



The Long Gray Line

PMARAI *E* - Newsletter

2nd Edition - April 2023

1st PMARAI EXECOM & BOARD MEETING

The PMARAI held its 1st Execom and Board Meeting presided by Cav Ramon T Punzalan '76, President and Cav Raul S Gonzales '75, Chairman on March 13, 2023 at PMA Alumni Center, Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City.

PMARAI FIRST EXECOM/BOARD MEETING
0900H 13 March 2023
PMA Alumni Center, Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City

A G E N D A

- I. DECLARATION OF QUORUM BY THE CORPORATE SECRETARY
- II. CALL TO ORDER
- III. CAVALIERS PRAYER BY THE CORPORATE SECRETARY
- IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE BY THE PRESIDENT
- V. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
- VI. MATTER ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING
- VII. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEES – Updates of Plans and Projects
 - a) Executive Committee - Cav RT Punzalan
 - b) Finance - Cav RC Liwag
 - c) Awards - Cav AT Camagay Jr
 - d) Professional Development - Cav RV Poquiz
 - e) Membership, Morale and Welfare - Cav FH Buena Jr
 - f) Ad-hoc Committee on Election and Amendments - Cav JND Antonio
 - g) Ways and Means - Cav EC Tan
 - h) Public Relations – Cav JD Pagdilao
 - i) Sports & Fellowship - Cav MJ Llorca
- VIII. OTHER MATTERS
- IX. ADJOURNMENT



AWARDING OF PLAQUE & MEMENTO TO THE OUTGOING PMARAI CHAIRMAN

Outgoing PMARAI Chairman Cav Danilo A Abinoja '74 was given a plaque of appreciation and memento for his outstanding contribution to the mission and goals of the PMARAI by the incoming Chairman Cav Raul S Gonzales '75 assisted by the President Cav Ramon T Punzalan '76 on March 13, 2023 at PMA Alumni Center, Cp Aguinaldo, Q.C.



LAUNCHING OF THE PMARAI MONTHLY E - NEWSLETTER *THE LONG GRAY LINE*

The PMARAI launched the first edition of the monthly E -Newsletter The Long Gray Line as one of the action plans for AY 2023-2024 of Public Relations Committee under Cav Joel D Pagdilao '84 last March 21, 2023 to the different social groups such as PMARAI Bulletin, PMARAI Forum, PMA Class Presidents viber community and the Graduates of PMA viber group.



A LETTER FROM CAV ROMEO POQUIZ '81 ABOUT MUP PENSION

05 April 2023

Dr. Benjamin E. Diokno

Secretary, Department of Finance

DOF Building, BSP Complex, Roxas Boulevard, Manila

Dear Secretary Diokno,

Please allow me to respond to your assertions on the MUP pension system.

1. You said the pension scheme is ridiculous because personnel in the active service can optionally retire after completing 20 years of service and receive pension for 50 years because they live up to 90.

The pension scheme is not ridiculous but your assertion is. That pension benefit you refer to was vested by law. Pension after 20 years of service, once approved by the competent authority, is the norm even in most foreign militaries. Also, living up to 90 is a blessing and pensioners must not be faulted for it. Discipline explains it.

2. You compared military pensions with those of civilians, where military men do not contribute to it while civilians do.

Your comparison is wrong. The military is a service where one's life is the capital, 24 hours a day, in war or in peace. In fact, it is not termed pension in the AFP retirement law. It is called Military Retirement Pay. When they retire, they are only placed on the Retired List and may be recalled back to active service during war or other national contingencies. Also, almost all militaries around the world, including those in the USA, do not contribute to their pension.

3. You said that pension indexation, where the retiree's pension increases when the salary of those in the active service increases, must be stopped.

Why pick only the military or MUP? Indexation is also the case for pensioners in the Judiciary (judges and prosecutors), the Constitutional Commissions (Comelec, COA, CSC), and the Energy Regulatory Commission. This is also the practice in most foreign armed forces. Further, we waited decades before the full implementation of indexation and it was only a couple of years back when the indexation was finally completed.

4. You said the MUP pension scheme is unsustainable and will lead to fiscal collapse. Again, why pick on us only? As finance manager and as the highest-paid government official, it is your duty to explore all available options to solve the problem. You can start by returning most of your unconscionable P41.81 million annual salary, allowances, and bonuses, including those of your BSP colleagues. The law fixed your salary only at P150,000 monthly or P1.8 million annually, yet you received P41.81 million.

You can also stop the pork barrel allocations of lawmakers and go after corrupt officials in all the departments, especially the revenue agencies under you - BIR and Customs. Further, improve the business climate in the country so that your touted investors in your many foreign travels may finally come and do business in the country.

5. You said we receive huge pensions compared to SSS and GSIS and that the scheme stipulates we get pensions based on the rate of the next higher rank when we retire. Again, no point of comparison between military and civilian retiree entitlements. Also, you must have missed the gargantuan pensions aside from the huge salary and allowances plus the golden parachutes of high SSS and GSIS officials. Much more for you and your colleagues at the BSP who all belong to the top ten highest-paid government officials but only do minimal work in the comfort and safety of your fully air-conditioned suites and offices. Further, the MUP pension is very small when compared to international armed forces standards.

You brought out the elephant in the room, Mr. Secretary. Go then, do your job, without opening your mouth too much, and without picking a fight against us military retirees. Even in the twilight of our lives, we fight our battles well.

PMAAAI / PMARAI 1st INVITATIONAL GOLF FELLOWSHIP

The PMAAAI and PMARAI conducted a golf and lunch fellowship for retired PMayers from older classes to PMA Class 1989 to foster camaraderie and fun among its members. A total of 26 classes with 123 players joined the event. It is one of the action plans for AY 2023-2024 of Sports and Fellowship Committee under Cav Marcelino J Llorca '83 sponsored by the Chief of Staff, AFP General Andres C Centino '88, Chief, Philippine National Police General Rodolfo S Azurin Jr '89, Commandant, Philippine Coast Guard, Admiral Manuel M Abu '89 and Cong. Claude Bautista, honorary '83 last April 18, 2023 at Camp Aguinaldo Golf Course, Cp Aguinaldo, Q.C.



Welcome Remarks- **Cav Mon Punzalan '76**
PMARAI President



Message - **Cav Raul Gonzales '75**
PMARAI Chairman



Message - **Cav Dan Abinoja '74**
PMAAAI Chairman

Congratulations to all the winners!

PMAAAI / PMARAI 1st Invitational Golf Fellowship

Camp Aguinaldo Golf Course April 18, 2023

Low Gross Champion - Cav Ricky Dela Paz '74

Low Net Champion - Cav Art Vidad '81

DIVISION I (Age 70 & older)

Champion - Cav Noe Wong '75

Runner up - Cav Delfin Lorenzana '73

DIVISION II (Age 63-69)

Champion - Cav Benjamin Gorres '79

Runner up - Cav Mel Mabilin '82

DIVISION III (Age 56 - 62)

Champion - Cav Ron Santos '84

Runner up - Cav Jerry Cunanan '87



Cav Augustus C Paiso '56
Oldest Cavalier - Special Gift

PMARAI BOARD OF DIRECTORS COMMITTEE ON SPORTS & FELLOWSHIP AND SECRETARIAT IN ACTION



MAJOR RAFFLE WINNERS

PMAAAI / PMARAI 1ST INVITATIONAL GOLF FELLOWSHIP

PMARAI highly appreciates the Presidents of PMA Classes 1959 to 1989 for bringing additional raffle prizes, extra viands and hotdarns for the golf fellowship. We also thank Cav Egay Aglipay '71 and Cav Tristan Kison '79 for the giveaways for our golfers.



CAVALIERS IN ACTION



FINANCIAL STATEMENT

BY CAV RAMON C LIWAG '79 - TREASURER

PMA RETIREES ASSOCIATION INC

Comparative Statement of Assets, Liabilities and Fund Balance

As of March 31, 2023 (With comparative Figure for February 28, 2023)

| | Mar-23 | | Feb-23 | Inc/(Dec) |
|--|---------------------|---|---------------------|---------------------|
| Current Assets | | | | |
| Petty Cash Fund | 10,000.00 | | 10,000.00 | - |
| Cash in bank - DBP Checking Account | 266,127.64 | 1 | 42,969.38 | 223,158.26 |
| Cash in bank - AFPSLAI Savings Account | 1,403,172.82 | 2 | 1,542,797.99 | (139,625.17) |
| Investment - AFPSLAI Capcon | 1,000,000.00 | 3 | 1,000,000.00 | - |
| Investment - AFPSLAI TD | 4,000,000.00 | 5 | 4,000,000.00 | - |
| Dividend receivable | 39,999.99 | 4 | 26,666.66 | 13,333.33 |
| Interest receivable - AFPSLAI | 43,333.34 | 8 | 21,666.67 | 21,666.67 |
| Cash advances | 65,000.00 | | 65,000.00 | - |
| Other receivable | - | | - | - |
| Total Current Assets | 6,827,633.79 | | 6,709,100.70 | 118,533.09 |
| Non-current Assets | | | | |
| Furniture and equipment | 277,973.97 | | 277,973.97 | - |
| Less: Accumulated dep'n | (244,934.01) | | (244,934.01) | - |
| Investment - ACES | - | 6 | - | - |
| Principal placement | 1,500,000.00 | | 1,500,000.00 | - |
| Accrued Interest | 102,083.32 | | 102,083.32 | - |
| Less: Allowance for Uncollectible Accounts | (1,602,083.32) | | (1,602,083.32) | - |
| Total Non-current Assets | 33,039.96 | | 33,039.96 | - |
| TOTAL ASSETS | 6,860,673.75 | | 6,742,140.66 | 118,533.09 |
| LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE | | | | |
| Liabilities | | | | |
| Accounts payable and Acc Exp | 500.00 | | 93,958.43 | (93,458.43) |
| Refundable Mem dues | 24,000.00 | 7 | 24,000.00 | - |
| Total Liabilities | 24,500.00 | | 117,958.43 | (93,458.43) |
| Fund Balance | | | | |
| Beginning Balance | | | | |
| General Fund | 6,624,182.23 | | 5,924,275.92 | 699,906.31 |
| Special Fund | - | | - | - |
| Total Fund Beginning Fund Balance | 6,624,182.23 | | 5,924,275.92 | 699,906.31 |
| Add/Deduct: Excess of Revenue Over Expenses | | | | |
| General Fund | 211,991.52 | | 699,906.31 | (487,914.79) |
| Special Fund | - | | - | - |
| Total Excess of Revenue Over Expenses | 211,991.52 | | 699,906.31 | (487,914.79) |
| Ending Balance | | | | |
| General Fund | 6,836,173.75 | | 6,624,182.23 | 211,991.52 |
| Special Fund | - | | - | - |
| Total Ending Fund Balance | 6,836,173.75 | | 6,624,182.23 | 211,991.52 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE | 6,860,673.75 | | 6,742,140.66 | 118,533.09 |

Prepared by:

Reviewed by:

Noted by:

JOBERT M LORENA
Accountant

RAMON C LIWAG
Treasurer

RAMON T PUNZALAN
President

Notes:

- 1 This a non-interest bearing checking account used for the payment of the Associations expenses.
- 2 Regular savings account with AFPSLAI earning 3% per annum interest. Quarterly EDA on AFPSLAI capital contribution account is credited on this account.
- 3 Capital Contribution Account earning quarterly dividend at a rate depending on AFPSLAI's earnings for the period with P1M deposit limit for existing corporate accounts.
- 4 This represents the accrued dividend on capital contribution for the months of January to March 2023 at the rate of 16% p.a.
- 5 Time Deposit account with AFPSLAI earning 6.5% interest er annum with semi annual interest payout
- 6 This represents PMARAI's exposure with ACES. 100% allowance was provided for the total exposure due the uncertainty of recovery considering the current financial condition of ACES:
- 7 These are contributions on top of the P2,000.00 lifetime membership dues intended to be returned to the member on their golden jubilarian year (per by-laws).

| Payor | Date Received | Amount |
|---------------------------|---------------|------------------|
| ESGUERRA, Salvador | 5/11/2011 | 4,000.00 |
| VALDERRAMA, Geronimo G | 5/11/2011 | 2,000.00 |
| GARCIA, Marcelo R | 5/11/2011 | 2,000.00 |
| YALA, Damiano N | 5/11/2011 | 2,000.00 |
| RODEROS, Romeo D | 5/11/2011 | 2,000.00 |
| DELGADO, Daniel T | 5/11/2011 | 2,000.00 |
| CUSTODIO, Victor Emmanuel | 5/11/2011 | 2,000.00 |
| ALIAC, Leopoldo S | 5/11/2011 | 2,000.00 |
| ODI, Romeo O | 5/11/2011 | 2,000.00 |
| ESPERON, Hermogenes Jr | 5/11/2011 | 4,000.00 |
| TOTAL | | 24,000.00 |

8 Accrual of interest on AFPSLAI Savings and Time Deposit Account

ANNOUNCEMENTS

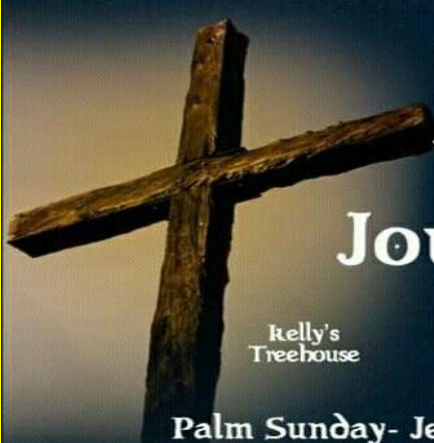
1. PMARAI 3rd Execom and Board Meeting on May 8, 2023, 0900H at PMA Alumni Center, Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City.

2. Join our official viber community:

PMARAI FORUM - where contents, messages and comments are posted by the members.

PMARAI POST (Bulletin Board) - where announcements, events, and notices are posted by the association.

3. We encourage our members to share any articles to our E-Newsletter. Please send it to email ad of Chairman, Public Relations Committee, Cav Joel D Pagdilao '84 at joelpagdilao@yahoo.com



**Holy Week
Journey To The
Cross.**

Kelly's
Treehouse

Palm Sunday- Jesus entered as king; God prepared his sacrifice.

Monday- Jesus cleanses the temple and curses the fig tree; God prepares those who will accept His sacrifice.

Tuesday- Jesus teaches in the temple for the last time; God sends the invitation to come enjoy His sacrifice.

Wednesday- Judas betrays; Mary perfumes; God waits for the responses to the invitation.

Thursday- Jesus offers His body and blood in the last supper; God offers His sacrifice.

Friday- Jesus dies on the cross; God accepts His sacrifice. (A sweet smelling aroma)

Saturday- Jesus takes the saints from Hades to Paradise; God receives His saints to him.

Sunday- Jesus is risen; God gives us eternal life in Jesus. The purest treasure.