloy, Egay, Bert Lina, Uly, Bert Tagayuna, Bob and guest Bernard Bobadilla played. Glenn rested for several days but is now ready to be back at the fairways. With Magiting 70 as the host class, the Corps of 70 tournament on December 11th at PNGC

was again very well-attended by Classes 70, 71, 72 and 73. Magiting North golfers played in this sortie. A few guest players from Classes 74 and 75 were invited. Clyde Fernandez, the organizer of the group, provided 23 raffle prizes. Santi, Glenn, Romy Gojo and Dionet Santiago attended the fellowship lunch. On December 13th Boots, Nesty, Ed and Bob played at the PN Seniors Christmas Tournament at PNGC. Elsewhere, Magiting North golfers Vic Signey, Egay Galvante, Eloy Garcia and Primo Esguerra can be seen arrayed at the Veterans Golf Club regularly on Thursdays.





JOSE C LALISAN JR
President
ARTHUR G BALMaceda
Secretary

To all the Cavaliers, Happy New Year from the Matatags '71. May our year 2025 be more prosperous and kind to us all.

Class 4th Quarter "We" time and birthday celebrations

As early as 1 December 2024, the Matatags and Mas Matatags had their 4th Quarter Christmas fellowship hosted by the October-November-December birthday celebrators. This was done at the Valle Verde IV Clubhouse which was coordinated by Egay and Mawie Aglipay. The motif was Hawaiian and it was announced that those who will not comply will be fined P500. It was good that there was a 100 per cent compliance as reported by the strict Mas Matatags securing the entrance of the Clubhouse. Thanks to Puring Cruz and Aleli Belonia who manned the registration table. Latecomers though were fined. Special mention goes to mistahs Alex Lasan and Paby Pabuayon who were late registrants. The program started at about 7 p.m. emceed by Dra Nona Legaspi and Prexy Joey Lalisan. To set the mood, Dra Nona prompted the attendees to a group singing of Christmas Carols. Vice President Dan Francia delivered the welcome remarks while Prexy Joey gave his Christmas message during the middle of the program. Games were spearheaded



Mistah Vic Batac's Surprise Party

by Jinggoy Martinez who also hired a DI to lead the group dancing, a much needed "exercise" for us oldies. The exchange gift event was led by Mas Matatag Prexy Celia Lalisan and Dra Nona. The raffle events were handled by Tess Paynor and Verna Albano. Prexy Joey solicited major

prizes from selected mistahs who wanted to remain anonymous. Lucky winners received 2k and 5k cash prizes. Luckier still were the winners of the smart TVs in the offing, namely Lita Gil and Nina Delos Reyes. The ladies presented a surprise Hawaiian Dance number in the tune of Hukilau. Another presentation by the ladies was a special Hawaiian Christmas song entitled Mele Kalikimaka. Jane Honasan accompanied them with her ukelele. Those who attended were Egay and Mawie Aglipay, Dick and Annie de Leon, Wency and Puring Cruz, Bobby and Chit Yarisantos, Rey and Fim Velasco, Joey and Celia Lalisan, Jerry and Verna Albano, Ruben and Fe Domingo, Jun and Tess Paynor, Greg and Jane Honasan, Bobby and Eden Sacramento, Sandy Navida and son, Aris and Nina delos Reyes, Aleli Belonia, Lita Gil, Esther Cataluna, Tetet Domingo, Alex Lasan, Paby Pabuayon, Dong and Lulu Tabamo, Rollie and Malou Garcia, Tex Balmaceda, Jane Piad, Marte and Tetet Chioco, Oca and Jinggoy Martinez, Edwin and Luningning Abello, Ruben Cabagnot, Jo Galvez, Mel and Hazel Acosta, Lita Gil, Beng Ibo and sister, Jie Rivera, Jenny



Lunch for the Hawaiian dancers and organizers of the 4th Qtr/Christmas event hosted by Prexy Celia Lalisan.



Corps of 70 and Dong Tabamo's birthday golf photos.



Necro and burial rites of Mistah MM Domingo. May his soul rest in peace.

Domingo, Jun Fabros, and Dra Nona Legaspi. Everybody went home happy with a prize.

Incidentally, Mas Matatag Prexy Celia gave a blow-out to the Hukilao Dancers and those who were part of the 4th quarter celebration last 18 December 2024. Attendees were Mawie Aglipay, Jane Honasan, Tess Paynor, Jo Galvez, and the Hawaiian dancers Puring Cruz, Aleli Belonia, Verna Albano, and Lulu Tabamo. Absent were Eden Sacramento, Lita Gil, Jenny Domingo, and Jinggoy Martinez.

Hampas Lupa '71 Events and Birthdays

The Matatag Golfers had their happy respite during the games and fellowships. It has been the practice that we invite non golfing mistahs after the golf sorties to maximize the "bolahizing" moments. In my review of the past golfing events, I have noted with awe of one of the golfing mistahs who had experiences of "senior" moments when he wondered where he parked his car. There was a time when he remembered that he parked his car somewhere in Ortigas or in Cubao. Wow! This mistah is fond of walking/hiking thus the distance from Ortigas or Cubao to Camp Aguinaldo Golf Course is no challenge for him. But not to recall where you parked it, it is something. He is our lefty golfer known as Jun Wayne aka Jun Fabros.

By the way, the HL'71 joined the Corps of 70 tourney at the Navy GC last 11 December 2024. The class champion was class '72. They beat class '71 by two strokes. Our best player, Rex Piad, was awarded with the most number of bogeys. At least, may awardee kami.

HL'71 Prexy Rey Acop hosted the birthday golf fellowship of Dong Tabamo at the MWSS Canteen in QC last 5 December 2024. Early in the morning was golf at the Aguinaldo GC and Dong provided us golfers golf shirts and paid for the golf, cart, and caddy fees. Present were Rey Acop, Teody Viduya, Twiggy Zubia, Caloy Garcia, Rex Piad, Joey Lalisan, Oca Martinez, Rey Velasco, Tex Balmaceda, Jun Fabros, Dan Belonia, and guests Alex Bellen, Primo Capulong, Francis Pua, and Owen Yamamoto. During the fellowship mistahs Greg Honasan, JB Ramos, and Mel Acosta joined.

Last 12 December 2024, it was the birthday of mistah Jake Malajacan. As requested by Jake's daughter, a video message would be sent to her for compilation which would be presented during the birthday event. Several mistahs sent their video greetings either individually or as a group. We hope that those video messages reached Jake.

Another celebrator was Vic Batac. His daughters planned a surprise birthday bash for him somewhere at the Resort World area last 15 December 2024. It was coordinated by Vic's daughter that nobody should inform him about the preparation. True to form, the Matatags thru Rey Rivera created a separate vibber group to facilitate communication and listing of attendees. However, early morning of Vic's birthday, one mistah called him up and informed him that he cannot attend the so-called surprise party for him that afternoon. Eh, di buking! Haay na lang.

Rest in Peace Mistah MM

We lost another mistah after a lingering illness. Mistah Manuel M Domingo was the 30th mistah who passed on. During his necrological service and burial, many mistahs and mas Matatags attended and also his colleagues in PAL and CebuPac including his former student-pilots. It just showed how MM was loved by people whom he had associated with. Captain Domingo was a kind and patient instructor according to my pilot son when MM was his instructor in the flight simulator. Our condolences to Jenny and the bereaved Domingo family. So, rest in eternal peace Mistah MM.

The Class '71 Prayer Warriors

We recognize the spiritual efforts of our prayer warriors who conduct a novena prayer every first Saturday of the month. The prayers were dedicated to mistahs and ladies who have health issues and also for those who went ahead to the Great Beyond. Participants in this spiritual effort last 7 December 2024 were Aleli Belonia,



4th Qtr and Christmas Fellowship 1 Dec 2024.

Lita Gil, Egay and Mawie Aglipay, Bobby and Chit Yarisantos, Jo Galvez, Jinggoy Martinez, Mel and Hazel Acosta, Joey and Celia Lalisán, Boy and Barrie Castellano, Tess Paynor, and Vicky Seron.

Quote for this Issue:

"Try not to become a man of success, but rather try to become a man of value."
Albert Einstein //JCL/18 Dec 24//



Warm greetings to all.

Foremost, let me greet all Masigasigs a happy New Year and a lovely Valentines Day. May this special day be filled with love, laughter and cherished moments to share with each together. Let us make everyday a "Valentine's Day" for us. "If you have the cutest and lovable smile, give it only to your loved ones;" no other than Mistahs or Mas. My I also greet those who trekked to the City of Pines to attend the 2025 Alumni Homecoming as they enjoy meeting former

"uppies" and under classmen (snappy or very lax, hoy hoy). Make your day, recollect and reminisce our glorious moments in Fort Del Pilar.

For this last issue of Cavalier Mag, let me highlight the Class activities and news updates for the months of November and December. Last Nov 14, the Class conducted Out-Reach activities in St Rita Orphanage, Sucat, Paranaque and Tahanan ng Pagmamahal, Pasig City, respectively. This a pet project of the Class

initiated by Prez Yaric with the objective of momentarily bringing joys, cheers and hope to 57 less fortunate children of God; abandoned, orphaned and abused who are under the care of the two orphanages.





Assorted grocery items were distributed as such diapers, powdered milk, sacks of rice, mineral water, vitamins, sugar, and biscuits. A cash of P20,000.00 were presented to each orphanage as donations from the Class. We had witnessed the conditions of these children particularly their physical and mental state. As our Mas interacted with them, we saw and felt the children's longings for motherly care and love at that moment. It was too emotional as the children bid farewell and asked when we are coming back to visit them again.

The just concluded humanitarian endeavor of the Class was a total success. In a simple way, we were able to bring joy and happiness to unfortunate children even for a short time. It behooves upon us to give thanks and recognition to those who contributed much to the success of the Outreach Program. We are very grateful to our generous and kind-hearted Mistahs and Mas for their donations in cash paving the way for the launching of the program. Thank you very much; may your tribe increase. Kudos to the members of the Ladies Working Committee (headed by infatigable and dedicated Mas Ludy) for planning and smooth execution of the program. From the North: Lucille, Fe, Cely,



Vangie, Mila, Doc Melba (medical exams for kids) and Pilar: From the South: Ludy, Faith, Nenette, Doc Beth (medical exams for kids), Yoly, Faith, Leony, Carol and Cora. Of course Bing and this writer were there and provided assistance to the ladies. Maraming salamat ladies. Great job. A simple thanksgiving dinner for the members of Committee was celebrated at Sentro Resto in Capital Common, Pasig. Likewise, we also thank and appreciate the kindness of Dr Rio Magpantay, Director of DOH, NCR as endorsed by former DOH Secretary, Dra Carmencita Reodica, a

friend of Mas Mila for donating vitamins for the kids. Mila was the one responsible for these donations and we thank her for that. Our appreciation also goes to Sister Anita and Miss Nila Valdez, administrators of St Rita and Tahanan ng Pagmamahal, respectively, for giving us the opportunity to meet and interact with the children. Both Administrators expressed their thanks and gratitude to the Class for our kindness and concerns for the children. Last but not the least, many thanks to our energetic and kind-hearted Prez Julius for his unconditional support to this human undertaking. "Mabuhay ka," Mr President.

The untimely demise of our beloved Mistah Abe last Nov 21 left a big dent on our morale. We were shocked of his sudden death knowing his physical and mental health as very normal. His remains was brought to Ascension Crematory and Chapel at Araneta Ave, Quezon City last Nov 22-23 for two nights vigil and wake. On Nov 24, his remains was brought to his hometown of Gen Tinio, Nueva Ecija for three days wake. Finally he was laid to rest last 27 Nov in the municipal cemetery of Gen Tinio. A big crowd of mourners; friends, relatives and sympathizers witnessed the internment. He was accorded the traditional honors during wakes and burial befitting of a military officer. Mistah Abe is not only a classmate but a friend, a brother and comrade to us and most importantly





as a loving father to Guildem, Maryglo and Gwen and faithful and caring husband to Mas Lorna. We will best remember him as a witty and cheerful Mistah, professional and dedicated soldier whose integrity and loyalty is beyond reproach. We will miss you Mistah and may you rest in peace in the Kingdom of Our Lord. To Mas Lorna and siblings, again, our condolences and sympathy.

The traditional Christmas for the year was held last 06 Dec at the Social Hall of PVAO. A record of 79 attendees joined the merry-making and fellowship. The food was sumptuous and in abundance and drinks were over flowing. As far as we recall that was the longest, well attended and best Christmas Party we had on records. Again, we attribute the success of the event to our ever reliable and dedicated members of Ladies Technical Working Group responsible for the planning and visualizing the success of the yearly event. We will be remissed if we don't mention those who contributed to the success of our party. Thank you so much guys: Gene and Pilar for major raffle prize and entertainer/singer; Freddie and Cora, for three delicious lechons; Orly and Marido, for Unilever items; Alyn and Lou, for assorted kakanin; Art L for assorted puto; Ogie, En and Roger Q for bottles of wine; Monying and Vangie for overall venue decorations.



Special mention: Ludy: program director/emcee, Lucille and Fe: foods and catering; Yoly and Nenette: prizes and games; En, Cora and Mila: games, Cely, Malou, Alyn and Lulu: registration; Faith and Pilar: for Mass of course we thank and appreciate the Directors headed by supportive Prez Julius for their unwavering and all-out support. Mabuhay "tayong lahat."

For news updates, our golf team "parbusters" had played impressively in various tournaments this year. The team

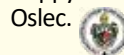
emerged as Runner Up, Commandant's Division, during the Game of the Cavaliers held at Agi Golf Club, Veterans Golf Club, Villamor and PNGC Golf Clubs. Likewise, the team also won as Runner-Up in the Retired Division, Game of Cavaliers (Class 70-90). To our golfers, congratulations and keep on winning as the Class continue to provide whatever assistance it can afford.

We singularly thank,

Mistah Rey O our macho Chair of Health and Wellness and Golf coordinator for patiently regrouping and enticing the golfers to win.

The Board is yet to convene the plans for January and the 2025 Alumni Homecoming next Feb 2025 activities. By the time you are reading this piece, all preparations have been done hassle free.

Till next Class Call, enjoy reading and Happy Valentines and Homecoming to all....





GEORGE T UY
President
EPHRAIM M RIO
Secretary

MOUNT KANLAON ERUPTION

The latest eruption of Mount Kanlaon in Negros Island occurred on Dec. 09, 2024 releasing a column of pyroclastic material up to three kilometers into the sky. The government officials of the communities in the vicinity of the volcano deemed it necessary to evacuate 87,000 people including many veterans.

However, as early as Jun 03, 2024, during its first eruption, Romy Alamillo, President of the Veterans Federation of the Philippines (VFP), already took action to safeguard the health of the veterans in Negros. On Jun 08, 2024, the VFP donated four (4) boxes of face mask for distribution to the veterans in Negros. Jayjay Juarez, as the Panay-Negros Island Chapter Commander of the VFP, received the donation, on behalf of all the veterans in Negros Island affected by the Kanlaon eruption.

GOLFERS OF MAAGAP CLASS '73 PARTICIPATED IN DIFFERENT CAVALIERS' GOLF TOURNAMENTS

The Maagap also joined in the following sports competitions held as 2024 comes to an end:

A. Jurado Cup 2024 on Nov. 08-10, 2024 in Orlando, Florida, U S of A.



Romy Alamillo(L), President of the VFP, turned over four boxes of face masks to Jayjay Juarez (R), the Panay-Negros Island Commander of the VFP.



(L-R) Bobby Aviso and Rody Luis in the AMF Sky Lanes before the Bowling Tournament.



(L-R) Rody Luis, Bobby Aviso and Del Lorenzana at the Disney Palm Golf Course.

The Maagap contingent in the Jurado Cup was composed of Bobby Aviso, Del and Edith Lorenzana, and Rudy Luis.

Bobby and Rudy competed in the Bowling Tournament held at the AMF Sky Bowling Lanes in Orlando on Nov 08. Rody won the Top Score in the Open Bowling Contest for Seniors Division and scored the 2nd Best Score against more than 100 competitors.

Bobby, Del, and Rudy competed in the Golf Tournament on Nov 09, 2024 held at the Disney Palm Golf Course in Buena Vista on Feb 09. Furthermore, they swept the individual awards in the Super Seniors Division of the tournament.

B. Corps of 70 Golf Tournament on Dec. 11, 2024 at the Philippine Navy Golf Course, Bonifacio Naval Station, Taguig, Metro Manila.

Several Maagaps participated in the Corps of 70 Golf Tournament. Bong Habacon and Val Prudencio were in the Hole Nr. 01 6:10 AM flight; Del and Edith Lorenzana were in the 6:50 AM flight; Boy Sosa and Ed Saporsantos were in the Hole



(L-R) Elbon Noble '74, Ed Saporsantos '73, Boy Sosa '73, and Pons Crucero '74.



(L-R) Ed Galvante '70, Vic Signey '70, VQ Querol '73, and Eloy Garcia '70.



(L-R) Rufo De Veyra '70, Del Lorenzana '73, Edith Lorenzana, and Ed Israel '70.



Nr. 10 60:20 AM flight; VQ Querol was in the 6:50 AM flight.

Although, none of them received any awards nor won any raffle prizes, they all enjoyed the camaraderie and the fellowship of Cavaliers during the tournament.

(L-R) Del and Edith Lorenzana posed for a picture before the Year-End Golf Fellowship at Riviera Golf Course.

C. Riviera Cavaliers 2024 Year-End Golf Fellowship on Dec 12, 2024 at the Riviera Golf Club in Silang, Cavite.

Del and Edith Lorenzana represented the Maagap Class of 1973 in the Cavaliers 2024 Year-End Fellowship which was held at the Riviera Golf Course. Aside from toning up their muscles, the Lorenzana couple really enjoyed interacting with other Cavaliers.

The 'COMMON DENOMINATOR' in these three (3) activities is the participation of Del and Edith Lorenzana now that Del has retired from the government service.



Challenges Faced by Septuagenarians: A Reflection on Life After Retirement

In 2024, we celebrated our golden anniversary as graduates of the PMA, a milestone that marked 50 years of shared memories, camaraderie, and service. This occasion was both a joyous celebration and an opportunity for reflection on the remarkable journey we've undertaken.

Now, as septuagenarians with a median age of 73, we reflect with gratitude on the time we've shared and acknowledge the challenges that come with our later years. Of the 119 regular members of our class (114 PMA graduates and five from U.S. service academies), 36 have gone ahead, while 83, or roughly 70%, remain

with us today. This impressive longevity is something to be thankful for, especially when we remember the adversities we've endured, including the loss of nine Mistahs as battle-related casualties in Mindanao within just two years of graduation.

Our journey began in turbulent times. Our class graduated two months earlier than scheduled to meet the AFP's urgent need for officers during the escalating Muslim secessionist movement in Mindanao. In less than two months, we were deployed to frontline AFP units across Mindanao. Even the Navy group was detailed to the Marines, and the Air Force group took on ground force responsibilities. It was a defining period that forged our bonds of brotherhood under the most challenging circumstances.

Today, as we navigate the unique challenges of aging, it is essential to reflect on the obstacles we face, the ways we adapt, and the resilience we continue to demonstrate. Retirement, often romanticized as a time of leisure and freedom, brings its own complexities.

The Challenges of Aging

Retirement often introduces a mix of freedom and uncertainty. Many retirees find themselves adjusting to a sudden void in their daily routines. The structure and purpose once provided by work are replaced by an open schedule, which can lead to feelings of aimlessness or even insignificance. This sense of boredom can easily evolve into loneliness, especially for those whose social circles have diminished over the years. Loneliness, in particular, is a serious concern as it significantly impacts mental and physical health.

Health concerns, unsurprisingly, are among the most pressing challenges for us as septuagenarians. With age, our bodies inevitably show signs of wear. Chronic conditions such as arthritis, diabetes, and heart disease become more common, often accompanied by complications that can make daily life increasingly difficult. Tasks that were once routine now require more effort, and mobility issues can turn simple errands into formidable challenges. Some classmates have shared their personal experiences of adjusting their lifestyles to cope with these changes, often grappling with frustration and a sense of helplessness.

Pain is another frequent companion in our later years. Whether it's persistent back pain from years of labor or the aching knees that come after a long day, these physical discomforts serve as reminders of our mortality. The fear of falling—a common concern among older adults—further limits mobility and independence, creating a cycle that can be challenging to break.

Beyond the physical struggles, retirees often face psychological challenges, particularly feelings of irrelevance. After decades of meaningful work and contribution, transitioning to a life without formal roles or responsibilities can be



THE MARANGAL GOLFERS



Joe Ongchanco leading the pack at San Antonio, Zambales.

disorienting. This loss of identity can diminish one's sense of self-worth and purpose.

Financial concerns also weigh heavily on the minds of many retirees. Living on a fixed income can be stressful, especially when unforeseen medical expenses or emergencies arise. The fear of outliving one's savings is a common anxiety. However, as veterans, we are fortunate to have access to the Veterans Memorial Medical Center, a resource that greatly alleviates our medical needs and provides us with some peace of mind.

Resilience and Adaptation

Despite these challenges, many of our Mistahs have discovered effective ways to cope, stay active, and find purpose. Engaging in activities such as volunteering, participating in civic organizations, and pursuing hobbies like gardening and tree planting has helped them maintain fulfillment and connection to the community. Social relationships also play a critical role in emotional well-being, as maintaining bonds with family and friends can alleviate feelings of loneliness and irrelevance.

Some classmates have gone further, demonstrating remarkable resilience and enthusiasm for life by embracing physically active lifestyles. Their inspiring achievements remind us that age is no barrier to pursuing one's passions.

1. **Golfers:** A group of classmates, including **Sonny Razon, Jun Esperon, Elbon Noble, Willie Garcia, Pons Crucero, Ed Doromal, Errol Pan, Totuy Cedo, Amy Tolentino, Ricky dela Paz, and Jun Lopez**, remains committed to playing golf regularly—some as often as three times a week. Beyond its physical benefits, golf provides an excellent opportunity for

socializing and fostering camaraderie. Many of these golfers participate in tournaments with fellow cavaliers from other classes, showcasing not just their skills but also their enduring zest for life.

2. **Cyclists:** two classmates, Mistah **Danny Abinoja** and Mistah **Joe Ongchanco**, have embraced cycling as a pastime.

- Mistah Danny rides cross-country in Calatagan, Batangas, often accompanied by his wife. They regularly cover distances of around 20 km, with Danny's longest ride reaching 32 km. In addition to cycling, he maintains an active routine by playing tennis four times a week and walking 3–5 km on other days.

- Mistah Joe rides with a group around Fort Bonifacio during the week, extending their routes to BGC and Pasig on weekends, covering about 20 km per



PONS CRUCERO AT THE MOUNTAIN BOUNDARY OF ILOILO-ANTIQUE ROAD.



DANNY ABINOJA - Age is just a number!

ride. His group plans to cycle in Iloilo City during the Dinagyang Festival in January, a testament to their adventurous spirit.

3. **Road Trips:** Mistah Pons Crucero's pastime is taking long road trips around the country. While many ordinary septuagenarians find driving long distances, such as to Baguio, challenging, he enjoys driving his SUV across vast distances from north to south and island-hopping via roll-on roll-off (RORO) ships. On one occasion, he drove to his hometown in Iloilo, passing through Bicol, Samar, Leyte, Cebu, Negros and finally back to Manila, covering over a thousand kilometers..

4. **Pilgrimages:** Mistah **Peewee Peralta**, based in San Francisco, USA, achieved an



PEEWEE PERALTA on his Camino walk. He occasionally walks 20 km a day.



Ricky Dela Paz in action.

incredible feat by completing the famous Camino de Santiago (Way of St. James) pilgrimage in Spain as a septuagenarian. The main physical challenge involves walking 20-25 km per day for several days, and it's not just the distance but also the terrain that presents obstacles along the journey. This pilgrimage offers several routes, all culminating at the cathedral of Santiago de Compostela in Northern Spain. Pee wee chose the longer route, walking with other pilgrims for more than 30 days and covering a distance of over 600 km, comparable in distance to walking from

Manila to Aparri for 30 days across various terrains.

5. Motorcycling: Mistah Ricky dela Paz's achievement is one for the books. In addition to playing golf regularly, he has a passion for riding big bikes and traveling across the country with his group of bikers. Earlier this year, at almost 75 years old, Ricky participated in his third **2024 BOSS Ironman Motorcycle (BIMC)** challenge, which features a 1,400 km route traversing the provinces of Northern Luzon. The challenge required participants to complete the route within 24 hours. The BIMC is considered one of the most challenging motorcycle events in the Philippines, with varying road conditions, weather challenges, and fatigue posing significant obstacles. Unfortunately for Ricky, he was unable to finish the 2024 BIMC challenge due to an accident during the event, though he is fortunate that the accident was not

fatal. He sustained several broken bones that require metal implants. These metal implants certainly make him an ironman.

Class Activities

Beyond individual pursuits, our class continues to cherish the bonds of brotherhood through shared activities. Our annual Christmas party, held on December 4, 2024, at the Villamor Air Base Golf Clubhouse, was a resounding success. The event was well attended by Mistahs, their wives, widows, and dependents, creating an atmosphere of warmth and camaraderie.

One of the evening's highlights was the group singing contest by major services. The Navy group, led by Mistah **Damian Carlos**, claimed the top prize, while the Air Force and Army groups took second and third places, respectively. The music, provided by a one-man



Navy group - winner of the group singing contest.





band, encouraged many classmates to showcase their singing talents, while others enjoyed the lively line dances, including a popular routine to Bruno Mars' "APT." Dance instructors helped participants master the moves, adding to the festive atmosphere.

The evening concluded with the raffle draw, leaving everyone with smiles

and cherished memories of an enjoyable celebration. Events like this remind us of the strength of our bond as a class and the importance of coming together to celebrate life.

Conclusion

As septuagenarians, we face challenges that test our resilience, but

we also find ways to adapt and thrive. Whether through physical activities, social engagement, or class events, we continue to demonstrate the same determination and camaraderie that defined our earlier years. Let us remain grateful for the opportunities to connect, reflect, and celebrate life as we navigate this phase together.



PMA Makabayan Class 1975 December Affair - This year, the PMA Makabayan Class of 1975 meticulously organized a heartwarming program to celebrate the joyous occasion of Christmas. The festivities were held at the inviting Valle Verde 6 Clubhouse at the heart of Quezon City on December 8, 2024. Raul Gonzales, the class president, played a pivotal role in ensuring the celebration was both meaningful and enjoyable for all attendees. This year's gathering theme

was aptly titled "PMA 'Makabayan' Class of 1975 December Affair," reflecting the camaraderie and bond the classmates have shared.

The program unfolded in two significant parts, each thoughtfully designed to honor the memories of those no longer with us and to celebrate the spirit of Christmas. Part 1 was a heartfelt segment titled "En Memoriam," dedicated to commemorating the lives and legacies of 31 departed classmates and four honorary

members, especially considering the forthcoming Golden Jubilee celebration next year, where we will surely miss their company. A solemn holy mass was first said, creating a reverent and introspective atmosphere where everyone could reflect on the profound impact of their lost friends. This was followed by a poignant video presentation that showcased cherished memories, photographs, and moments that encapsulated the joy and vibrancy of those who have passed away, allowing



Makabayans during the Christmas Party 2024 at the Valle Verde 6 Club-house, Pasig City on December 8, 2024.



Makabayan Ladies during the PMA 75 Christmas Party.

attendees to reminisce and celebrate their lives together. Raul Gonzales and Charlie Alejandrino set the stage for the presentation with a heartfelt prelude. As they spoke, they reminisced about the vibrant lives of their beloved departed comrades, weaving together stories that evoked laughter and tears. Their words painted a rich tapestry of memories, honoring the legacy of the mistahs who had touched their lives profoundly.

Jessica Badilla, representing the other widows of the class, offered a touching response filled with gratitude and reflection. Her words resonated deeply as she spoke of loss, love, friendship, and the enduring bonds that tie them together as a class. Through her heartfelt message, she reaffirmed the significance of these gatherings, emphasizing the importance of remembrance and support among classmates, making this Christmas celebration a truly memorable occasion.

The class officers, their guests, and other willing members collaborated to organize and execute the program for the



Jessica Badilla, Rene Badilla's wife, led the other widows (L-R: Ofelia Mariano, Girlie Baltazar, Tess Logronio, Benny Pabalan, Jessica Badilla, Marina Julianda, Cynthis Roxas-Guligado, and Purita Danga) in thanking the class for remembering their deceased husbands. A copy of the presentation, in the form of a USB, was given to the widows.



The Makabayans and their ladies during the PMA 75 Christmas Party at the Valle Verde 6 Clubhouse on December 8, 2024.



A mass was offered to the deceased members of PMA 75 Makabayan to open the celebration.

the ladies who are genuinely behind the success of the affair. They provided the soul and spirit to the celebration by assisting in organizing the program, scheming the decoration, designing the outfit to be worn by everyone, picking out the menu, and handling the program itself, to name a few of their contributions. He also wished everyone a very happy Christmas and New Year. Moreover, he wanted for the well-being of each mistah and their respective family.

This year, 24 Makabayans attended the party, including three associate, honorary, and adopted members. Several came with their wives. The widows who came to grace the occasion were Tess Logronio, Bennie Pabalan, Ofelia Mariano, Marina Julianda, Jessica Badilla, Girlie Baltazar, Purita Danga, and Cynthia Roxas-Guligado.

A live band provided music from the 70s, while the French Baker, a noted chain of food specialists, catered to the food and beverage. Several mistahs brought additional food, not to mention Pete and Angie Cadungog, who graciously shared a signature roasted cow to the satisfaction of the *connoisseurs*. Pet and Beth Magno donated the sherbet as dessert.

After dinner, the audience was thrilled by a variety of surprises. One standout performance, which had been kept a secret until revealed, was a powerful dance routine for the gentlemen choreographed by Gerry Doria. Several mistahs moved laboriously in sync, mimicking the actions of two dance instructors. The performance was mesmerizing, prompting numerous comments from the audience.

This year's Christmas party featured a gift exchange, where each couple



The class president, Raul Gonzales, delivers his Season's Greetings.

contributed a modest gift valued at P2,000 and a raffle. The grand prize, a 55-inch colored Smart TV donated by Raul Gonzales, was won by Reuben Crisologo.



Makabayans enjoy their dinner at the banquet table during the Class Christmas Party 2024 at the Valle Verde 6 Clubhouse on December 8, 2024.

After all the programs were presented and the prizes distributed, the party reluctantly ended around 11:00 p.m., although many guests were still engaged in lively conversations. As the chilly air settled in for the night, a warm and festive Christmas spirit enveloped everyone as they bid farewell, exchanging the customary "Merry Christmas!" with one another.

We are the Champions. The Philippine Military Academy (PMA) "Makabayan" Class of 1975 golf team achieved a remarkable victory by clinching the championship trophy at the prestigious Corps of 74567 Golf Tournament for the 4th quarter of 2024, which took place on November 21, 2024. The tournament was held at the scenic Langer Course, nestled within the Riviera Golf Course complex in Silang, Cavite, known for its challenging layout and beautiful views.

This exciting event was organized and hosted by the dedicated PMA 75 Golf Team members under the enthusiastic leadership of Jeff Sodusta, who also served as the class sports coordinator. Following the thrilling rounds of golf, a joyous fellowship and awarding ceremony commenced, expertly emceed by Gerry Doria, whose charisma kept the guests engaged and entertained throughout the event.

To add to the festive atmosphere, a plethora of raffle prizes and giveaway presents were available, ensuring that every attendee left with a token of appreciation. The camaraderie among the players and supporters truly highlighted the spirit of the occasion, creating an environment where nobody went home empty-handed.

The talented members of the "Makabayan" Class 1975 golf team who participated in this tournament included Jeff Sodusta, serving as the Team Manager;



Corps of 74567 Cham-pionship Trophy.

Gerry Doria; Raul Gonzales; Noe Wong; Willie Palugod; Arsenio Arugay; Cardozo Luna; Pet Magno; Nap Cachuela; Cesar Carranza; Chito Blanco; Andy Mesa; Ernie Boac; and Ruel Hiterosa.

Their teamwork and passion for the sport culminated in this significant achievement. Congratulations to the entire team! It is essential to remember that while victory is sweet, the love for the game and the bonds forged through friendly competition truly count.

Birthday Celebrators for 1st Quarter 2025 – Birthday greetings to our 28 mistahs whose birthdays fall during the 1st quarter. Unfortunately, seven of them are no longer around to celebrate with us. There are 21 who are still around to add another year in their bubbling life.!

Willie Palugod	January 15
+Manuel Mariano Jr.	January 15
+Prudencio Regis Jr.	January 16
+Abelardo Salango Jr.	January 16



Emerito Calica	January 31
+Octavio Pabuayon	January 9
Pedrito Cadungog	January 11

Jaime Silvestre	February 1
Romeo Dayao	February 6
Arsenio Arugay	February 6
Marcelo Soriano	February 9
Wilfredo Dulay	February 14
Ernesto Boac	February 15
Dante Ferrer	February 22
Charlie Alejandrino	February 24

Geary Barias	March 1
+Ismael Rafanan	March 2
Ray Roderos	March 2

Ronald Roderos	March 2
+Antonio Viray	March 5
Dante Ganir	March 8
Leonardo Bernabe	March 8
Meynardo Santiago	March 11
Lecrecio Figueras	March 15
Teodorico Capuyan	March 25
Juanito Samuya	March 27
+Raul Heredia	March 27
Michael Rosales	March 31

We wish our birthday celebrators warm felicitations and more to come. Always remember to keep smiling and to have a positive outlook on life. Happy Birthday. dtf/12/12/2024



CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Magilas Class of '76 gathered on December 1, 2024, at Greenmeadows "The Nest" for a heartwarming Christmas lunch. As 68 Mistahs reunited together with their mas-magilas ladies, the air buzzed with excitement and nostalgia. The venue, adorned with festive decorations, provided a perfect backdrop for the afternoon's festivities.

The event, spearheaded by Mistah Abner Cabalquinto as the overall COO, kicked off with a sumptuous lunch, where Mistahs shared stories, laughter, and updates on their lives. As the afternoon progressed, the mood shifted to one of fun and camaraderie. Engaging games and lively performances entertained the crowd, rekindling the youthful spirit within each Mistah.

A highlight of the afternoon was the raffle draw, where lucky winners claimed exciting prizes. The thrill of anticipation and the joy of winning added to the festive atmosphere. Major prizes, generously donated by Mistah Tanggol Gatdula and Mistah Louie Ticman, was a highlight of the day.

In a touching gesture of remembrance, Christmas gifts were presented to the widows of departed classmates: Ligaya

Viduya, Olga Nano, Delia Gamos, Beth Pomposo, Baby Tabas, Arlene Zerrudo, Elen Legaspi, Jessica Dilodilo, and Baby Salosagcol. This heartfelt tribute honored their memory and extended the spirit of the season to their loved ones.

To spread holiday cheer, each attendee received a Christmas bag filled with goodies and surprises, including company shirts and mugs. This small token of appreciation added to the overall joy of the event.

The event was made possible through the significant food contributions of Pol Dy (tuna) and James Sin (kimchi), as well as the delectable catering provided by Len Calderon's sister-in-law. Additionally, monetary donations from the Board of Trustees members contributed to the success of the raffle draw.



As the afternoon drew to a close, the Magilas Class of '76 bid farewell, hearts filled with warmth and gratitude. The Christmas lunch was more than just a gathering; it was a celebration of friendship, a tribute to the past, and a promise for future reunions.

GOLF TOURNAMENT

The Magilas Golfers thru the support of the class and the BOT under the leadership of Chairman Magtanggol Gatdula has been actively representing the class in a number of golf fellowship tournaments. Early this year, the class hosted the 1st Qtr 2024 Corps of 74567 Golf Fellowship Tournament at PNGC which the class happened to be the champion. Corps of 74567 is composed of PMA Classes of 1974, 1975, 1976 and 1977. It is a quarterly tournament and alternately hosted by these classes. Also, the Magilas Golfers participated in the Games of the Cavaliers Golf Fellowship Tournament, the AGFO Golf Fellowship Tournament, and recently the 13th DECANO CUP Golf Tournament hosted by Mistah Peng Dela Rama at Predera Golf Course.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

The upcoming homecoming golden anniversary of the Magilas Class '76 promises

to be a memorable event. To commemorate the occasion, a Golden Sword '76 coffee table book is being created, showcasing the class's history through photos and stories. A stylish and comfortable uniform is being designed to unify the class during the event. To ensure a delightful culinary experience, a reputable caterer will be hired to provide a diverse menu catering to various tastes. By meticulously planning and executing these key elements, the class aims to create a memorable and successful homecoming golden anniversary.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

A warm birthday greeting to our December Mistahs: Paul Chua, Jess Verzosa, Gerry Defensor, Art Segovia, Teddy Lapuz, Manny Cayton, and Efren Lagdamen! We wish you a joyous birthday filled with happiness, good health, and prosperity. Your contributions to our class and community are invaluable. May this year bring you countless blessings and achievements. Happy Birthday!





ROMEO D LUSTESTICA
President
FELIPE HB BUENA, JR
Corporate Secretary

29 Oct - Makatarungan Golfers strong participation - Army, Navy, Airforce, PNP and Bizmen at Game of Cavaliers at Aguinaldo Leg.

Navy Leg



Congratulations to mistah Ernest Villareal for being the Champion in the Associate and Honorary Category of the PMAAAI Game of Cavaliers 2024.



Fundraising Golf Tournament by the group of Mistahs Oca R and Boysie R for Ramon Magsaysay High School graduates where Mistah Nerio won the Class C Champion on 28 Nov 2024 at Villamour Airbase Golf Club.



Congratulations to Mistah MGen Pompeo Limbo for his election to the five new Trustees to serve the 15-man AGFO Board on 29 Nov 2024.



Veterans Leg



Class 78 Christmas party was held on 8 Dec 2024 at the Villamor Airbase Social Hall, organized ably by our Ladies Committees and delightfully entertained by our beloved program Emcee Malu Lustestica and Sol Buena.



Some of the Boys



Some of the Gals



The Airboys and Gals



The Army Group presenting their version of AGT (Army Got Talent) during the '78 Christmas Party.





IRINEO C ESPINO
President
EDWIN I CORVERA
Secretary

**"PMA MATAPAT '79 CLASS CALL
1st QUARTER 2025"**

JURADO CUP 2024

The Matapat 79 Bugo-bugos and their ladies literally swarmed the Jurado Cup 2024. Staged this year in the resort city of Orlando in the Sunshine State of Florida, the Jurado Cup 2024 (JC24) thus far is the most well-attended event. Over 220 cavaliers, ex-cadets and their ladies and kids representing five Chapters - North California, Northwest Pacific, Southwest, South California, and Midwest Chapters, trooped to this biennial three-day US event. Matapat 79 contingent from Pinas composed of inseparable couples Rey and Malou Lañada, Mark and Maloli Supnet, Rommel and Cecile Heredia, Arne and Grace Delos Santos, Sammy and Chay Pagdilao and Edwin and Yolly Corvera joined US-based duos Murdie and Etta Olan, Rene and Babylyn Abella, Boy and Emily Honoridez, Jigs and Del Hipolito, Erwin and Chel Dizon, and, surprise, surprise!, long-lost couple Roy and Ellen Ruiz.

The dozen-couple strong Matapats turned out to be the biggest Class in attendance in JC24! And the best in uniform, too! Thanks to Matapat Rey for lugging along the Matapat golf t-shirts all the way from Manila!

It was a very memorable and enjoyable Matapat mini-class reunion. Held initially at Hooters Sports Bar where the boys really enjoyed their beer with buffalo wings and had a grand time ogling at the Hooters girls while the Kaydet girls sipped tequila and ladies' drinks. They then transferred to nearby Señor Frog's to

sample authentic Mexican flavors, refreshing drinks and festive atmosphere. The Matapat ladies taught the Señor Frog's crowd how to party and dance non-stop to the Latin beat, hip-hop and pop music!

In sports and other events played at Winterpark Community Center, the competition was fierce. It turned out that the love of the game was second only to the desire to win. Everyone wanted to be a considerate victor!

The Red Cheering Team (Odd Team) bannered by Matapat ladies Babylyn, Etta, Yolly, Malou, Del, Chay, Cecile, Emily, Chel and Ellen was the runaway Champion! The other Red Teams with Matapat girls Yolly, Malou, Babylyn and





Cecile participating also won 1st Place in both T-Shirt Relay and Cup Relay and Runner-up finish in the Hula-hoop games.

During the Gala Night held at Rosen Plaza Hotel, everyone was in their best suit and gown. The Matapats were resplendent in their Filipiniana attire.

In the Line Dance competition, the Midwest Chapter Musclemen with Rene, Murdie and Edwin in the team, truly wowed the crowd with their superb Maori Haka war dance rendition. Kudos to Rene who choreographed it and Murdie for providing the venue and booties! However, it merited only Third Place as the latin dance of opposing teams with Jigs and Del participating, bested them.

During the Bayle Nite held at Avanti Resort International, Boy and Chel won 2nd Place in the Couples Duet. They belted a Visayan love song "Matud Nila" backed up by the Matapat girl dancers. Early on, an Intermission number by the impromptu Matapat choral group led by Boy Honoridez as lead singer with other Matapat hunks as back-up, stepped up to entertain everyone.



In Golf which was played in Disney Palms golf course, three Matapat "Hampaslupa," Murdie, Mark and Rey represented Class 79. They emerged 3rd Place in the Battle of the Classes. In the Battle of PMA Chapters, the Midwest Group bannered by Murdie won 2nd Runner-up honors.

In Bowling, Matapat Jigs showed the true form of a champion but his "forms" were not good enough to get a medal.

JC24 was a smashing success! Thanks to the snappy Southeast Chapter organizers and the selfless support of other Cavaliers like Matapat Rene and Murdie. And kudos to Matapat Murdie of Midwest Chapter who was a JC24

Service Awardee!

See you all in JC HOUSTON 2026!

CHRISTMAS PARTY 2024

There could have been no better way of celebrating the birth of our Savior than gathering together with fellow Matapats and our ladies. It was indeed exhilarating to see each other during our Christmas party that was held at the Veterans' Center in Camp Aguinaldo last December 7.

Leading the group was our indefatigable Class President, Boy Espino together with his usually energetic and lovely wife Marion. Those who attended the party were the following (NOT necessarily in order of handsomeness):

1. Butch and Annie Butalid
2. Rolly and Helen Tenefrancia
3. Vic and Dodie Felix
4. Art and Cindy Ortiz
5. Alex and Becka Cabaes
6. Rene and Rema David
7. Jolu Alano and daughter
8. Noelo and Cyril Albano
9. Ed and Toton Oban
10. Diego and Ruby Cruz
11. Mon and Mafe Liwag
12. Tony and Tess Agtual
13. Titan and Blessie Kison
14. Rey and Malou Lañada
15. Sammy and Chay Pagdilao
16. Mel Inductivo
17. Essel Soriano
18. Raul and Ella Leyritana
19. Alex and Jo Estomo
20. Arne and Grace Delos Santos
21. Paco Manalo
22. Elmir and Lisa Dela Cruz



23. Steve and Gigi Castro
24. Rolly and Tabi Añonuevo
25. Bobby and Ann Ganzon
26. Nonoy and Elda Libanan
27. Tony and Vivian Villarete
28. Mark and Maloli Supnet
29. Tattu and Annie Sanchez
30. Robert and Marissa Rongavilla
31. Fred and Ampy Peralta
32. Bobby and Tess Morales
33. Benjie and Mary Ann Gorres
34. Boy Valmores and daughter
35. Leo and Bobbie Santiago
36. Ariel Querubin
37. Rex Recomono
38. Cip and Malou Gundao
39. Marissa Calalang
40. Zaldy and Bing Tungala
41. Zeny Abad and son
42. Boy and Emily Honoridez
43. Ric and Flor Banayat
44. Ely Fernandez
45. Angie Catalan
46. Mary Rose Dellosa
47. Carlette Pama
48. Thei Balanon
49. Dee - Jay De Jesus
50. Arnold and Luz Palmea
51. Aida Cutiyog and son
52. Amor and Ellen Bumanglag
53. Bing Damian
54. Pete and Menchie Soria



A few were not able to make it because they were either abroad or tied up with some pressing matters. Thanks to technology, we were able to connect and exchange greetings with some of them during the party. We hope to see them in person in our next gathering.

As in most of our activities, there were lots of food and drinks. Thanks to the ladies who chose a very sumptuous menu for the dinner. Hot darn was also overflowing courtesy of soon-to-be Senator Querubin.

On the entertainment portion, each major service rendered their respective presentations. For the Air Force, Diego Cruz extolled each of the fly boys focusing on their distinctive traits and character and did so by punctuating each of his narratives with humor to the delight of the ladies. If Diego did not choose to become a farmer (read: haciendero) after retirement, he would have given Steve Harvey a run for his money. Air Force ladies also showed that they have not lost gracefulness with a dance number. They deserve a rating of 10/10!



The PNP was full force in rendering a dance number aided by a video. Though there were some who could not keep in step and keep up with the tempo anymore, they were still able to put up a good practice. Yes, Benjie Gorres said that it was right there and then that they were asked to join the presentation of the ladies. Anyway, the presentation deserves a rating of 10/10!



Never was the Navy outdone. With the sailors and their ladies reinforced by a lone Marine, they presented a dance number only sailors can do in stormy weather and rough seas. Again, thanks to the Navy ladies. When the going gets tough for the men, it's always the ladies who will save the day. Rating? It's 10/10, of course!



Our forever emcee or call him emcee-for-life, Tattu made it a point to have the Army be the last presenter. He believed that the Army group did not prepare at all, which was not true because while the others were presenting, the Army guys and their ladies were busy coordinating and arguing about what to present. The Army gave multiple presentations starting with Cong. Nonoy rendering a couple of romantic numbers with his guitar. This was followed by a lively dance number by the ladies with the aid of artificial intelligence (read: DI). Then to the tune of "Manila, Manila" and "Buwan," the Army guys took to the floor as a hastily assembled choral group. The Army Group was backed up by the couples Bobby and Tess Morales, and Boy and Emilie Honoridez who flew in from Australia and New Jersey, USA, respectively. The finale was an undying tango dance number by certified debonair Alex Estomo and a DI. We give the Army a rating of 10/10 for displaying their immediate action drill abilities!

In his remarks, Pres. Boy E thanked everyone for coming to the class party. He also expressed his gratitude to the members of the executive committee members and to all who shared their blessings and helped make the affair a resounding success.

Of course, Christmas parties will not be complete without exchanging gifts and raffle prizes. Nobody went home empty-handed as everyone brought home Christmas ham. We also helped ourselves with Gardenia loaf bread courtesy of Titan and Blessy, who brought a truckload of them.

Indeed, it was another fun-filled memory added in the December of our lives! May we continue to strengthen the bond of brotherhood and sisterhood that bind our class together. May we also consistently and with real intent love God and His Son Jesus Christ with all our hearts, mind and strength.

Flash! Flash! Breaking news... We are very happy to have Macky Maclang around for good. Welcome back Matapat Macky! You need a lot of catching up to do.



MATAPAT GOLF CLUB

Throughout the year, members of the Matapat Golf Club (MGC) play on a regular basis in the various military Golf courses in Metro Manila, and hold on a Quarterly basis a Golf tournament. On 09 Dec 2024, the Matapat Golf Club held its Christmas Golf Tournament and Fellowship at the Camp Aguinaldo Golf Club. Twenty six Matapat Golfers signified to join the year-end golf fellowship, but due to some reasons peculiar to age, only 23 were able to play led by our Class President Boy Espino. Members of the Matapat Golf Club Committee, led by Tattu Sanchez, were all present to include our coach Rollie Añonuevo who acted as marshal and umpire of the mini-tournament. The rules imposed by the MGC Committee headed by TattuSan was as strict as the PGA tournaments.

As a result, the following received Trophies courtesy of Oca and Lala Mapalo and the accompanying Christmas Goodies, courtesy of MGC Coach Rollie Añonuevo:

Class A: Benjie – Champion; PacMan-Runner Up;



Class B: TattuSan- Champion; TeteVee-Runner Up;

Class C: Boy E – Champion; Rongee-Runner Up

And the big raffle winners were Rongee and Arnold Palmea, who each received a 32" Smart TV. Everybody present in this Christmas fellowship received at least two items to include the personalized Coffee Mug courtesy of the MGC President TattuSan. Some raffle prizes were donated by generous Matapat Golfers. The MGC Year-end Tournament was graced with

the presence of two Matapat Ladies: Lala Mapalo and Ellen Bumanglag.

The Lunch Fellowship and Awarding was the most joyous portion of the Year-end Tournament. Monli, our ever ready mistah, acted as the Master of Ceremonies. A Roasted Pig courtesy of Bossing Rey Lañada was at the center of the menu, along with Crispy Maskara, Pinakbet and Garlic Chicken. The joy and laughter and the endless stories reverberate throughout the fellowship. We look forward for more Golf activities for 2025.



CAESAR RONNIE F ORDOYO
President
EDMUND C TAN
Secretary

Mapitagan Christmas Party 2024

The Mapitagans celebrated Christmas 2024 with a simple dinner cum party on 7 December 2024 at the Social Hall of the Villamor Airbase Golf Course (VABGC), attended by 30 Mapitagans and 31 Ladies seven of them widows. A thanksgiving mass was first held at 4:00 p.m., before the start

of the party with a message from our Class President, Ces Ordoyo.

Dinner was a senior-friendly buffet catered by VABGC, with three lechons served along with fresh tuna sashimi sliced from a whole tuna fish that came all the way from General Santos City courtesy of the PCG.

To make the celebration livelier, five parlor games were staged with the winners rewarded with cash prizes. Also, a raffle was held sponsored by an honorary Mistah, with Manding Guzman winning the grand prize of P5K while five others won P1K each.

After all the fun and laughter of the parlor games and singing accompanied by the Air Force Band, those who brought presents were called to gather for the exchange of

gifts. The party culminated when everyone was invited to join the singing of Christmas carols to mark the joyful season.

Noel Manabat's Passing

Just after the weekend of the Class Christmas 2024 celebration, sad news dampened our spirits in this joyful time of the year with the passing of our esteemed Mistah Noel M Manabat, who joined our Creator on 11 December 2024.

The necrological service for Noel was held in the evening of 16 December at the Cosmopolitan Chapels, Araneta Avenue, Quezon City where his remains had lain in repose. On 19 December 2024, he was finally laid to rest at the Libingan Ng Mga Bayani.

A true embodiment of courage and integrity, Noel served the Philippine National Police with unwavering dedication and honor. His legacy as a patriot and leader will forever inspire us all.

Our thoughts and prayers are with his loving wife, Benerva, and family during their difficult time. May Noel rest in eternal and perfect peace.

Updates on Status of Mapitagans

ARMY Group

The status of the Army Group who are based in the Philippines:

➤ Manny Amat is fully retired and is enjoying farming in Dolores, Quezon.

➤ Dante Balao is currently working as a Professor at the College of Forestry and Environmental Management, Cabagan Campus, Isabela State University, after retiring twice, in 2011 and in 2020.

➤ Orly Beltran is fully retired doing apostolic duties and so with Boy Bolo.

➤ Bong Cabantac is a Consultant on-call at MMDA.

➤ Bobby Calleja is also fully retired, doing apostolic duties.

➤ Juni Carbonell was appointed recently as the Special Presidential Representative to PVAO with the rank of Assistant Secretary, and as Chief of Staff of PVAO.

➤ Noel Coballes is still AVP for Corporate Security, Asia Brewery Incorporated after he retired as the CG, PA in February 2014.

➤ Dante Costes spends his retirement nowadays karaoke-singing which he enjoys so much.

➤ Rainier Cruz III is Commissioner of the National Commission of Senior Citizens with a fixed term of six years until October 2027.

➤ Ed Del Rosario, after serving as Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development until 2022, is now fully retired and enjoying life like the dickens!

➤ Nene Delos Reyes is also fully retired and is enjoying life with families especially with his grandkids.

➤ Nestor Eloja had retired early from the service, is currently working in some faith-based NGOs in Davao City where he is residing.

➤ Mandy Espineli is currently working for the Office of the President as the Presidential Adviser for Special Concern holding the rank of Under Secretary.

➤ Emil "Gupix" Gupana is a full-time retiree, enjoying his pension.

➤ Gerry Layug is a Trustee of AGFO since 2020 and was just recently elected as the President and Chairman of said Association for 2025.



The Mapitagan Machos taken during the Class Christmas Party on 7 Dec 2024 (L-R, Front): Paco Francisco, Boy Bolo, Edmund Tan, Nick Bartolome, Ces Ordoyo, Efren Yebra, Buboy Salazar, Gil Pacia, Mae Mendoza; (Back): Vic Caragan, Herbert Yaming, Doc Frank Gali, Emil Sarmiento, Bong De Asis, Bogs Abogado and Leo Kison.

➤ Onell Lleno now devotes three quarters of his time performing apostolic duties to four grandkids, while one-fourth is for golf and fellowship with the Mapitagan Golfers.

➤ Mon Loria serves as a member of the Board of Trustees of RPMI, a micro financing company, and recently was elected as the President of the Baguio Pine City Lions Club.

➤ Mar Mendoza is fully retired but not retarded by doing daily exercises like brisk walking, bicycling with a road bike, scootering around with a Yamaha NMax 155cc, and riding his Suzuki 1000cc VStrom XT Adventure bike.

➤ Ces Ordoyo, our Class Prez, retired as the Commander of SOLCOM, then worked as VP Security, PAL from 2014 until 2023. He is currently working as VP Security of Pure Energy Holdings Corporation.

➤ Ric Pasamba is fully retired doing nothing daw, according to him . . .

➤ King Reyes is also fully retired and enjoys communing with nature in his sugar plantation in Murcia, Negros Occidental.

➤ Jun Sanchez is also retired but keeps himself busy as the Treasurer of the Class.

➤ Jojie Segovia is a private citizen as he claims. . . meaning he is into something that we don't know. Hehehe.

➤ Jude Tadeo became a lawyer and previously worked in DND but now no more. We wonder where he is connected nowadays.

➤ Dante Taliño is always in his hometown in Bayambang, Pangasinan, doing apostolic duties as a full-time retiree.

➤ Ted Torralba after working for some time in the government, is now fully retired and enjoying his free time to the max, doing also apostolic duties.

➤ Jeff Tupas optionally retired in 2002 to work as a Security Expert in some private companies and government institutions. Currently, he manages his



The lovely Mapitagan Ladies who attended the Class Christmas Party. In photo are (L-R, seated): Gina Jubas, Lala Kison, Cristy Meneses, Elah Caragan, Noemi Bartolome, Lisa De Asis and Baybee Francisco; (standing): Chat Sugon, Marivic Yaming, Tess Mendoza, Cheryl Ordoyo, Mae Sarmiento, Tita Noble, Nini Tan, Irene Yebra, Baby Pacia, Sionie Abogado, Vicky Salazar, Lee Gali and Ester Velasco.



Taken during the Necrological service for Mistah Noel Manabat (†) on 16 Dec 2024 at the Cosmopolitan Chapels, Araneta Avenue, QC (L-R): Greg Macapagal, Raffy Torres, Benj Mantele, Jayvee Javier, Jeff Tupas, Bong De Asis, Epoy Marayag, Gil Meneses, Emil Sarmiento, Arnold Perez, Bebs Manabat, Paco Francisco, Larry Dela Cruz, Prez Ces Ordoyno, Edmund Tan, Mandy Espineli (partly hidden), Tony Baraquiel, Mon Loria, Vic Caragan and Juni Carbonell.

three companies engaged in security and a trading corporation.

➤ Herbert Yambing is currently a Security Consultant to eight private companies and plays golf with Mistahs in his spare time.

➤ Cesar Yano is still working with the government since 2016 and is currently the Presidential Assistant - Chair, GPH Peace Implementing Panel for GPH-MILF Peace Agreement.

➤ Missing in Action with no contact at all is Willy Campos. Hope someday he will resurface and connect with us.

NAVY/COAST GUARD Group

Out of the 17 living Mistahs of the Navy, seven have been living abroad after retiring early from the service. Of the 10 who are based in the country, their status:

➤ Edgar "Bogs" Abogado used to work as Technical Manager of AMARR Marine Inc., and as Marine Manager of SOUTH PACIFIC Inc., but is now fully retired. His activities nowadays include playing golf, doing apostolic duty and being a full-time family driver.

➤ Mike Asuncion still works as an Honorable Judge since 2011 at the RTC of Antipolo, Branch 99. He has barely any time for love as he himself prepares decisions of his many cases. If some Mistahs will invite him out to relax, he is ready and willing daw. Calling the PNP Group. Hehehe...

➤ Hermie Colina is currently doing security and compliance consulting on the side when not playing golf and does apostolic duties looking after his grandchildren and traveling at times.

➤ Manding Guzman is currently a Senior Adviser/Consultant to two private companies. He prides on the achievements

of his kids with now two lawyers in the family. Buti na lang nagmana kay Ching!

➤ Mike "Ige" Rodriguez currently works in many capacities as Project Director of the National Govt Admin Center, New Clark City in Capas, Tarlac; as a Board Member and GM, New Clark Govt Center Corp; President, Gaqued y ang mga Cuyonon; Member of the Advisory Council of PNP Maritime Group; Member BOT and Pres, PFAC Foundation; and Member BOT and Vice Chairman, PFAC.

➤ Ed Tamayo currently is a Director of the Board of PETFI (PMAAAI Educational Foundation) and recently was elected as Trustee of AGFO to serve for three years until 2027.

➤ Edmund Tan serves as Director/Trustee of PMARAI, AGFO and AGFO Foundation, the Maritime League, and the CG Credit Cooperative, among others, aside from being the Class Secretary. He is quite busy but still manages his time operating his two companies as President/CEO: a trucking company and a shipping agency.

➤ Zyril Carlos and Mon Muyargas

have no updates while Tino Pereyra has been missing in action for quite a long time already. Hope he is fine and doing okay with his corny jokes.

AIR FORCE Group

The Air Force Mapitagans are all enjoying their retirement through a variety of activities, i.e., playing golf, local travels, foreign travels, and grandchildren duties.

➤ Ome Carbonell, after being a commercial pilot of PAL and Singapore Airlines for a long time, is now fully retired, travelling around with 2-wheels, 4-wheels, and even with no wheels. He enjoys his retirement by spending quality time with his grandchildren, mistahs, and friends.

➤ Larry "Cru" de la Cruz enjoys playing golf to keep his fitness. His well-tanned skin speaks for itself as to how often he plays golf.

➤ Nes Deona manages his retirement by playing golf, singing the karaoke, traveling, and enjoying lots of free time.

➤ Macky Macapagal, as a retiree and a Senior Citizen like all of us in the class, gets entertained by playing golf when not on duty with his apo. Macky beams with pride of his four children, who are all professionals.

➤ Douglas Macatol who lives in General Santos City, is non-entity in our activities.

➤ Epoy Marayag has been a home body since retirement, enjoying the comforts of his home and family.

➤ Romy Prado who has retired early from the service, is still reeling from the loss of his wife Elena but is slowly recovering from the pain and some woes.

➤ Eldon Nemenzo is an extraordinary miracle having to live this long after suffering from a stroke more than 10 years ago and is bedridden. We continue to pray for a miracle for Eldon to recover and live longer.

PNP Group

Those still working in the PNP Group are:

➤ Nick Bartolome who is fully retired and honored as the first Tarlaqueño to become C, PNP, still commutes between



Taken at the LNMB Mortuary before the interment of Mistah Noel Manabat (†) on 19 Dec 2024 (L-R): Emil Gupana, Manny Amat, Bong De Asis, Vic Caragan, Benj Mantele, Raffy Torres, Bebs Manabat, Nick Bartolome, Arnold Perez, Mae Mendoza, Ome Carbonell, Bogs Abogado, Buboy Salazar and Romy Palaroan.

Davao/Cotabato and Manila/Tarlac, working as a Consultant on Security Agency and Construction Company, while managing his agro-business and poultry farm.

➤ Gil Meneses is a practicing lawyer and advises some Mapitagens on legal matters, aside from serving as Chairman of PMAAAI Truth and Justice Foundation, as well as the Corporate Secretary of PMA Foundation.

➤ George Regis is the Executive Assistant, Department of Public Order and Safety of the Quezon City Local Government Unit.

➤ Efren Yebra is the founding Chairman of The Camarines Norte Minahang Bayan Consumers Cooperative. Together with Gil Meneses, Jeff Tupas and Dante Costes, formed the MYTC 80 (Meneses, Yebra, Tupas, Costes) Trading Corporation, to help the development of small-scale mining industry of Camarines Norte province through the establishment of "one stop mining shop;" and the submission of proposed amendments to the People's Small Scale Mining Act (RA 7076) which will regulate small scale mining operations.

The others have not worked anymore and fully retired but doing other things like: Sammy Diciano on his "apostolic" work in New York, same as Tony Baraquel, Vic Caragan, Bong DA, Leo Kison, Benj Mantele, Ager Ontog, Gil Pacia, Arnold Perez, Danny Siongco and Raffy Torres; Jayvee Javier paints in his spare time; Roque Ramirez is busy attending to his farm and resort in Labo, Camarines Norte; while others are part time-retired and part time golfers like Paco Francisco and Emil Sarmiento. Last time we heard is that Jufel Adriatico is busy managing his build-and-sell housing business; Fajie Fajardo and Nolet Ojeda are just plain houseboys (hehehe); while Romy Palaoan continues in trying to improve his singing at home. No word has been heard from Nelson Nario since his retirement in 2011.

Mistahs Living Abroad

➤ Oby Antonio is still working as Chiropractor and about to start his functional medicine practice in Wisconsin, USA.

➤ Mike Agudo is retired and living in Phoenix, with his wife Ruby. Both are taking care of their son with special needs.

➤ Jun Ancheta is in Richmond, Canada; retired and enjoys playing golf three times a week.

➤ Alex De Guzman and wife Cora are in Los Angeles, California; both still working as nurses.

➤ Noel Dominguez is contemplating of retiring in Catanduanes where he is building a vacation home which he hopes can withstand typhoons; and travel back and



The Mapitagens posing for posterity after the election of Gerry Layug as President of AGFO and Ed Tamayo as a Trustee in the AGFO Annual Membership Meeting and Election on 29 Nov 2024. In photo are (L-R): Ed Tamayo, George Regis, Gil Meneses, Bong Cabantac, Bong De Asis, Mae Mendoza, Nick Bartolome, Gerry Layug, Edmund Tan, Emil Sarmiento, Bogs Abogado, Arnold Perez and Ige Rodriguez.

forth to US (Fontana, CA) as his health may permit (God willing). He is enjoying life and living healthy while waiting for a grandkid.

➤ Gene Enriquez is in New York, undergoing physical therapy 3x a week, after a minor stroke. We pray for Gene's full recovery and healing.

➤ Timmy Garrido is in Richmond, Virginia; fully retired but babysits his grandkids, travelling between East and West Coast when requested.

➤ Tony Joco is in New York with wife Ruth, and is still working.

➤ Jess Lomeda is fully retired now and is currently based in Vancouver, Canada with wife Blue. If needed, Jess is still open to work in cybersecurity for the Philippine government.

➤ Delfin Lorenzo, Del is in California and still working . . .

➤ Bobbie Ramos is in Vienna together with Lou, fully retired but enjoys serving as "houseband" and "bodyguard" to his wifey who is the Administrative Officer and Attache at the Philippine Embassy thereat.

➤ Alan Sta Ana Allan is in California, perhaps still being chased by women (*or the other way around*). Hehehe...

➤ Van Solomon is in Miami, still working and maybe will retire in a few years. He has two kids and two grandkids.

➤ Edwin Talens with wife Marian, are in San Francisco as empty nesters. Both are still working. Their twins who graduated from the US Coast Guard Academy are now Lieutenant Senior Grades.

➤ Mervin Tiu is missing up to now, last known to be somewhere in Florida, USA.

➤ And last but not the least, Jack Yaakub, our Malaysian classmate, is living the life of a senior citizen in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. He has been following our postings in our viber groups and is even in contact with

some of our classmates. Hoping to see him again and join us in the PMA Homecoming 2025!

Mistahs Who Have Gone Ahead to the Great Beyond

Of the 111 of us that graduated as a Class on 18 Feb 1980, 22 of our dear classmates have gone ahead of us, namely:

1) Manny Arroyo (May 1984); 2) Jess Atoc (Aug 2023); 3) Nestor Bernardino (Feb 2005); 4) Ariel Bernardo ((Nov 2023); 5) Jose "Jun" Briones (Jul 1981); 6) Dippon Carado (May 2024); 7) Carlos "Caloy" Clet (Apr 2009); 8) Lito Cruz (Apr 2005); 9) Adrian Esplana (May 1981); 10) Martin Jubas (Feb 2008); 11) Deogracias Madriaga (Jul 1983); 12) Noel Manabat (Dec 2024); 13) Hermie Navarro (Mar 2015); 14) Ruben Noble (Sep 2011); 15) Santi Pascua (Jan 1994); 16) Silver Primero (Oct 2022); 17) Albert "Bushen" Rivera (Sep 1981); 18) Cecil Sandalo (Oct 2022); 19) Dick Sugon (Feb 2017); 20) Aurelio Tiangco (Aug 1981); 21) Herold "Jibs" Ubalde (Apr 2020); and 22) Eugenio "Jing" Velasco (Nov 2017). May they all continue to rest in eternal peace.

Message From Our Class President

"To my esteemed Mistahs, as we celebrate our 45 years since our graduation, let us reflect on the unwavering bonds, courage, and sacrifices that have defined our journey. Together, we have upheld the values instilled in us by the Philippine Military Academy. To all alumni, honorary and associate members of our noble institution, as we commemorate the Academy's 120th Anniversary, may we continue to honor its legacy by inspiring future generations to serve with integrity, loyalty, and excellence. To God be the honor and glory! Mabuhay ang Mapitagan! Mabuhay ang PMA!"





By the time this article is published, Christmas and the Year 2024 have passed for some time. But, the Dimalupig Spirit lives on as it gets stronger every year as they gather more fond memories that will warm their hearts for the remaining days of their lives. The yearend gathering of the Class at the Manila Polo Club was a blast!

As ever, the Manlulupigs can never be outdone in celebrating the occasion or

in other things for that matter. This was proven again when a Manlulupig beats a Dimalupig in a game of "Snatch that Glass." We could not thank more the Manlulupigs who, time and again, have proven their love for the Dimalupig Family and their zeal and vigor in preparing for our Class's gatherings.

The Dimalupigs have a lot to thank for in the past year. In a seeming deviation from the pattern where at our age, one or two members moved on to the next life every year, the class remained intact this year. The health of those infirm has continuously improved and continues to hang on and even joined the merriment. The continues exchange of notes by the members of the Class on health and well-being seems to pay dividend. Another reason to be thankful for is the Class, for

the nth time, retained its Runner-up Finish in the Senior Tac-O Category of the Game of the Cavaliers 2024 Golf Tour. They beat much younger classes of the 80's except one class who provide the challenge for the Class's golfers to improve their games.

As said in the previous Dimalupig Class Call, we are featuring class members who kept their relevance as public servants in government, private corporations, business and their 2nd profession. In this Class Call, we feature two Mistahs who silently serve the government and our countrymen without much fanfare. Again, the Class is paying tribute and expressing its pride in them for their roles and accomplishments in their respective organizations.

CAVALIER ANTONIO "TONY"
HABULAN is the present Executive Director





Cavalier Tony Habulan plays a crucial role in pursuit of the Commission's mandate especially in this time of tenuous condition in defending our rights in the West

of the Presidential Commission on Visiting Forces with the rank of Undersecretary. As Executive Director of PCVF, he has direct operational and supervisory authority over personnel from the concerned government agencies who may from time to time be detailed to the Commission to provide technical and administrative support. He ensures the respect for Philippine laws, state policies, public morals, customs and traditions and strict compliance with the provisions of the VFA and the rules and regulations promulgated by the concerned Departments and Agencies.

Philippine Sea.

CAVALIER ALAN LUGA is presently one of the longest serving members of Board of Trustees of the GSIS. He assumed office in November 2016 after a very productive two years stint as President of the AFP General Insurance Corporation. His reappointment as a member of the Board of Trustees of GSIS in January 2023 is a



testament of his excellent performance in his previous term. Cavalier Luga has for a sometime headed the Risk Oversight Committee (ROC) of GSIS. The Risk Oversight Committee (ROC) plays a crucial role in assisting GSIS Board of Trustees in the attainment of its vision of being a world class Pension Fund and Insurance Manager.

Cavalier Luga outside of GSIS is also a member of the Board of Directors of the Philippine National Construction Corporation (PNCC) and the National Reinsurance Corporation of the Philippines (NATRE).



FRANK MR MABANAG
President
BOB G QUENERY
Secretary

Greetings and Holiday Wishes from the Board of Directors and Class Officers

As we approach the Christmas season, we extend our heartfelt wishes for a meaningful and joyous celebration to each and every one of you. Our thoughts and prayers are with all members as we prepare for the upcoming holiday festivities. May you be in good health, find peace of mind, and enjoy harmony with those around you.

The year 2024 has been a time of busy preparations for our Ruby Anniversary in 2025. We are grateful that HQ PMA has kindly approved our request to celebrate this significant milestone on the very day of our graduation, **March 22, 2025**. The good news is that this date falls on a Saturday, making it all the more special.

To ensure that our Ruby Anniversary is a resounding success, we encourage everyone to coordinate with their designated class major service representatives and ramp up preparations for this memorable event. For detailed information, please refer to our Viber chat group. If you're not receiving updates

or need additional information, don't hesitate to reach out to the nearest Mistah for assistance.

Important Dates and Preparations:

- We anticipate that the class advance team will be joining our Baguio-based Mistahs two to three days before D-Day. The majority of the class is expected to travel to Baguio on **March 20th and 21st, 2025**. These dates will allow us to participate in pre-D-Day events, organized by respective battalions or company groups.
- **D-Day** (March 22, 2025) will feature several key activities:
- A **Thanksgiving Mass** to kick off the day
- A **remembrance ceremony** to honor our fallen and deceased members
- Commemorative activities in partnership with the Corps and PMA authorities
- We also plan to include a **"Pay Forward"** initiative to support PMA's ongoing facility

improvement efforts

- The day will culminate in an **Evening Dinner Dance** with our OAO sweethearts at a venue to be announced

Class Uniforms:

For those who opted to have their class uniform made through the designated tailor, please ensure that you meet with them soon to finalize your order. If you prefer to have your uniform tailored personally, kindly arrange to have the textile shipped to you as soon as possible. Our fellow **Sandiwatas** are already ahead of the curve and are actively coordinating their own preparations, so we encourage you to do the same. For any uniform-related inquiries, please contact **Tony Treñas** or your designated Major Service Representative.

Let's Make This Anniversary Unforgettable:

Let us all unite in supporting our Class Officers as we work together to make our Ruby Anniversary a day to remember—one that truly honors our shared history and accomplishments.

Wishing you all a peaceful, joy-filled, and prosperous New Year ahead!/*resty padilla*





EDWARD E CARRANZA
President
VICENTE G MAGARO
Secretary

A Humanitarian Mission to Distant Indigenous Tribe

A mission that takes ten (10) hours by land, from Baguio City to Sta. Ana, Cagayan, and another 8-9 hours of banca/pump boat ride, from Sta. Ana, Cagayan to Babuyan island, is a passion that our Sinagtalans had taken to heart. Often having to endure heavy rains, strong winds and big waves over the dangerous waters of the Pacific, an ocean usually navigated by bigger boats and ships, surely is a gruelling task only those courageous enough are willing to undertake. Every year, a group of Love Gift Mission Christian volunteers composed of physicians, dentists, and retirees, embarks on a humanitarian mission at the Babuyan island, in the Northern most part of the Philippines. The medical and dental mission has brought comfort and necessary assistance to the Ibatan tribe, the primary inhabitants of the islands, and has opened doors of opportunity to reach out and share the gospel of salvation to our indigenous brothers and sisters. Among the faithful volunteers is our very own mistah, Sam



Felix. Sam is a retired navy Rear Admiral and navy SEAL operative. His passion to help alleviate the living condition of

the marginalized and neglected Ibatans and his personal mission of actively participating in the work of the Lord, have driven him to this cause. Sam's involvement in this endeavour has reached its third year last 2024, and he is far from giving up. Unbeknownst to many, some Sinagtalans here and abroad have also shown their support in ways that effectively contributed to the success of this humanitarian mission. Their personal donation in cash and in kind helped meet the needs of the Ibatans.

Yuletide Celebration

As a way to celebrate the Yuletide season, Sinagtalans and their ladies gathered for a Christmas party last December 9, 2024 at the Social Hall of Villamor Air Base Golf Clubhouse. The occasion served to share a moment of joy, love, and togetherness among Sinagtalans, that seeks to further strengthen the bond among them. Of the 127 who were expected to attend, only 76 including those who registered onsite arrived. Nonetheless, it's truly a pleasure to see them all with a cheerful





smile on their faces as they gather to celebrate the most wonderful time of the year. The program began with Vic Magaro giving the invocation which was followed immediately by a welcome remarks of Cris Tumanda. One of the exciting parts of the program was a raffle draw where cash and assorted prizes were raffled off for

all mistahs and spouses-representatives present. This gesture exemplifies the spirit of giving and sharing which are the true essence of the Yuletide celebration, that brought joy and fulfilment to every Sinagtalan present that night. On top of that, cash gifts were likewise given away. Ludy Dela Paz gave the message in lieu

of Ted Carranza who had a pressing prior commitment to his constituents in Silang, Cavite, where he serves as local chief executive. A night of dancing ensued with dance instructors around leading mistahs and their ladies on the dance floor. As the end of term of current class officers draws near, the class decided to select a new set of class representatives for CY 2025 to 2027. They are as follows: Rey Aquino and Fred Soriano for PA; Gems Molina and Cris Cabangbang for PAF; Bob Empedrad and Jun Misolas for PN; Ato Angara and Edmund Gonzales for PNP; and DJ De Jesus and Cesar Padigdig for the Associate Members. Soon, they will choose the class officers from among themselves.

Sinagtala Mourns for its Losses

It is with sadness to announce the demise of our mistah Emmanuel "Enel" Privado who succumbed to cardiac arrest last November 1, 2024. He is survived by his wife Beth and three children namely: Jepoy, Edward and Jilian whom he regard as his greatest treasures. He will be remembered for his genuine smile and for being relaxed and composed, even in stressful situations. We also share the grief of some mistahs whose loved ones passed away: Bert Ocon's wife Maricel, Art Biyo's father Dioscoro; Dick Caballes' mother, and Choly Cabanban's mother Chit.





FERNAN T TRINIDAD
President
TOINKS H VALENCIA
Class Historian

Happy New Year to all Hinirangs!!!

Looking back, there are lot of things to be thankful for last year, as a class and individually. We have done very well, and kudos to the Class Officers and the many very active members who are there to support every class event and endeavor – I am proud to be a Hinirang. Let us build on these positive achievements, enjoin more mistahs to come out of their relaxing shells, and all together we will make 2025 a more fun, prosperous and fulfilling year.

In compliance to the Editor in Chief, let me share the whereabouts of the mistahs.

Alfred Corpuz describes his work as “consultant at large.” Rommel Jason Galang is Senior Vice President for Security Management and Chief Security Officer of Union Bank of the Philippines. Eric Kagaoan is with Paramount Security Company. Ramiro Manuel Rey is Vice President for Security of Converge ICT Solutions Incorporated. George Ursabia is a Consultant in Maritime Industries and is based in Polomolok, South Cotabato. Raul Vinoya is a Director of AFPOVAL. Chet Valencerina is AFPSLAI Vice Chairman and Independent Trustee. Amber Pagtalunan is Legal Counsel of Baliwag Navigation Group of Companies. Ross Sarmiento is Head, Safety, and Protection of Kerry Logisticus and at the same time Chief Adviser to the President of Oceanwave Service Incorporated. Rey Dela Cruz is a Consultant of Israel Aerospace Industries. Ronnie Nieva is with PAL Express as A320/321 Captain / Simulator Instructor and at the same time a Synthetic Flight Instructor/Consultant of Alpha Aviation Group Philippines.

In DITO Telecommunity Corporation, Romy Basco is the Director for Security and with him in the security department are Jimmy Hidalgo who handles NCR, Errol Gironella for North and Central Luzon as well as the Cordilleras, Ramon “Cupcake” Linasan for Visayas is based in Cebu, Jumar Tajon for Central Samar, and Brigido Unay for Leyte.

Rommel Jude Ong serves as Professor of Praxis with the Ateneo School of Government while Jun Caparas is Vice President for Administration of Collegio de Montalban.

Vince Soberano focuses on his production company and real estate investment company, both operating in Taiwan and Philippines with clients worldwide. Jun Yambao is a Data Scientist of a big market research firm based in the US. Arnold Altuna II is still with the United Nations Department for Safety and Security of the UN Secretariat and is responsible for seven countries in southern Africa.

Cliff Empiso is the ultimate ulirang retiree in Auckland, New Zealand mowing their lawn, cleaning house daily, driver, dishwasher, and jack of all trades. Enjoying his retirement to the max is Rene Aspera based in Iloilo. Jojo Bueno spends much time pampering and spoiling his grandchildren in Pangasinan. Wilson Reyes also prioritized his “Apostolic” duties. Mao Aplasca is full-time driver and golfer based in Manila. William “Poopsie” Alunday is relaxing in Cavite City pursuing unnamed passions. Nongnong Nagrampa is now a cycling enthusiast while Ringo Licup is honing his farming skills (to say the least). Other mistahs relaxing and maximizing time with their family in Manila are Joey Absalon, Ding Carreon, Guillor Eleazar, Eric Vinoya, and Erwin De Asis. Tatang Corpuz is house arrest or houseboy.

Val Baraquo gave an interesting complete response. “Bok, retired na ako since year 2021. I have been an OFW for 26 years in Saudi Arabia as an IT professional in five banks. In Saudi also, I was a servant of the Lord Jesus, pastor for 16 years in an underground Christian Church (it is prohibited to practice other faith except Islam). Aside from enjoying time now with my family in the Philippines, I am actively involved in a Christian Church (Fisher’s of Men Koinonia) leading the men’s ministry.” Well for me, ganyan ang sagot – complete life story! Hehehehe

The following continue to serve the country in various capacities in government: Reynaldo Michael EM Agoncillo II, is Executive Assistant IV (Culture and Arts) and concurrent Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Officer of Sual, Pangasinan; Arnel Alambra, Chief Legal Counsel, GSIS; Roberto T Ancan, Sergeant at Arms, Senate 19th Congress; Giovanni Carlo J Bacordo, Undersecretary, Department of Energy; Loumer P Bernabe, Regional Director, LTRFB, DOTr; Jose A. Briones Jr., Assistant Secretary, Deputy Administrator/ OIC, Office for Transportation Security, OTS-DOTr; Jaime J Bustamante, Assistant Head for INTERPOL Border Control and Intel Unit, Intel Division Bureau of Immigration; Israel Ephraim T Dickson, Assistant Secretary, DDGA, PDEA; Jess Estoesta, Board of

Director of DBP Leasing Corporations; Bob Lardizabal is working for APO Production Unit, a government printing office (GOCC) under Presidential Communication Office; Rey Lyndon T. Lawas, City Councilor, Dumaguete City, Negros Oriental; Walter Partosa, Deputy Administrator, Management Services Group, MWSS-CO; Ramon Evan T. Ruiz, RD, TESDA Region VII; Rommel G. Salamanca, Special Police Area Supervisor, Enforcement Group, BOC; Manolo M Samarita, Director 111, BOC; Cesar Sarno is a Senate Consultant; Peter Suchianco, Chief, Judge Advocate General’s Service, Reserve and Consultant to OPP, DND; Fernando T Trinidad - Technical Advisor to the Governor, Central Bank; and Cornelio “Toinks” Valencia Jr., Assistant Director General (ADG), Plans and Knowledge Management Services, National Security Council.

In DND, we have Henry A Robinson Jr, Assistant Secretary, Plans and Programs and Reno Tolentino, Director for Administrative Services. In the Office of Civil Defense OCD, we have Ariel F. Nepomuceno, Administrator and Undersecretary; Eugene Gepte, Director, Civil Defense and Disaster Management Training Institute; Albert Mogol, Regional Director, Cordillera Administrative Region; and Donato Sermenon, Regional Director, Negros Island Region

So far these are what I have gathered on the whereabouts of the Mistahs. Information that would come after the target date will be included in the next issue. Please advise mistahs to send their details to me in Viber. Better still, bring them to attend our quarterly socials.

On significant events, golf exploits are always welcome news.

Congratulations!!! We won!!! The Hinirang Team successfully defended the Championship of the Battle of the Classes Golf Tournament Jurado Cup 2024 held in Florida last November. Kudos to Alfred Corpus, Nick Parilla, Cliff Empiso, Lye Carabacan, Fajie Fajardo, Orly Macatlang and Jun Villanueva. The Jurado Cup 2025 will be held in Houston Texas.

Interestingly, upon arrival in the Philippines, hataw na naman ang mga golfers. With jet lag and hangover, Fajie won two trophies (1st Runner-up Class B and Champion Team Event Class B) at the 1st District Engineers League of the Philippines (DELP) Golf Tournament, Alta Vista Golf Club, Cordova, Cebu last 22 November 2024. On the same day in Laguna, Mao Aplasca was wreaking havoc in the Founder’s Cup of San Beda Law Golf Club held in Canlubang Golf and Country



Club. He was declared undisputed Class A Champion!

Meanwhile last November 24 at the VABGC Clubhouse, Amber Pagtalunan proudly carried the Hinirang name when

he was proclaimed winner and awarded the Championship Trophy in the Guest Category of the Games of Cavaliers 2024.

In the Yearend Earlybirds Golf Tournament, "humakot" na naman ng

awards ang Hinirang. On Special Awards, Sean Villa won longest drive with 270 yards distance. On Individual Awards, Mike Evangelista - Group A Champion, Mao Aplasca - Lowest Net Champion, Jojo Vera Cruz - Group A Runner-up, Greg Lim - Group B Champion and Jimmy Hidalgo - Group B Runner-up. Literally, hinakot pati raffle (hehehe): Mao - 45" Sharp smart TV, Eric - Asahi Electric Oven, Raul - Imarflex Vacuum Cleaner, Jojo VC - Everest Refrigerator, Nats Casem - Stove and Sean Villa - Automatic Washing Machine.

More than golf, the Hinirang Christmas Party and Fellowship held at Valle Verde was a gem to remember. The opening number was new and stunning - the Hinirang Beauties rendered a mass folk dancing, which was totally unexpected. Then from the sweet and smooth motions, a surprising quick music change signaling the change to modern mass dancing - fast paced and full of energy. It is a good thing these were captured in video, something we can look back in the future.

The games the ladies organized were also crazy - like changing clothes while tossing a balloon high in the air and their version of "hawak tuhod - balikat" ... it would suffice to say, it made the evening fun. I suggest more games in the next socials.



Many thanks to our ladies, there was much artistry in the venue design, especially the stage design. The food was fantastic and still at the end there were extras to bring home and share. Thank you also to mistahs who distributed their gifts and those who donated food, beverage and others to ensure the success of the gathering.

Well, that is all for now. I cannot add more per guidance of the Editor in Chief – may maximum number of words ngayon. The number of pictures to be posted here is also limited, please continue sending me copies of your pictures for our data base.

In 2025, marami na naman ang madaragdag sa listahan ng Senior Citizens. Look forward to the 20% discount, free movies and many freebies. We don't look our age, we act our age – we define ourselves!

Happy New Year to all, let us make this year special. See you in the Homecoming!!!



DENNIS GODFREY F GAMMAD
President
CRISOSTOMO S BAS JR
Secretary

The members of the BIGKIS LAHI class of 1990 are always serious of the outcome of the Game of Cavaliers. This is normal for us being the overall champion in this tournament twice (in 2021 and 2023). For 2024, the class is not as lucky as in these previous years, but has made strides to be the best in four trophy categories: (1) Tactical Officer's Division Champion by Noel Beleran; (2) Tactical Officer's Division Team Champion; (3) Tactical Officer's Division Runner-up by Rommel Tello, and; (4) Retired Division Overall Team Champion.

Around 45 members of the class signified to play in this tournament; but only the best six participants made it to the championship games.

The 9TEE Golf Club officers and members are significant in the success of this tournament, as competing players or in the generous uniform provision. Preparations for this tournament include organized practice games done both locally and abroad. The Vietnam golf travel was indeed highly participated by 14 classmates, tagging along with them their respective spouses.



Likewise, one of the highlights of the local golf practices is the golf class project dubbed: 3rd BIGKIS LAHI GOLF TOURNAMENT 2024 made at the Couples Course of the Riviera Golf Club in Silang, Cavite on 28 November 2024. This project

was organized and led by Benjie Hao and Toods Detoayo.

The success of the project can be attributed to the unwavering support of the members of the class in generating sponsors and ticket sales. Coupled





with cost effective management by the organizers and administrators ensured the optimal value and financial outcome of the project. The hard work and striving among class members on this project will surely pay-off as benefits for target beneficiaries, and success to pursuits of class objectives.



Nothing beats class gatherings as retired and active members meet for pleasantries about their respective whereabouts. The recent was the class Christmas Party which was considered as one of the highly attended class events for quite some time. Mistahs, spouses, brats and widows were numerically present. It was held at the Army Officer's Clubhouse on 07 December 2024. The joyous celebration was made possible by our gracious host Roy and Rina Galido plus the event moderation of Benjie Hao along with his CMO team. Activities include cocktails, dinner, games, exchange gift, raffle, recognition of retirees, dancing

lessons and Zumba. The dance lesson was specially made in preparation for the homecoming ball.

The party ended with the message of PDennis with emphasis on: good health for everyone, strengthening of the bond between mistahs, spouses and brats, and to always bring prestige and glory to the class. He also emphasized the importance of getting on-board those mistahs and widows, whose attendance are surely missed; that to connect and convince them to attend the 2025 PMA Alumni Homecoming would certainly be a pleasurable experience.





RONIE D PETINGLAY
President
ULYSSES S MARQUEZ
Secretary

MAALAB na pagbati ng **Maligayang Pasko** at **Manigong Bagong Taon 2025!**

The Maalab Class of 1993 shouts for joy when several Mistahs had received new designations before the year 2024 ends. This means another STARS fallen on their shoulders and an added achievement of the Maalab class. Among the few and the proud Maalabs are as follows:

- **MGen Ulysses "Marquepix" Marquez PAF** – Chief of Air Staff, PAF
- **BGen Adolfo "Espueng" Espuelas PA** – Cmdr, 402nd Brigade, PA
- **BGen Angelito "Tootz" Retuta PAF** – Wing Cmdr, TOWNOL, PAF
- **Commo Vincent "Vince" Sibala PN** – Cmdr, Naval Forces West, AFP
- **Commo Ireneo "Bates" Battung PN** – Cmdr, Sealift Amphibious Force
- **BGen Alexei Musñgi PA** – Director, Project and Modernization Management Center, PA
- **BGen Elmer "Tex" Suderio PA** – Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations, J3
- **Capt Zosimo "McBo" Bolaños Jr PN** – Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel, AJ1
- **Capt Joselito "Guchi" De Guzman PN** – Commander, Naval Forces Central, PN
- **BGen Christopher "Chris" Tampus PA** – Assistant Division Commander, 11ID, PA

The Year 2024 was also so kind to the Maalabs as the blessings of the Award of Recognitions were given to some of the snappy Maalabs and they are as follows:

- The Outstanding Achievement Medal (OAM) was awarded to **Maalab**



BGen Ronald Jess "Baron" Alcudia PA in recognition of his extraordinary and distinguished achievements as the proponent and lead Subject Matter Expert for the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) training program within the Department of National Defense (DND) and Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP). This program was established under Republic Act No. 9163, series of 2002, which created the National Service Training Program (NSTP) for tertiary-level students.

- The Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) under the snappy Maalabs lead by their indefatigable and visionary Commandant **Maalab PCG Admiral Ronnie Gil Gavan** became the first government agency to

convert their IDs into a smart beep-enable card. Their IDs will not only have state-of-the-art security features, they also are now electronic wallets that can be used for transit and other micro-payments. This was being realized through the help of snappy **Maalab JJ Moreno**.

• **Maalab BGen Elmer "Tex" Suderio PA**, Commander of the 102nd Infantry Brigade, was honored during the 6th anniversary of the NTF-ELCAC. The recognition was given to Maalab Tex in acknowledgment of Joint Regional Task Force-ELCAC Region IX in dismantling the Western Mindanao Regional Party Committee (WMRPC) of the Communist Party of the Philippines-New Peoples Army (CPP-NPA). Through the brilliant effort of Maalab Tex, the WMRPC was officially declared dismantled, marking the first time in over 50 years of the country's counterinsurgency campaign.

A number of Maalabs and Maalabelles came together to witness the church wedding and renewal of vows of **Maalab Col Arthur "Romnick" and Maalabelle Joselyn "Ose" Romanillos** in celebration of their 25th Wedding Anniversary on 10 December 2024 held at St. Michael The Archangel Chapel, Fort Andres Bonifacio, Taguig City. The ceremony was followed by a reception at the Philippine Army Officers' Clubhouse within the Headquarters Philippine Army, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City. To Romnick



and Jo, congratulations and best wishes to both of you and may our Lord God Almighty continue to bless and guide you of your marriage relationship and as you struggle with the rigors of married life.

The entire Maalab family congratulates and rendered a snappy salute to a well-accomplished **Maalab Col Nicolas "NiQ" Quemado Jr PA** as he retired from the active military service and handed his uniform to become a fulltime houseband of team Quemado. The Army Maalabs honored NiQ with a simple dinner in recognition to his selfless service and countless contribution to the Philippine Army, Armed Forces of the Philippines and to the Philippine nation as a whole.

As 21 March 2025 approaches, the Maalab Class of 1993 proudly marks its 32 years since graduation. This momentous

occasion provides an opportunity to reflect on the remarkable journey of each member and the countless contributions they have made in both military and civilian spheres.

The legacy of the Maalab Class of 1993 extends beyond professional accolades. Their personal lives are a testament to their values and dedication to building strong families. Many have celebrated milestones such as anniversaries, children's graduations, and the birth of grandchildren, all of which underline the enduring bonds of family.

As everyone celebrate this milestone, the Maalab Class of 1993 reaffirms our commitment to serving both God and country. Our collective vision is rooted in gratitude for the blessings we have received and a renewed resolve to be

instruments of positive change.

Through charitable initiatives, mentorship programs, and community engagement, we are poised to continue making an impact. This celebration is not just a reunion but also a call to action—a reminder of our responsibility to give back and leave a legacy of service.

The Maalab Class of 1993 stands united as we look to the future. We remain a beacon of inspiration, showing how shared experiences and lasting friendships can create a ripple effect of positive change. This 32nd year of graduation is not just a celebration of the past but also a celebration of the endless possibilities ahead.

Maalab na pagbati sa ating 32nd Graduation Anniversary! Mabuhay ang Maalab Class of 1993!





NOEL A LAURIO
President
BEN C DOMINGO III
Secretary

Midlife... what the Masinags have are not really crises but challenges that make for good stories.

We already have started to really choose our battles. Most evident choice are the kinds of physical activities we engage. Lesser high impact sports and more of the “walking and talking” type, golf stereotypically comes as the first choice for most of us, but only for those who can afford the equipment and the fees that come along with it. (I still have to see a golf course where one can play for free.) The Masinag golfers have started 2025 with a loud “Fore”, and considering that Elvira Digay still is the PNGC manager, I think we ought to really maximize this opportunity.

Biking still remains to be another good option. Less stress on the ankles and knees, but it needs a lot of getting used to that hard saddle. May it be a mountain bike, a gravel bike or a road racer, it is an outdoor activity that allows us to temporarily leave the confines of our house and offices. But, it also requires a lot of courage especially if bike rides are around the metro, since bicycle riders have always been considered as second class citizens when it comes to use of public roads. Bikers have to struggle around maze of pedestrians, commuters waiting by the streetside (if not by the road itself), crisscrossing motorcycle riders and impatient four-wheel drivers who tend to occupy the bike lane when overtaking. But biking has its perks, for it takes one to places that are rarely accessed by car, and the best thing is that it is free. As a safety reminder, try to remain visible with the use of lights and reflective clothing, especially when one wants to ride from dusk til dawn.

Water sports are also good choices especially that summer is coming. From swimming to scuba diving to free diving, all we need are the right swimming gears so that we can get protected from hypothermia (yes, we are prone to get it since with old age

comes colder bodies). Swimming pools always give us that opportunity to share bodily fluids with all those in the pool, and with several gulps of chlorinated pool water, it also is a good option rather than drinking alcohol. Freediving calls for larger lungs and a keen ability to decompress. Moreover, never forget safety stops when ascending in order to prevent Bends or Nitrogen narcosis. What one truly needs when diving is confidence to keep one calm underwater. There is another world underwater waiting to be discovered! And for those who are here in Metro Manila, Batangas Bay offers good dive sites. (I'll try to find some reliable dive masters to recommend to the Masinags.)

Least appreciated low impact sports is walking. It is also free and the only thing one has to struggle with is boredom since it takes twice the time needed when one is jogging/running. Military camps



are designed to be pedestrian-friendly and since summer is fast approaching, there is no alibi not to walk outdoors. I recommend getting yourself that bone conductor headset and listen to podcasts while walking. It is a very good alternative to actual lectures, homily or nagging voices (peace!). I also recommend trail hiking. Mount Makiling in UPLB offers a novice friendly hike up to Mudspring. Bring your own fresh eggs and boil it (just don't inhale the sulfur emitted by the mudpool). Hapunan Banoi in Rodriguez, Rizal is also a good choice. Just wear gloves for protection since hikers have to hold on to sharp rock edges along the way.

Indoor gym activities are also getting quite popular recently. Trainings supervised by credible coaches are very effective in achieving desired results (from weight loss to muscle growth... huwag ka ng umasa na popogi o gaganda ka at hindi gym ang kailangan mo). Just ask Bumbum Ordang, she underwent some rigorous training regimen and now she looks ready to have another baby again! (Joke!)

Staying hydrated and properly nourished is also a key. Diet restrictions are not usually necessary, unless it is prescribed by the dietician/coach after a thorough physical examination by a physician. Morale support plays an essential role, too since it provides that drive and added motivation to pursue something that our bodies are not used to anymore.

Bottomline is, I encourage everyone to stay healthy. No amount of stars on your shoulders or money in your pockets can equal the wealth that good health brings. This 2025, let us start it right by staying fit and healthy.

Fore!!!





MARION B CAYAT
President
REYNIR S NIRZA
Secretary

Raising Hope and Changing Lives of Former Violent Extremists' Dependents: Banyuhay 2002 Initiative

In a society where transitioning from conflict to peace is typically filled with challenges, a remarkable initiative is making a difference. By blending the spirit of sportsmanship with community-driven advocacy, the PMA "Banyuhay" Class of 2002 opened the portals of hope to the dependents and families of Former Violent Extremists (FVEs) through a "Shootfest-for-a-Cause" to fund scholarship grants. This worthy endeavor not only promotes healing and empowerment but also creates opportunities for long-term peace and prosperity.

The Birth of an Idea

The idea of this noble cause started from a simple yet powerful belief of the class- that everyone, regardless of their background, deserves a chance at a better future. Many families who have been victims of violent extremism find themselves caught between the scars of the past and the uncertainties of their reintegration into society. For them, education is the key to personal empowerment and lasting peace. By combining the advocacy for responsible gun ownership of Senator Robinhood "Robin" C Padilla, an honorary member of the class, to fund scholarships,

the initiative of the class has created a distinctive platform that not only excites gun enthusiasts but also fosters social change. This endeavor brings together a diverse group of individuals—former rebels, community leaders, philanthropists, and sports enthusiasts – all united by a shared purpose, that is, providing educational opportunities for those who have endured some of life's greatest challenges.

Scholarship as a Gateway to New Beginnings

The scholarship grants, funded by the "MISTAH SHOOTFEST: THE ROBINHOOD PADILLA CUP," are vital lifelines for the former rebels and their families to rebuild their lives through education. As such, an essential partnership with the Isabela City National High School through the principal and faculty was instituted to administer scholarship grants for the dependents of FVEs who are currently enrolled in said school. The scholarship package covers monthly stipends and other necessary expenses to support their attendance and completion of education up until their Senior High School graduation. The grant is far more than just financial assistance, instead, it offers a transforming opportunity to reshape the future, overcome previous challenges and hardships, and create significant contributions not just to society but also to the lives of other people who were once "victims" of violent extremism.

Catalyzing Change Through Unity and Compassion

The initiative of the PMA "Banyuhay" Class of 2002, as derived from its class name "Bagong Anyo ng Buhay," signifies a new beginning and righteous change which

exemplifies the profound impact of how synergy transforms lives and adds value to other people regardless of their race and belief. Although the class was deeply saddened by the loss of one of their beloved "Mistah" in 2017 during the Marawi Crisis—tragically killed by members of the Daulah Islamiya and Abu Sayaff Group (ASG) who pledged allegiance to the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) and comrades of the FVEs in Basilan- they chose not to dwell on anger or seek vengeance. Instead, they turned their grief into a source of strength, using the adversity they faced as a catalyst for positive change. Under the leadership of Cavalier Marion B. Cayat, Class President, the class focused on harnessing the strength of their shared commitment to transformation and healing toward the road to peace. With the collective efforts and support from the honorary members, the advocacy to provide scholarship grants to the dependents of FVEs not only opened doors and opportunities for a better future but also serve as long-term investments for the well-being and prosperity of the country. Through unity, empathy, love, and a shared commitment to peace, the class became a beacon of hope to the dependents and families of the FVEs and demonstrated the ability of the fortunate to help vulnerable minorities and victims of past conflicts to reshape their future, regain a sense of purpose, and reintegrate meaningfully into mainstream society which fosters inclusion and social cohesion.

Hence, the PMA "Banyuhay" Class of 2002 remains committed to its advocacy for a more inclusive and positive future in which every individual from all walks of life is given a chance to reinvent his future for hope and a successful life.



MARK ANTHONY S TITO
President
MIRA JOY B ANDAWI
Secretary

PMA "BAGWIS" Class of 2012

As we step into the year 2025, let's carry forward the memories we've made and embrace the opportunities ahead. This year, let's put our health—both physical and mental – at the top of our priority list. I bet this has always been part of most, if not all, New Year's resolutions. Let us all endeavor to commit to nourishing our

bodies with wholesome foods, staying active, and getting enough rest.

Equally important, of course, is cultivating a positive mindset. Let's all practice gratitude, mindset shifts, and show ourselves self-compassion. Cheers to a year of vibrant health and an empowered mindset!

Going back to a few weeks ago, a mistah was recognized for her relentless work. Congratulations to LT DANAH MARIE N AGRAVIO PN for having been adjudged as the Best Junior Officer of the Year 2024 during the celebration of CEISSAFP 26th Founding Anniversary at Headquarters CEISSAFP, Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City on 21

November 2024. Additionally, a day prior, she received a Plaque of Recognition as the Best AFP Signal Corps Junior Officer of the Year 2024 for her outstanding and excellent performance of duties and responsibilities as Executive Officer, 202nd CECO 2CEISG, Communication Electronics and Information System Service, AFP. The award was presented during the 89th Anniversary Celebration of the AFP Signal Corps at Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City.

In the first quarter of 2024, we regret that we were unable to properly acknowledge another mistah. Please allow us to take this opportunity to do so now. Congratulations to MAJ PAUL RAMIL L LLANES PAF, for being named the AFP

Adjutant General Service Officer of the Year 2023. This honor was presented during the celebration of the 88th Adjutant General's Service Anniversary on February 1, 2024, at Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City.

Congratulations, Danah and Paul! This well-deserved recognition highlights your exceptional contributions to the AFP. Your hard work and dedication are truly inspiring! And to all our mistahs, whether recognized or not, keep shining in your chosen fields of specialization.



LT AGRAVIO PN is flanked by (L-R) BGEN WALTER ICARO, RADM FELIPE F BAUTISTA and LTGEN AUGUSTINE MALINIT (photo courtesy of the AFP Official FB Page)



MAJ LLANES PAF after receiving his Plaque of Recognition during the 88th AGS Anniversary.



NICOLE L AYNERA
President
LEAN ARSEN N SADURAL
Secretary

Greetings to all Madasigons!

Nearly two years after their graduation from the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) last 21 May 2023, the proud 311 members of **PMA Class of 2023** have continued to serve the nation with Courage,

Integrity, and Loyalty, demonstrating the values instilled in them during their rigorous training at Fort Del Pilar. As commissioned officers of 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 defense and security needs.

Since their commissioning into the AFP, 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 LOPEZ PAF** was the first who have had his first ever solo flight flying the T-41 Aircraft of the Philippine Air Force last 18 April 2024, he led the 29 strong Madasigons in the MPT class 2026. At present, there are also 19 PAF Madasigons from MPT Class 2027.

In the Philippine Navy, the alums 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/2LTs, currently undergoing 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 five aspiring MADASIGON Naval Air Wing Aviators have undergone their Naval Air Warfare Basic Officers Course at NBHA, Sangley Pt. Cavite as these dedicated Nuggets (Newbies of Naval Aviation) of NAW graduated last 02 July 2024 **namely ENS NAZARENO PN for 4th rank, ENS SADURAL PN for 5th, ENS FONTE PN as 7th, ENS SANTOS PN for 8th, and ENS REFORBA PN for 9th.** Subsequently, these Aviators would undergo their Basic Pilot Training as part of NAWs training curriculum for its Pilots as they will earn their Wings badge by graduating flying the Cessna 152, 172F, and finally the 172S before deployment to NAWs Major Aircrafts.

In the Philippine Army, Madasigons have been deployed across various areas of the

country, from Mindanao's Forest Ranges to Visayas' Jungles, and to Luzon's mountains. They actively engage in counterterrorism operations, civil-military operations, and peace and order in conflict-prone areas.

One of the most notable achievements from our Army group are the graduates of Special Forces Combat Qualification Course 24-2024 conducted by the Special Forces School of the Special Forces Regiment at Fort Magsaysay, Nueva Ecija. The course lasted for 33 weeks from 12 April to 02 December 2024. These army 2LTs graduated in honors as led by **2LT LOGRONIO PA** being the Top 1, and followed by **2LT ALBANO PA** for 2nd, **2LT REYES PA** for 3rd, and **2LT TUBALADO** for 4th, and **2LT MORALES PA** for 8th. Other graduates namely are **2LT VALEROSO PA, 2LT DANGUILAN PA, 2LT OLARVE, 2LT GONGONA PA, 2LT GONZALES PA, 2LT AGANA PA, and 2LT NOVISTEROS PA.**

It is evident that the PMA Class of 2023 alumni are already creating a significant influence in their individual branches and units. Their dedication to defending the nation is steadfast, and the principles they

uphold from Fort Del Pilar—Courage, Integrity, and Loyalty—remain a guiding force in their service as they confront the challenges posed by a constantly changing global security environment. In the years ahead, the PMA Class of 2023 leaders will certainly take on even more significant duties. They are anticipated to take essential roles in the modernization initiatives of the Armed Forces and aid in enhancing regional security alliances. Their leadership abilities, refined through training at the top military academy in the Philippines, guarantee a future of enhanced professionalism and excellence in the Armed Forces of the Philippines. As they advance in their military journeys, the Class of 2023 members continue to be a point of pride for the PMA, the Armed Forces, and the whole country. Their existing accomplishments are merely the starting point of what is bound to become an esteemed legacy of service and leadership. To every Graduate of PMA class 2023, may God guide your path, and may you consistently lead still with tremendous Honor and Excellence, that is the signature of every MADASIGON. 

"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." – Joshua 1:9

LAST CALL

COL ALEXANDER O NOBLE '69

30 Jan 1948 - 05 Dec 2024

Cav Noble passed away on 5 December 2024 in Cagayan de Oro. He was 76. Cav Noble – a man who was not just one person, but many: a soldier, a revolutionist, a poet, an artist, an idealist, a rebel, a datu, and a deeply spiritual being. A service was held at Padua Chapel, Cosmopolitan Memorial Chapel, Cagayan de Oro City from Dec 5-8, 2024. Inurnment was held at the Libingan ng mga Bayani, Taguig City.



PBGEN NOEL V MANABAT '80

29 July 1955 - 11 Dec 2024

Cav Manabat joined our Creator on 11 December 2024. The necrological service was held in the evening of 16 December at the Cosmopolitan Chapels, Araneta Avenue, Quezon



City where his remains had lain in repose. On 19 December 2024, he was finally laid to rest at the Libingan Ng Mga Bayani.

PMGEN RONALD D RODEROS '75

02 Mar 1954 – 04 Jan 2025

Cav Roderos passed away on 04 January 2025. He left behind his wife Arlene and children Kristina and Ronald Allan. Wake was held at Our Lady of China Chapel, Sacred Heart Church, Jakosalem St., Cebu City from 05 to 07 January. Inurnment was on 08 January at the Columbarium/Sanctuary of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Sacred Heart Church. His last position held in PNP was as Director of the Directorate for Police Community Relations at NHQ, PNP.



RADM RUDYARD M SOMERA '92

29 Aug 1968 – 09 Jan 2025

Former Director of Coast Guard Strategic Studies and International Affairs Center, Cav

Somera passed away on 09 January 2025 of Septic shock. He left behind his loving wife Maria Corazon with whom he had two children, Lester Raj and Zigfreid Roi. Wake was held at Trenchera, Tayug, Pangasinan and St. Patrick of Ireland Parish Church, Tayug, Pangasinan.



MGJEN JET JOEL B VELARMINO '82

06 Oct 1960 – 26 Jan 2025

Cav Velarmino passed away on 26 Jan 2025. Wake was held at Gamalinda Funeral Homes, Pagadian City. The requiem mass took place on 01 Feb at St. Nino Cathedral followed by the interment at Chrysanthemum Memorial Garden, Pagadian City. Cav Velarmino left behind his wife Imelda and children: Jason Karl; Atty. Jaynard and wife Atty. Ma. Feliza Anne. 





CHIEF OF STAFF
ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES
 Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City



Message

I offer my warmest greetings to the distinguished members of the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) Alumni Association, Inc., on the occasion of the PMA's 2025 Alumni Homecoming.

The PMA Alumni Homecoming stands as a testament to the strong bonds, unwavering courage, and shared commitment of our Cavaliers in the service of our nation. It is a time to honor traditions, celebrate achievements, and rekindle the spirit of camaraderie that has shaped our journey as servant-leaders.

The Armed Forces of the Philippines remains steadfast in its pursuit of excellence and service to our country – a mission upheld by generations of Cavaliers who embody courage, integrity and loyalty.

I extend my heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to all PMA Alumni for a meaningful and memorable 2025 PMA Alumni Homecoming.

Mabuhay ang PMA!

Mabuhay ang ating mga Cavaliers!

Mabuhay ang Pilipinas!

ROMEO S BRAWNER JR
 General PA



FLAG OFFICER IN COMMAND
PHILIPPINE NAVE

Naval Station Jose Andrada
 2335 Roxas Boulevard, Manila



Message

I extend my warmest greetings to my fellow Cavaliers, and congratulations to the PMAAAI for the successful publication of the Cavalier Magazine and for bringing us together for another memorable Homecoming.

The Cavalier Magazine aptly captures the remarkable paths we have taken as leaders and public servants, and the many ways we exemplify the Academy's values of Courage, Integrity, and Loyalty. As we gather for the PMAAAI Alumni Homecoming 2025, we are reminded of these values in action, along with the lasting connections we share and the proud legacy we continue to build as graduates of the Academy.

Let us embrace this opportunity to reconnect, reflect on our collective achievements, and find inspiration to keep striving for excellence, honor, and service in all we do.

Mabuhay ang PMA!

JOSE MA AMBROSIO Q EZPELETA
 Vice Admiral PN



To my fellow Cavaliers,

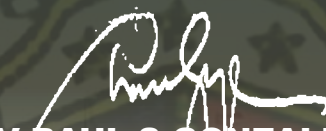
It is with great pride and profound joy that I greet you all on the occasion of the Philippine Military Academy Alumni Homecoming 2025—a time-honored tradition that celebrates our enduring bond as Cavaliers and our shared commitment to service, leadership, and nation-building.

The Alumni Homecoming is more than just a gathering; it is a renewal of friendships, a commemoration of our formative years at Fort Del Pilar, and a tribute to the legacy of Courage, Integrity, and Loyalty that unites us all. As we return to the hallowed grounds of the Academy, we are reminded of the ideals instilled in us and the responsibilities we carry as PMA graduates.

In this ever-changing world, our unity and collective strength as Cavaliers remain vital. Through our continued camaraderie and support for one another, we can overcome challenges, inspire future leaders, and contribute meaningfully to our beloved nation.

On behalf of the PMA Alumni Association, Inc., I extend my warmest greetings to each and every one of you. May this occasion strengthen our bonds, honor our shared heritage, and inspire us to uphold the ideals of the Academy for the greater good of our country.

Mabuhay ang PMA! Mabuhay ang mga Cavaliers! Mabuhay ang ating Inang Bayan!


CAV RAUL S GONZALES '75
Chairman and CEO, PMAAAI

