



THE

CAVALIER

COURAGE • INTEGRITY • LOYALTY

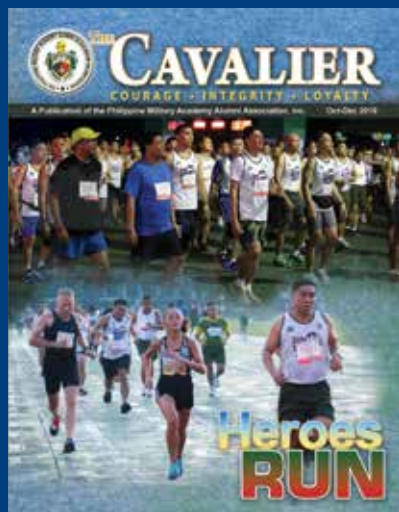
A Publication of the Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association, Inc.

October - December 2019



Heroes RUN

ABOUT THE COVER



Every Cavalier knows the value of having a sound mind in a sound body. In his chosen profession, he needs to be physically, mentally, and emotionally strong, aside from his spiritual strength of course, to perform his mandated vow.

That is why Cavaliers from different AFP branches of service, engage in different physically-engaging activities, like this Heroes Run, to tone their muscles, increase their agility, improve their physique, and strengthen their stamina, which will help them as they go about their daily routines, whether professional or personal.

The Heroes Run was held for the benefit of the orphans or dependent siblings of Filipino soldiers killed or incapacitated in combat fire or during response through the AFP Educational Benefit System Office and Hero Foundation, Inc.

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THE CAVALIER

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The **CAVALIER** magazine is a professional journal published quarterly by the Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association, Inc. (PMAAAI), to provide a general forum for the alumni of the Philippine Military Academy. The opinions expressed in this magazine do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the PMAAAI or any other agencies of the Philippine government unless otherwise specified by the author.

Letters to the editor are encouraged. Your opinion about The Cavalier and the articles in the issue would be appreciated.

Readers may now view The Cavalier online at www.pmaaaai.net

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Some articles have been edited to meet space requirements.



FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S DESK

CAV RUFO A DE VEYRA '70

Good Governance Will Set Us Free

The key is to provide management executive education program to the MUP to give them a worldview to enable them to cope with precisely the wide-ranging political, economic and socio-cultural demands of our part of the world.

The Context

I write in the context of the military and uniformed personnel (MUP*) both retired and those still in the active service and whose services which ever functional areas they are in, are credited within the executive branch of government. Clearly, there is no conflict since they are retired. They are presumed to be competent enough after having dedicated some 30 plus years to the government.

The Travel

The spectacle of the past five decades had clearly shown the emergence of the MUP's acquired power and influence in government, albeit gradually, out of assignments to executive positions that are traditionally given to the civilian bureaucracy. It started in the late 60s where at the tail-end of President Marcos' reign, he relied on the security umbrella of Generals Fabian Ver and Fidel Ramos when the duo's spheres of influence had not yet overlapped.

After the people power revolution in 1986, the military was given a stern rebuke with a back-to-barracks order. Subsequently, the lines were clearly drawn in distinct political colors. Five presidential terms later, one marred by a military intervention, the military was once again asked, cajoled, lured back into executive positions.

The Distinction

In all of these periods a distinction emerged: the earlier decades were marked by adventurisms or forays into areas that were clearly politically blurred, with neither a clear mandate from the people. The later periods, including the present one, is characterized by a casual, almost systematic entry into the executive bureaucracy of retired MUP at the behest of the President himself who considers them simply a matter of personal confidence—exactly the opposite of the earlier periods.

The Problem: Scarcity of MUP who are formally trained in management executive positions

While there is a surplus of MUP who by and large are dedicated and competent in their specific fields of expertise, there appears to be a scarcity of those who are formally trained in management executive positions. Previous data tags only 8% of MUP officer population. If this is correct, then we are missing out on our chance to train our MUP in management executive education whether the trend to appoint MUP in government continues or not. Firstly, this training provides real opportunities for executive positions in the civil sector after retirement whether government or private. Secondly, as value added,

this training is viewed in the same vein as the President considers military training as a plus. Thirdly, formal training in management executive positions is very, very expensive.

The Opportunity: The entry of MUP into government will probably continue

I find no reason to suggest that the trend towards MUP appointments will discontinue. Firstly, there is generally a wide public acceptance for the performance of those who had been appointed in the present.

Cabinet. A few appointees though had suffered an instant rebuff in the manner they were replaced. Secondly, one can never go wrong with formal management executive education. Best practices and adherence to accepted management processes, like sound decision-making and their executions lead to good governance.

The Solution: A Free and Outsourced Executive Management Education Program for the MUP


The MUP and the institutions they directly serve, e.g. the DND, DILG, DOTr, DOJ, DENR collectively have more than enough resources to enable and jumpstart a Management Executive Education Program for deserving MUP for free. These resources are simply waiting to be tapped in a creative way, as long as myopic interests are set aside for the higher objective of serving the common good. Remember, opportunities are not there forever.

The Endgame

Consistent and continuous good governance practices lead to the development of a worldview in each individual that is at once, a mindset, a philosophy of life, uniquely his own. Never mind if they don't converge as they usually are as diverse and at most times illogical.

You can just imagine the value of this worldview to the MUP still in the active service and how they would cope with the challenges of their positions. On the other hand, consider the value they would add to their jobs if they choose to join the public sector after retirement.

When push comes to shove, wherever and whenever we will all be, we shall rest easy at the thought that MUP at the helm or even within the rank and file of our government shall and will do the right thing to defend our democratic institutions.

Good Governance Will Set Us Free! 

*MUP includes the AFP under (DND); PNP, Phil Public Safety College (PPSC), Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP), Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP) under DILG; BUCOR under DOJ; PCG under (DOTr); and National Mapping Resource Information Authority (NAMRIA) under DENR.



SUPE'S REPORT


CAV ALLAN FERDINAND V CUSI '86

Overcoming Challenges, Embracing Change

When I assumed as the Superintendent in October 2019, we declared an all-out-war against maltreatment in the Academy. I am also very particular in combatting other issues such as financial hazing, sexual harassment, and illegal drug problems. Moreover, we are also attending to the medical conditions and over-all wellness of the cadets, especially when a cadet passed away because of cancer in just about a month after he had been diagnosed. We also confronted issues concerning lax processes and systems that threatened the safety of our cadets in their training, specifically when a cadet drowned in the Academy swimming pool which was later on proven to be attributed to negligence and imprudence of instructors, officers, and cadets in charge who failed the basics — no marcher slip, not observing classroom procedures, etc. Not only does the Academy deal with problems concerning the cadets, but it does too with officers assigned in the PMA who resist change and deliberately disobey rules themselves. There had been a lot on our plate and all these have been keeping me and the rest of Team PMA awake at night. Since day one of my assumption of command, we have been relentlessly discussing ideas to challenge the status quo, to come up with concrete solutions, and to institute reforms that will eventually uproot the “weeds”, eradicate malpractices, and give our nation a better Academy.

Given these challenges, there have been several interventions that we implemented, such as the collective resolve and commitment of the PMA community towards setting the example, group norming, habit-forming and establishing psychologically safe spaces. In addition, regular psychosocial processing of our cadets, which is done every three months, is an important intervention we do to address their mental and psychological needs. Moreover, we have also implemented the **Four Classes Barracks Integration Scheme**. It is the “*one room, all classes integrated concept*” where inside the cadet barracks,

the cadets are no longer billeted based on homogeneity in class but rather of heterogeneous composition of roommates. This is our intervention in building trust, respect, cooperation and meaningful relationships in the CCAFP. After all, the whole military service is about meaningful relationships — with our fellow officers and enlisted personnel as well as civilian stakeholders. The cadets might as well learn to develop these virtues and to foster relationships while inside the Academy. In a study that evaluated the integration scheme after a month since its implementation, we found out that the cadets can sleep better, study better, and observe proper hygiene better. The scheme has also deterred the cases of maltreatment as revealed by the cadets themselves. Given more time, the cadets will be used in this kind of way of life, until such time that it will become the new norm and will be established as the acceptable culture in the Corps.

Looking forward to the next few months, I believe that the challenges in the Academy will continue. Yes, it takes years to build a culture, yet, like any other organization, PMA is a work in progress. With God's grace and the cooperation of the PMA community, we will keep on with all vigor, and will sustain our gains. But I also believe that we cannot do it alone. Cooperation and buy-in of the PMA Alumni are key to our overall success. We are doing our very best to institute meaningful change in PMA, however, if the majority of the alumni still believe in the status quo, no amount of reforms will be enough to institute genuine transformation in the CCAFP. A change in behavior of the alumni is therefore essential — one that can serve as the best example for our cadets — even as they have already left the halls of the Academy. We need everyone, including the alumni, to always remember and to join us in our efforts to achieve our target output: **“WARRIORS OF THE MOTHERLAND WITH HEART AND SOUL.”** 



EDITOR'S NOTE

CAV ARVIN R LAGAMON '92

Christ-like Attributes and the Cavaliers

By the time this issue of Cavalier Magazine has been printed out, the Yuletide Seasons is over. Cavaliers, both retired and in the active service, went busy and agog in the Christmas celebration and festivities.

But more than the gift-giving traditions and fun-frolicking activities, I am hoping that we, as Cavaliers, did some retrospection on how we fared this year, both in our personal and professional life.

Did we live up to the expectations our Alma Mater? Have the values of Courage, Integrity and Loyalty been reflected in the daily performance of our duties, mission and personal goals as well?

Have we shown kindness to everyone without discrimination? Did we not abuse our title, our rank, our position as we deal with our peers and subordinates?

Jesus Christ, the king of Kings and the lord of Lords, came into this world via a low key entrance by being born in an animal stable and laid down in a manger – unfit for a magnificent Messiah who, later on, performed the greatest sacrifice for mankind by dying on the cross for the absolution of our sins.

As Cavaliers, let us remember this humble gesture of our Divine Creator. Despite the stature we have become as Peemayers, we must always keep our feet firmly on the ground, look back where we came from, enjoy our present and look forward to our future always with gratitude.

Humility, as an attribute of Jesus Christ, is something that we have to manifest in our daily life.

It is commendable that the PMA Alumni Association Inc., has put up foundations that engage in humanitarian causes and endeavors that help not only the Cavalier members but also the unfortunate ones. Even the individual cavalier espouses certain societal advocacies, professionally or personally, which he generously supports even without publicity fanfare, reflecting the attributes of Jesus Christ, that of being charitable, merciful and compassionate.

Let us also find time to reflect and ask ourselves if we have discharged our responsibilities to the best of our ability? Did we exercise fairness and justice as we dispense our mandated vow in the military and in private enterprises? These are questions we ought to remember in assessing how far have we gone and how far are we willing to go?

As Cavaliers, we have our moral obligation to render services to those who need them, to be obedient to the laws of the land, to be upright citizens of the Republic, to pray and be kind to our fellow human beings and to exemplify the attributes of a true Peemayer.

As we welcome 2020, Cavaliers are encouraged to reflect and to look forward to another new year guided with the attributes and principles that our alma mater has instilled in us. This way, we can never go wrong in our journey towards transforming ourselves for the better. 🌟

CAVALIER NEWSLINE

CAV ROSALINO A ALQUIZA '55

LtGen Santos assumes as AFP chief of staff

LtGen Felimon T Santos Jr '86 has recently assumed as the new AFP chief of staff, vice Gen Noel S Clement '85 who just retired.

Santos has been the commander of the AFP Eastern Mindanao Command (EasMinCom) and before that as commander of 7th Inf Div, PA.



Santos

LtGen Gapay assumes as CG, PA

LtGen Gilbert I Gapay '86 has assumed as the new PA commanding general, replacing LtGen Macairog S Alberto '86 who recently retired.

Gapay used to be the commander of the AFP Southern Luzon Command (SolCom). Before that, he served as commander of the 2nd Mech Inf Bde In Iligan and deputy commander of the Eastern Mindanao Command in Davao.

MGen Arnulfo Marcelo B Burgos Jr '88, has assumed as the acting SolCom commander, in addition to being CG, 2nd Inf Div, PA,

Earlier, LtGen Roberto T Ancan '87, former CG, 1st Inf Div, PA, took over as commander of the Central Command (CenCom), vice Gen Noel S Clement '85 who became the AFP chief of staff.



Gapay

PLtGen Gamboa designated PNP Officer-in-Charge

PLtGen Archie Francisco F Gamboa '86 has been the PNP Officer-in-Charge, following the stepping down of former PNP chief PGen Oscar D Albayalde '86 last October and his subsequent retirement on 8 Nov 2019. Gamboa, the PNP deputy chief for administration, is the most senior PNP officer.



Gamboa

PLtGen Guillermo Lorenzo T Eleazar '87 has assumed as the PNP chief of directorial staff, vice PLtGen Camilo Pancratius P

Cascolan '86, promoted to PNP deputy chief for operations. Eleazar, who has recently been promoted to PLtGen, has been replaced as chief, NCRPO by PBGen Dibolo M Sinas '87

The chief of the directorate for intelligence is PMGen Mariel M Magaway '86 and directorate for human resource and doctrine development (DHRDD) is PMGen Amador V Corpuz '86.



Eleazar

New directors of national support units are: PBGen Joel Napoleon M Coronel '87, CIDG; PBGen Edward E Carranza '86, LSS; PBGen Arnel B Escobal '87, AVSEG; PBGen Marcelo '87, PSPG; PBGen Dionardo B Carlos '88, HPG; PBGen Joselito M Daniel '88, PCADG; PCol Romeo M Carmat Jr '92, PDEG; and PCol Ronald O Lee '92, IMEG.

The PNP regional directors are: PBGen Jorel S Orduna '88, PRO 1; PBGen Angelito A Casimiro '88, PRO 2; PCol Viente D Danao Jr '91, PRO 4A; PBGen Anthony S Alcaneses '88, PRO 5; PBGen Rene P Pamuspusan '88, PRO 6; PBGen Valeriano T de Leon '89, PRO 7; BGen Ferdinand O Divina '88, PRO 8; PBGen Rafael T Santiago Jr '86, PRO 10; PCol Filmore B Escobal '91, PRO 11; PBGen Alfred S Corpus '87, PRO 12; PBGen Joselito T Esquivel Jr '88, PRO 13; and PBGen Israel Ephraim T Dickson '87, PROCOR.

BGen Viaje assumes as NDCP president

Retired BGen Archimedes H Viaje '86 has assumed as the president of the National Defense College of the Philippines (NDCP). He used to be the dean of the Corps of Professors, AFP before his retirement.



Viaje

Viaje replaced retired RAdm Roberto Q Estioko '77 as NDCP president.

BGen Ferdinand Jose G Rivera '88 PROF has assumed as the new dean of the Corps of Professors, AFP.

MGen Hidalgo designated PN vice commander

MGen Dante M Hidalgo '86 has been designated as the vice



Hidalgo

commander of the Philippine Navy, replacing VAdm Allan Ferdinand V Cusi '86 who was earlier reassigned to the PMA as its superintendent.

Hidalgo, a Philippine Marine officer, used to be the commander of the Naval Reserve Command.

Likewise, RAdm Loumer P Bernabe '87 has been designated as the commander of the Naval Education and Training Command, based in Zambales.

VAdm Laroya designated PCG deputy commandant

VAdm Leopoldo V Laroya '88 has been designated deputy commandant of the Philippine Coast Guard, replacing VAdm Rolando D Legaspi '87 who died while in office.



Laroya

Laroya used to be the commander of the Maritime Safety Services Command of the Philippine Coast Guard.

By the way, Adm Joel Garcia, a PMMA graduate and a well respected Coast Guard officer, has been designated as commandant of the Philippine Coast Guard, replacing Adm Elson E Hermogino '85 who retired.


MGen Crucero reelected AGFO chairman and president

Retired MGen Alphonsus P Crucero '74 has been reelected as chairman and president of the Association of General and Flag Officers, Inc. (AGFO).



Crucero

Reelected as directors are retired MGen Jose C Lapus '65 and retired LtGen Edilberto P Adan '72. Newly elected as directors are retired BGen Restituto L Aguilar '78, retired BGen Gerardo T Layug '80, MGen Antonio G Parlade Jr '87 and PMGen Leo Angelo D Leuterio '88.

The AGFO is a professional association of active and retired general and flag officers of the AFP, PNP, PCG, BFP, BJMP, and NAMRIA, who were accepted as paying members of the Association. /raa 

ADJUTANT'S BULLETIN

NOMINATION FOR PMAAAI HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

Pursuant to Article II, Section 3C of the Amended Bylaws of the PMAAAI, all members of the Association are hereby informed that PMA Classes 1969, 1970 and 1971 have nominated, MR. JORGE A CONSUNJI as honorary member of the PMAAAI.

Mr. Consunji is a known personality in the Philippine business particularly the construction and development sectors. He belongs to distinctive family known for their probity and philanthropy. His stature and image will undoubtedly bring tremendous goodwill to PMAAAI.

He is a Philippine business person who has been at the helm of ten different companies. Presently, Mr. Consunji occupies the position of President and Chief Operating Officer of Royal Star Aviation, Inc.; Non-Executive Chairman of DMCI Masbate Power Corp.; President, Chief Executive Officer and Director at D.M. Consunji, Inc.; and President for DMC Construction Equipment Resources, Inc. He is also, the Vice President of Divine Word School of Semirara Island, Inc. and on the board of 27 other companies.

In his past career, he occupied the position of Chairman of Asean Constructors Federation; Chairman at Philippine Contractors Accreditation Board; Chairman and President for Philippine

Construction Association; and also the first Vice-President, Member of Baguio Country Club, Inc.; Member of the Metropolitan Club, Inc.; Member of Manila Golf and Country Club; Member of WackWack Golf and Country Club; Chairman for Wire Rope Corp. of the Philippines; and President for Association of Carrier and Equipment Lessors.

Mr. Consunji received an undergraduate degree from De La Salle University and a graduate degree from the University of Asia and the Pacific.

Per PMAAAI Bylaws, any citizen of the Philippines or of a foreign country with which it has friendly relations, who has an exemplary, eminent and distinguished professional and social standing, who has contributed to the attainment of the objectives of the Academy and the Association, and whose membership will undoubtedly bring honor and prestige to the Academy and the Association, shall be eligible for honorary membership.


Any comment pertaining to his nomination as honorary member may be sent to the PMAAAI Secretariat, PMA Alumni Center, Camp General Aguinaldo, Quezon City. 

NOTICES OF ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

• PMAAAI Secretariat

Notice is hereby given to all the regular members of PMAAAI, BIRC and the Affiliate Foundations of the PMAAAI that they shall hold their respective annual membership meetings and election for the year 2020 on the date, time and place as indicated hereunder:

The Order of the business of the meetings is generally similar in all the organizations essentially, containing the following: Determination of quorum, Approval of minutes of previous annual meeting, Matters arising from the minutes, Report of the President, Report of the Treasurer, Ratification of all acts and resolutions of the Board and Management and Election of Directors/Trustees.

Your attendance in these Annual Membership Meetings will go a long way in strengthening alumni esprit de corps, camaraderie, unity of purpose and your support/involvement in PMAAAI affairs. 

NAME OF ORGANIZATION	DATE	TIME	PLACE
Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association, Inc. (PMAAAI)	21 January 2020	1200 (12:00 noon)	Philippine International Convention Center, Pasay City
Business, Industry and Retirees Chapter (BIRC)	10 January 2020		Valle Verde, Pasig City
PMAAA Development Foundation, Inc. (PDFI)	27 February 2020 Last Thursday of February	1800 (6:00 p.m.)	Board Room, PMA Alumni Center, CGEA
Philippine Military Academy Foundation, Inc. (PMAFI)	06 March 2020 1st Friday of March	1000 (10:00 a.m.)	Board Room, PMA Alumni Center, CGEA
PMAAA Foundation for Truth and Justice, Inc. (PFTJI)	19 March 2020 3rd Thursday of March	1700 (5:00 p.m.)	Board Room, PMA Alumni Center, CGEA
PMAAA Educational Foundation, Inc. (PETFI)	29 April 2020 Last Wednesday of April	1200 (12:00 noon)	Board Room, PMA Alumni Center, CGEA

PN Cavaliers Manifest Unity in Jurado Cup 2019

PN Cavaliers line-up during the opening ceremony of the PMAAAI -PN chapter Jurado Cup 2019.

• Cav Douglas S Defeles, PRO, PMAAAI-PN

Fort Bonifacio, Taguig – Members of the Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association Incorporated – Philippine Navy Chapter (PMAAAI-PN) exemplified unity through their company spirit in hurdling the games set forth in the coveted Jurado Cup 2019. It was a thrilling show of camaraderie and sportsmanship aiming for

the Major A and Minor A in most of the events that would eventually determine the Champion for this year's tournament. First of its 11-year history that the chapter was able to gather 400 plus cavaliers who have shown involvement and volunteer to join the games.

KICK-OFF WITH GOLF TOURNAMENT

A day before the actual competition day, the sporting event already kicked-off with a golf tourney as Company teams were represented by their member players comprising the four classes according to class year bracket and with their female representative.

It was a hurdling day for cavalier golfers to showcase their prowess in this sport but at the end of the day golfers from 'E' company was victorious with Major A for garnering the most points. They were seconded by the 'H' company. Aside from company points, individual achievers also received their awards to include:

Lowest Gross:

Cav Noel Beleran '90 'A'

Longest Drive:

Cav Giovanni Carlo J Bacordo '87 'B'

Most Accurate Drive:

Cav Arturo G Rojas '90 'H'

Longest Putt:

Cav Socrates M Daza '93 'H'

Nearest to the Pin:

Cav Sharon T De Leon '06 'F'

8x 100m Circuit Relay

Major A – 'C' Company
Minor A – 'F' Company

Human Caterpillar Race

Major A – 'E' Company
Minor A – 'C' Company

Obstacle Course

Major A – 'H' Company
Minor A – 'E' Company

Shirt Race

Major A – 'C' Company
Minor A – 'B' Company

Locked Knees Relay

Major A – 'E' Company
Minor A – 'D' Company

Hula Hoop Race

Major A – 'A' Company
Minor A – 'B' Company

Swimming Races

Major A – 'C' Company
Minor A – 'B' Company

RELIVING THE COMPANY PRIDE

The alumni from eight companies of the Cadet Corps Armed Forces of the Philippines (CCAFFP) relived their company pride starting off with the entrance parade where they showcased their company muses and gimmicks to bolster their company spirit.

Coming up from last year's victory, the 'E' company strived their way to retain their championship trophy, but this year is another story as the 'C' company came out more prepared to defeat them and claim the Jurado Cup 2019.

Companies showcased the best of their team athletes in several events and together with the victors.

Finally, points have been tallied and the 'C' company went off to capture the Jurado Cup 2019 with 'E' company who rallied behind as runner-up.



(left) Companies displaying muses and their company colors during the opening parade. (above) Companies' first class and their muses.





Cavaliers in action and the company spirits for the Jurado Cup championship.

Proud Charlie 'C' Wildcats Cavaliers bringing home the Jurado Cup 2019.

FELLOWSHIP NIGHT

After half-day of cheering and shouting for the team, cavaliers gathered for a fellowship night with food and music. Cavaliers were entertained by PN band and was excited for the raffle prizes while companies waited for the announcement of winners of the Jurado Cup.

Cavaliers also shared the served cadet style boodlefight for all. Such an amazing sight to see cavaliers of different classes from the most senior to the most junior jubilantly took part of the meal.

The event was wrapped up with the insightful and inspiring message from the PN Chapter adviser and our Flag Officer in Command Cav Robert A Empedrad '86. He stress on the magnitude of responsibility carried by each cavalier to always be mindful of our actions and actuations as people always associate us with the Academy, that during these difficult time cavaliers must be united in facing these recent issues about our Alma Mater.



The Flag Officer in Command and PMAAAI-PN Adviser Cav Robert A Empedrad '86 addressing the Navy cavaliers.



Cadet Boodlefight with the Flag Officer in Command Cav Robert A Empedrad '86.



The PMAAAI- PN Chapter united as one...



Kung Gusto May Paraan

• Cav Ariston V delos Reyes '71

Laundry Allowance for the Military and Uniformed Personnel (MUP); How We Got It and Lessons Learned

Background

While still in the active service, I made it a must that in positions I held, the routine and usual tasks were duly accomplished. I also complied with the orders of the boss. I observed then that doing so would more often than not, be good enough for one to get promoted. One need not innovate. Change may even be risky because resistance by comrades and office mates alone could be strong enough to cause trouble, frustration or even create “enemies”. Worse and more difficult it will be if it is the boss who does not want change.

However, I took risks. I would not be content with doing the routine. I looked beyond them and sought for challenges to address, hoping to make the organization/office/unit better or promote the common good. I thought of and endeavored to make good things happen. The case below was one of them.

For details, I referred to my letter as former Commander, Naval Task Force 61 to the Flag Officer-in-Command Philippine Navy (FOIC, PN) dated 18 March 1998, Subject: Laundry Allowance: How We Got It and Lesson Learned/Other Prospect

Years ago, in the 1990’s and earlier, laundry allowance had been granted exclusively to military personnel performing certain specific duties only such as band members, aides de camp, and ceremonial guards. However, effective 1 January 1998, laundry allowance has been granted to all military and uniformed personnel (MUP).

Milestones on How We Got It

1. In 1992, while assigned as a division chief at the Office of the Chief for Plans and Programs (OPP), Department of National Defense (DND), I initiated a proposal that all military personnel be granted laundry allowance

inasmuch as they are required to be in uniform while on duty. Its grant would not necessitate enactment but only the approval by the President through the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) upon recommendation by the Secretary of National Defense (SND). Once approved, DBM would just include the amount needed in the proposed budget for the subsequent year with appropriate explanatory provision for approval by Congress. Concerned offices at DND agreed with the proposal. However, when referred to the General Headquarters, the AFP did not concur “due to non-availability of fund resources.” Had the GHQ concurred, the SND in that year could have initiated the request for fund to the DBM and the military personnel would have laundry allowance by 1993 or 1994.

2. In 1994, as the Assistant Chief of Naval Staff for Personnel, N1, Headquarters Philippine Navy (HPN), I recommended that the FOIC, PN propose the grant of said allowance. He approved the concept and endorsed same to the General Headquarters Armed Forces of the Philippines (GHQ AFP). When followed up, the action office could not locate the FOIC PN letter. As advised, I resubmitted a copy of the letter. However, no action was taken on the matter at the GHQ AFP.
3. In 1996, as the Assistant Chief of Naval for Plans, N5, I initiated again a two- page personal letter to SND forwarding the same proposal. It was my third attempt and my letter was finally acted on.
4. On 03 March 1997, the Chief of Staff AFP (CSAFP) in a Memorandum to SND recommended approval of the proposal.
5. On 21 April 1997, the SND, in his letter to the DBM, recommended the grant of the allowance effective 1 January

1998 at a uniform rate of P125 per person which was equal to that authorized for a public health worker.

6. On 20 August 1997, the President approved the grant of laundry allowance not only for the military but also for the uniformed personnel of the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG).
7. On 14 February 1998, the President signed the 1998 General Appropriations Act which provided for the laundry allowance of the military and uniformed personnel of the DILG at P60 for officers and P30 for enlisted personnel.
8. On 23 February 1998, as Commander of Naval Task Force 61 (CNTF 61) headquartered in Zamboanga City, I initiated a personal letter to SND recommending the issuance of implementing directive for the AFP to grant the allowance.
9. On 6 March 1998, the AFP Comptroller Letter No. 98- 02 authorized monthly allowance at P60 for officers and P30 for EP effective 01 January 1998. However, I noted that the directive did not include the probationary officers and cadets.
10. On 17 March 1998, as CNTF 61, I informed the action staff officer at the AFP Comptroller Office the need to also grant the cadets and probationary officers said allowance as they are also military personnel. Subsequently, they were authorized P60.
11. On 17 August 1998, I was given the Award of the Gawad sa Kaunlaran by the FOIC PN for conspicuously exceptional service which contributed immensely in improving the life of military personnel.

The estimated additional annual benefits for the MUP has been about P100 million and will likely continue to remain in their paylips for generations to come. My two-page letter submitted in 1996 may well be considered the most expensive personal initiative chargeable from public funds which, on the other hand, is beneficial to all the MUP in the active service, then, now and in the future.

The idea was conceived in 1992 and finally implemented in 1998 or six years later. Same was achieved through a combination of initiatives through the Chain of Command and individual efforts. A new idea no matter how good it may be would not necessarily be easy to sell. In this particular instance, I had to put it in writing based on the doctrine of completed staff work and addressed to the right decision maker. Personal follow up through visits of concerned intermediary offices and innumerable phone calls to action staff officers, EP, and civilian employees were made. Handwritten “please”, “kindly”, “request”, and verbal “paki”, and “puwede ba?” had been very helpful. Most importantly, the DND had been very open and receptive to the idea right at the start of the initiative in 1992.

Lessons Learned

1. KUNG GUSTO MAY PARAAN. In this case, I made repeated attempts to recommend the change because it would benefit all military personnel. The stake was high. It was worth the effort. I

had nothing to lose in repeatedly writing letters to the decision maker. Finally, it ended well.

2. KUNG AYAW MARAMING DAHILAN. Resistance to change has to be reckoned with. Patience and perseverance will help in overcoming it. At times, it may help just to wait until the one who resists retires or gets reassigned.


3. WIN SOME; LOSE SOME. In reality, I did not get what I always wanted. I had failures too and that was perhaps because I had not been convincing enough for the chain of command to be supportive of needed changes in the 1990's and the 2000's. Unfortunately, where I failed, the military personnel, active or retired ended up being the losers, due to their lost opportunities to be granted additional and well-deserved benefits from the government. These were the following:

- 3.1. That a proposed bill be filed increasing the maximum pension of retired military personnel from 85 to 90 percent of base pay/ longevity pay in order to be at par with the entitlement of the uniformed personnel of the DILG.
- 3.2. That the government-subsidized compulsory life insurance (CLI) for the military personnel be resumed at GSIS. On 15 July 1997, I wrote the Chairman, Committee to Study the Compulsory Life Insurance of Military Personnel at GSIS. (It was headed by the Undersecretary for Veterans and Reservists Affairs and was created pursuant to Department Order No. 135 s-1996 specifically, to evaluate various studies that I submitted). I recommended that the DND/AFP work for the amendment of The Government Service Insurance Act of 1997 or RA 8291 so as to resume the coverage of the MUP under the CLI with GSIS, equal to the entitlement of the members of the judiciary and constitutional commissions. The monthly premium payment of members would be three (3) percent of base pay while the government pays an equal counterpart contribution. At present, the MUP are insured in respective private insurance firms, such as the AFPMBAI for the military, in which case, members are not entitled to counterpart contribution from the government. If all civilian government employees who work in offices are entitled to government-subsidized insurance, the MUP deserve the same. They used to enjoy that right until RA 8291 rescinded it.

Future Challenge

It may be recalled that pursuant to the letter of SND to the DBM dated 21 April 1997, the recommended laundry allowance was a uniform rate of P125 for officers and EP, equal to that for public health workers which has remained P125 to date. However, the DBM at that time, opted to reduce the proposed allowance equal to the prevailing rates then for military personnel performing specified duties entitled to the allowance.

Hence, it is reasonable and justifiable for the DND to recommend again to the President through DBM that laundry allowance for military personnel be made at par with the entitlement of public health workers at P125.

The other uniformed personnel agencies may consider recommending the same. 



Rational Decision-Making Can Make the Difference

• Cav Jaime S De Los Santos '69

Lately, the Bureau of Corrections (Bucor) has been the subject of comprehensive Senate inquiries. The problems and issues unearthed are so complex that they are beyond comprehension. It is very evident that management has been remiss in the exercise of the decision-making process. If one does not act immediately due to indecision, the opportunity vanishes unless a radical change is undertaken.

The decision-making process starts with the identification of the problem. The other significant components are the mission, exercise of authority, assumption of personal responsibility, and a decisive influence on the courses of action. The focus must be on the causal or root causes over the effect problems. The Senate inquiry exposed the gross ineptness of the office. Management focused on remedial and corrective measures through the iteration and sugar-coating of existing policies, a

recycling of past failed solutions, running around in circles, the more frequent of which reduces the quality of the decision. The outcome is a carry-over of past decisions. Past decisions were influenced by past events and not the future; therefore, there is an absence of creativity and innovation. In short, past decisions were just rehashed.

Decision must be based on knowledge and data. When it comes to the Bucor case, the decision-making process is slanted towards the whims and caprices of officials and inmates. Management ignored warnings that led to a host of problems affecting the quality of the decision. The integrity of data was doubtful. The internal alignment of the decisions with the organizational vision was incongruent. This is also one reason in the development of a negative mindset and the compromising of organizational cultures. It unmasked a serious information flaw.

All data as bases in decision-making were compromised if not reconstructed to adjust to administrative loopholes.

Officials lack the appreciation of the importance of the integrity of records. They cannot discriminate between the implied or expressed effects of indecision as long as their personal greed is satisfied. It has become a rule rather than an exception. Related to information management is the absence of an efficient communication channel system. Since almost all employees, management or rank and file levels, act on their own initiative, the official channels of communication are bypassed. Information becomes turf for influence and power which is rarely shared because each one is jealous of the other. It is one means to pursue personal selfish interests. The conflicting statements of the Bucor officials who testified revealed conflicting data, a consequence of the lack of coordination and teamwork. The leadership did not express any remorse or acceptance of command responsibility.

Failure to execute is the byproduct of indecision. They failed not because of bad policies, but because they did not carry out the policies well enough. In the execution of policies, efficiency does not rest only on the higher echelons of leadership, but likewise must be present and manifested in all levels of the chain of command, from the lowest rank to the topmost executive. A break in the chain collapses the common thread that links the organizational hierarchy. All levels have been infected with graft, inefficiency, ineffectiveness, and complacency. This is one major reason why, in spite of the appointment of generals with distinguished military and police service records, honed on leadership of the highest order, their stewardship was not good enough to influence the situation.

Experience can improve decision. Past chiefs possess vast experience but sometimes over-experience may lead to over-confidence, arrogance, and inaccurate perception which in turn limit creativity. It is an epidemic, its control and eradication are still in the research and development stage. The root cause of any breakdown is simply failure to execute. The operational breakdown had much to do with the underlying culture of the institution. It has metamorphosed into a culture of apathetic attitudes. The executives were not trying hard enough. The command staff, and rank and file employees have the necessary skills and training that defines their tasks and responsibilities. The real problem is that they do not try hard enough. Their motivation to perform is predicated on monetary consideration. They are callous about the consequences which their institution may suffer as a result. In short, they lack the corporate citizenship that defines strength and stability. When personal interests are disoriented relative to corporate goals, the operational and strategic outcomes will always be a disaster and end in failure. Its effects on governance and management will be irreversible. That


is what the majority of Filipino people see in Bucor — a fractured and hopeless bureaucracy. If it is compared to a publicly listed corporation, it could have crashed long time ago. Appointing the best, the brightest, those with a distinguished track record is no guarantee for success if reforms are done on a piecemeal basis.

How many Bucor chiefs have passed through its portal under different administrations? No value-added has ever been infused. The organization's members lack the understanding of the concept of professionalism and meritocracy. The colossal blunders that resulted in the Senate investigation are not isolated cases. In fact, they appear in clusters. Those in Bucor are content with mediocre performance. It has become the domain of failed governance. Probably, only a miracle can reverse the tsunami of misdeeds and underperformance.

The unmasking of corruption of unimaginable proportions surfaced due to the timely intervention of the President. Had the exposure been kept under wraps, probably cover-ups and justifications would have swept the anomalies to the dustbin. The President once again manifested his decisive leadership. It must also be emphasized that this issue is a carryover of past administrations increasing in arithmetic progression through the years.

Is the Bucor situation a hopeless case? If a cancer has metastasized and affected the vital organs of the body, no amount of palliatives or chemotherapy will reverse the situation. Is it logical to compare an organization to a human body? In simple parlance, the disease at Bucor has metastasized and has affected the inner recesses of its existence.

The strength of an institution depends on the quality of the decision mode at various levels in the organizational hierarchy. Peter Drucker said: "The great majority of decisions will lie between two extremes, a choice whether to act on a problem or not." It means that one has to act when a situation is about to deteriorate or when an opportunity arises. Inaction, and if one does not act due to indecision, are the inputs to failed governance. As the saying goes, indecision is worse than a wrong decision.

The grim reality must be viewed as a challenge. It must start from the rational application of the decision-making process. It can gradually develop traction that may reverse the situation. 

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*"The goal of the AFP Modernization Program reads: the Philippines has the longest coast line in the world next to Indonesia and Canada. The sea is extremely significant from an international, navigational, economic, geopolitical and strategic perspective. There is an urgent need to develop a modern and adequately equipped force that will ensure maritime and air space security." **National Security Strategy 2018***

Making a Choice Defending the Country's Seas

• Cav Manuel P Oxales '60

The selection of very expensive military assets, which include major weapons and equipment such as aircraft, ships, missiles, artillery and tanks, facilities and support structures to protect and defend a country. is a very crucial decision a government has to make. It is a classic choice of guns or bread. Have one, lose or reduce the other. As resources are limited more budget for defense results in less for education, health, public works and the other sectors. Upgrading a war arsenal to make it more effective and lethal faces the same issue. The American Indians who faced the early European settlers had to replace their bows and arrows with flint rifles to protect and secure their lands. General Emilio Aguinaldo, who at 29 years, headed the Revolutionary Army would not rely on Katipunero bolos. His soldiers attacked armories to get Spanish Mausers. While on exile in Hongkong, he bought arms using indemnity funds intended for the rebels provided by the Spanish colonial government under the Pact of Biak na Bato of 1897. From horses to motor vehicles in WW I or from artillery to missiles, propeller driven aircraft to jet powered, and unmanned aircraft vehicles, today, the issue of upgrading the country's armed forces have to be resolved with limited resources and many competing demands under consideration.

TIME, EFFORT, EXPENSE, SIGNIFICANCE (TEES). An oversimplified approach called by the acronym TEES may be applied on any activity or undertaking in an organization, an institution, in business or a policy issue in government. Apply resources, which include time of preparation, action to be taken, material, men and money needed in an activity of such importance where you have the best chance of success and the least failure, achieve the optimal results or most benefits, with

the least risks and losses. Some writers in management call it as cost benefit, cost effective analysis or an efficiency test.

Sporting events familiar and popular to Filipinos may exemplify this idea. Let us recall the FIBA world basketball tournament held in Shanghai, China last September 2019 where, the Philippines finished last, Nr. 32 with five straight losses. (In the 1950s our team finished among the top three in a world basketball tourney held in a South American country.) In basketball height, strong bodies and arms to ward off guards and accurate shooting make scores. Height which most Filipinos lack is a prime advantage in shooting and guarding. Not so in professional boxing where Filipinos excel and weight limits are set say for featherweight, it is 119 to 126 pounds. The winning combinations are fast, strong hitting fists, ability to fend off or evade an opponent's fist, speed of foot movements, body and head that can take hits. A boxer can fight up or down a weight group like Senator Pacquiao who is a champion in eight divisions. I cannot count how many world champions the Philippines have had since the Americans introduced boxing in the country.

Top players in professional basketball are paid as much as P500,000 a month, imports get more. Big companies spend for costly franchise and support of basketball teams earning big promotion of their products. Filipino boxers come from impoverished background, do not get regular income (unless given by patrons) and as professionals earn as they fight. But in world feats, win or loss, they are paid in dollars, earn enough for a comfortable living, buy a house, send children to school. Senator Pacquiao earned a wind fall that ordinary mortals can

only dream of. He was assessed billions of pesos in taxes, paid hundred million more, spent hundreds of millions for hospitals, schools, sports facilities and multipurpose buildings in his home province.

In both sports, private parties and sport associations provide funds, give attention and support. But it is in boxing where Filipinos pugilists have had more wins and become champions in regional and world tourneys. Their big earnings benefit more families and communities and bring more taxes to the government. The prestige and honor they give to the country and people are incalculable.

LESSONS FROM WORLD WAR II. There is however, a vast ocean of difference between sports, which is a friendly competition, and war, a violent confrontation. In the latter, enormous resources in men and material are harnessed and expended, the means employed are lethal and the outcome may result in countless death, unimaginable destruction, defeat and dishonor to a country.

To illustrate further the above mentioned approach in decision making, let me cite horrifying and disastrous events in WW II that will serve as lessons in the acquisition of major military assets.

Germany built its largest battleship, the Bismarck, years before war started on WW II on September 1, 1939 when German Panzers tanks invaded and Stuka bombers rained bombs on hapless Poland. The ship was armed with eight 16-inch guns and protected by 14-inch thick armor on the turret and 13 inches on the side. It was built to challenge the British Fleet composed of aircraft carriers, battleships, cruisers, destroyers and submarines, and which had almost complete dominance of the Atlantic Ocean and parts of the Mediterranean Sea. On its first offensive foray, it left via the North Sea in May 1941 bound for the Atlantic. In ten days in May 27, the British Fleet located, chased and hit it with a barrage of torpedoes and gun fire from ships and aircraft forcing the ship captain to scuttle the ship. It sunk with him and 2,000 sailors to the bottom of the sea. From thereon, Admiral Donitz, Chief of the German Navy opted to fight undersea in the vast Atlantic ocean where, stealth, surprise and cunning favored him. A flotilla of submarines, very much smaller than a battleship in size and much less costly to build destroyed hundreds of cargo ships and their escorts bound to allied countries in Europe and then Soviet Russia.

On December 10, 1941, two days after the Japanese naval task force attacked the U.S. Naval fleet in Pearl Harbor Honolulu Japanese Zeros, armed with torpedoes took off from aircraft carriers and flew 500 miles towards Singapore island, located and sunk the British battleship Prince of Wales and Repulse a battle cruiser, then held impregnable and invincible. Without naval protection, most aircraft on land destroyed and threatened with the cut of water supply from Malaysia now occupied by the Japanese Imperial Army. Lt General Arthur Percival, after a few skirmishes, surrendered on February 15, 1942, two months after Japan invaded Malaysia, his army numbering 100,000 British, Australian, Malaysian and Indian troops to General Yamashita's 30,000 soldiers.

After Japan lost four aircraft carriers in the Battle of Midway in May 1942 it began converting its biggest battleship, the Shinano of the Yamato class, into an aircraft carrier that carried

50 aircraft, armed with nine 18 inch guns, protected by 26 inch thick armor on the turret and 16 inches on the side and had a speed of 27 knots. Built under high secrecy, it was designed to strike at the U.S fleet which now sailed unopposed in the Pacific after it had disseminated the Japanese fleet in the Battle of Leyte Gulf in October 1944. Ten days after it was launched a lone U.S. submarine stalked its prey, ambushed and sunk it with four torpedoes on November 29. The submarine was about one fifth the size of the battle ship and its four torpedoes cost less than one of the 18-inch guns of the battleship.

Unprotected, unescorted big, slow moving ships despite their powerful and long-range guns and protected by very thick steel armor are sitting ducks from torpedoes launched from submarines and aircraft and attack by surface ships. Most navies of the world have decommissioned the battleships which are now moored in harbors as museum pieces.

In the closing years of the war in the Pacific in a desperate gamble to overcome weakness in naval and airpower, Japanese launched the Kamikaze attack, a piloted aircraft armed with powerful bombs to explode upon impact on an aircraft carrier, a battleship, and other big ships of the U.S. Navy.

It was the harbinger of a new weapon to come rockets, pilotless air vehicles, missiles, and unmanned aircraft vehicles, (UAVs), technically called Remotely Piloted Aircrafts or drones as popularly known.

It was General Henry 'Hap' Arnold commander of the U.S. Army Air Forces in 1945 as WW II in the Pacific was about to end had the foresight and said,

"The next war will be fought by airplanes without men in them at all...It will be different from anything the world has ever seen."

MISSILES AND AIRCRAFT UNMANNED VEHICLES (AUVS). Last September 18, 2018 an incident happened that may further influence current thinking on the acquisition of major weapons and equipment for war. In a surprise attack, some 25 land-based low altitude cruise missiles and AUVs or drones armed with powerful bombs hit and destroyed fifty per cent of the oil production of Saudi Arabia on which it derived 70% of its states revenues. While it has supplied only 5% of the world demand for oil, its price per barrel shot up in the world market. How effective are air defense systems-detection and warning and, anti-missiles against low altitude flying drones? Saudi Arabia is the world largest buyer of military hardware next to U.S. and China. Last year, it bought some US \$70 billion of weapons mostly from U.S and Great Britain.

UAVs have both civilian and commercial and military and police uses and are currently used for reconnaissance, surveillance and armed attacks. For the past decades, they were employed in the conflicts in the Balkans, countries in Africa, Middle East and Central Asia. A drone cost very much less. A complete UAV system that includes the cost the four unmanned aircraft, the ground component and electronics of a Predator model cost about US\$40 million. An important feature is that drones are pilotless and less costly to acquire and maintain.

MISSILES, NOT SHIPS. This was the gist of the statement of Roilo Golez, who died last June, former National Security Adviser of President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, a three-term

Congressman who strongly proposed missiles to protect the country's maritime space in response to the P60 billion proposal to buy four more frigates, to add to the two at present. He was a graduate of U.S. Naval Academy 1970 and a younger brother was a former FOIC of the Philippine Navy. He said six frigates could not patrol, watch and protect a vast ocean of the country's EEZ, 200 nautical miles or 370 kms from the territorial baselines and extended continental shelf ECS which extend to 320nm out to the sea, to include the Philippine Rise, and which have a combined area of 531,000 kms, far larger than the 300,000 square km of the Philippine archipelago. Against missiles, ships, submarines and warplanes.

(Fifteen years ago, as a Guest Speaker at the gathering of PMA alumni in Camp Aguinaldo, he compared the capabilities of the armed forces of ASEAN countries and warned that that unless we update our military capabilities we could not effectively protect our territorial space and maritime zones. In the early 1980s as member of the planning staff at GHQ we used to land on an airstrip in Philippine occupied Kalayaan Island which is part of the energy rich Spratly Islands and Islets being contested by several countries. We flew over these islands and we did not see any build up structures nor a runway in the Mischief Reef and islets.)

ANTI-ACCESS-ANTI-DENIAL. Golez's position found support from a Washington-based think tank, Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessment (CSBA) asked U.S. and her allies to help the Philippines acquire not frigates, but maritime surveillance aircraft to watch our maritime seas, anti-ship missiles to deter and destroy intruders and anti-aircraft systems to protect our missiles and bases. Planes can cover in just hours much larger areas than ships and their on-board radar can see beyond the horizontal limits of ships. Hidden on land, mobile anti-ship missiles can hit targets hundred miles away. Cruise missile in aircraft can hit surface ships while out of range of their defensive guns. Land based concealed missile batteries can track and hit aircraft before they can line up their targets.

These A2/AD assets weapons and equipment will provide more surveillance and deterrence, and destructible capabilities at a cost much lesser than P75 billion for six frigates. (A2/AD is a strategy to deny an adversary from occupying or traversing an area of land, sea or air. It is not aimed at total prevention but to severely and sufficiently restrict, slowdown and endanger the opponent.)

CSBA said what could P35 billion or US\$700 million buy with less than one-half of the cost of six frigates. First, the Navy should buy is marine patrol aircraft. Japan had already donated eight T90 Beechcraft-design MPAs. Add a surveillance capable plane like the C295 that ordered by PAF in 2014 from Europe Airbus joint venture with Casa Spain which cost about US\$60 million. Less costly planes are CASAs smaller C212 (\$20million) and Germany Dornier 228 (\$12million). Cost of one C295, two C-212s and two Dorniers would total \$150million including ancillary facilities. For anti-ship missiles, Secretary Golez recommended the purchase from India 200 BrahMos supersonic ASM capable of hitting target 300 to 400 kms away at \$3million each. Hence the entire EES will be covered. The Army was already considering long range anti-ship missiles. It budgeted US 144 million for 12 launchers. It may opt for the 200 km range Type 88 or 12 ASMs made by Mitsubishi. The Navy could get 50 BrahMos (\$150 million) or 200 type 88s or 12s. These missile

launchers are truck mounted and mobile. That leaves \$200 million for air defense and for fast missile craft like Indonesia's KCR missile boats.

In sum, CSBA asked, "Which can monitor our vast seas more effectively and pose risks to intruders: six frigates with maybe 20 or so anti-ship missiles of 150-200 km range, costing \$1.5 billion total or five marine patrol aircraft (plus eight donated by Japan), 250 long and medium range mobile and camouflaged ASMs with air defense and fleets of KCR 40s and 60s -at half the price?"

(The discussions on Secretary Golez and CSBA's proposals which included a list of A2/AD assets were excerpted from Mr. Ricardo Saludo's column, 'To Protect the Seas Get Missiles, Not Ships', Manila Times 29 August 2019.)

These military assets have been in the pipeline or are under consideration and evaluation as indicated from published reports and from the AFP Modernization Program. The Army has been evaluating the 200BrahMos ASM, surface to air missiles, anti-missile warning systems from Israel and other countries, and the use of drones. The PAF will complete its order of 12 FA-50 fighter jets and is considering fighter interceptors and radars offered by U.S and other countries. It offered to buy five maritime patrol trainer aircraft from Japan. It will also acquire Scan Eagle UAVs. PN is evaluating proposals to install anti-ship missiles on board the two frigates, fast patrol craft with anti-ship missile, with longer range and capable of speed up to 50 knots, anti-submarine helicopters.

Current planning for the acquisition of major military assets is from bottom to top, unlike many, many decades ago when in most cases purchases or acquisitions were handed down from 'upstairs.'

The major services have a much better knowledge and understanding of the environment where their assets will operate, are aware of the strength and weaknesses of these assets and the threats they face. Hence, they are in a much better position to determine the most effective major weapons, equipment and facilities needed to perform their assigned mission and tasks. Many top officials of the DND and AFP have been schooled in management tools like systems analysis, operations research, cost effective analysis, war gaming and simulation, integrated defense planning and other decision-making approaches.

Hence, we are assured of a sound choice.

This paper is a modest contribution in achieving a defense goal as envisioned in the National Security Strategy 2018. More bang for less buck, and less sitting fat ducks. 🇵🇭

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Four Classes Barracks Integration Scheme

• Headquarters Academic Group, PMA

The Philippine Military Academy aims to eradicate maltreatment and other forms of malpractices in the CCAFP. In attaining these goals vis-a-vis the nature and character of military training, innovations and changes to the institution and its system are necessary. As a result, the Four Classes Barracks Integration Scheme was introduced.

As part of the Command's Quality Assurance Process and to assess if the implemented program is relevant, effective and responsive to the needs of the Academy, a survey was initiated to acquire the cadets' level of response and perspectives on the implications of the Four Classes Barracks Integration Scheme. The survey was conducted on 25 October and 07 November 2019. There were 255 Fourth Class Cadets, 245 Third Class Cadets, 152 Second Class Cadets, and 169 First Class Cadets who participated in the survey.

With the indulgence of all concerned, the Superintendent sees it best that the result of the survey will be reported through this publication so that every member of the PMA community, including the alumni, will be on the same page with us as we continue to institute reforms towards a better Academy. As with any other scheme, the Four Classes Barracks Integration is a work in progress, thus, we will continue to implement necessary interventions in the process, and to seek for the support of the Alumni in order to develop the correct mindset among the cadets and establish a culture that will be embraced from one generation to another.

Four Classes Barracks Integration Scheme: Perception and Implications

INTRODUCTION

The core of the education and training in the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) is to develop leaders of character who possess the needed critical thinking skills and decisiveness as future military officers in the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP). This being the end state, military training is designed to be cognitively, physiologically and psychologically demanding. Part of this heavy demand in training is to simulate stressful combat conditions in order to prepare cadets as qualified warfighters. Thus, the training environment extends not just in the classroom and training field but also in the barracks; this is known as regimented military life. This nature of the Academy intends to develop the cadets towards their enculturation into military life. However, this peculiarity of military training likewise entails the emergence of undesirable subcultures and establishment of negative practices within the Corps – maltreatment being one such practice, where the plebes in particular are subjected to physical and mental torment by upperclassmen.

The PMA Leadership aims to eradicate maltreatment and other malpractices in the CCAFP. In attaining these goals vis-à-vis the challenges presented during training, innovations and changes to the institution and its system are necessary. Part of the said change is the alteration of room composition within the cadet barracks, where cadets are no longer billeted based on homogeneity in class but rather of heterogeneous composition of roommates. That is, the four cadets in a room shall be composed of the different classes in the CCAFP instead of four roommates being members of the same class. This heterogenous room composition is called the Four Classes Barracks Integration Scheme.

The rationale behind the Integration Scheme is grounded on the idea of inter-relationships based on empowerment, responsibility, and accountability. Empowerment can enhance

cooperation and performance if trust exists within the team (Robbins, et. al., 2001, p.349). In this case, the upperclass cadets are empowered to check their own ranks and not the external environment of the Corps intervening and micromanaging their affairs. This subsequently follows that the Command can demand accountability from the upperclass corps. Empowerment expands the role of upperclass cadets, thus, the responsibility becomes paramount in their exercise of leadership. Accountability is a result of responsibility and responsibility is result of empowerment.

The Integration Scheme has been proven effective in fighting maltreatment cases in the National Defense Academy of Japan (NDA). In the case of NDA, the barracks setup is that 12 cadets are billeted in one room. These 12 cadets comprise of 2-3 cadets per class where the two 1CL cadets are designated as Room Commander and Assistant Room Commander. The said cadets are given the authority over the underclass cadets. It is responsibility of the 1CL cadets to continuously account his/her roommates. Moreover, the former is directly responsible in tracking the progress of the performance of the cadets in the room. Thus, this scheme deters the cases of maltreatment because the system of checks and balance and the integration of empowerment, responsibility, and accountability are at play.

Towards these effects, the Philippine Military Academy also aims to enhance accountability and responsibility within its ranks. One of the measures taken was a previous implementation of the "Integration" of the different classes in one room within the Cadet Barracks back in 2001. Here, the Integration program was first implemented for six months as part of the pilot study to observe cadets' response and behavior. Lacking, however, were concrete studies to ensure the effectiveness of the program and enforce its implementation. It should be noted that integration was likewise implemented to PMA Classes '63, '64, and '65. At

the current reimplementation of the Integration Scheme, the Command intends to ensure that the implemented program is relevant, effective, and responsive to the needs of the military training. To this end, a survey was initiated to acquire the cadets' perspectives on the implications of the Four Classes Barracks Integration Scheme.

This study aimed to determine the cadets' perceived level of response on the Integration Program. Specifically, it sought to answer the following questions:

- (1) What is the cadets' perception on the integration program?
- (2) Is there a significant difference on the cadets' perception of the Integration Scheme in terms of classes?
- (3) What is the impact of the integration program in terms of cadets' academic program?
- (4) What are the implications of the Integration Programmed as perceived by the cadets?
- (5) What are the suggested recommendations to strengthen the effectiveness of the Integration Program?

METHODS

This study utilized a descriptive survey method to examine the cadets' perception on the Integration Program. The manifestations of common responses in the verbal responses were further explored and described utilizing a qualitative research design.

DATA SOURCE

The respondents of this study at the time the survey was conducted are as follows: 255 Fourth Class Cadets; 245 Third Class Cadets; 152 Second Class Cadets; and 169 First Class Cadets of the Philippine Military Academy.

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

To determine the perceived level of effectiveness of the integration program, the weighted mean was used. To determine the differences of the responses of the cadets per item in the survey statement, the modal frequency count and percentage was used. Further, one-way ANOVA was used to measure the differences on cadets' perception in terms of classes and in terms of cadets' training program category (academic, non-academic, leadership and personal development).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

This chapter discussed the results of the study substantiated with interpretations and implications of the salient findings. Citations of relevant literature were also incorporated to support the findings of the study.

In general, the members of the Cadet Corps exhibit positive response in the acceptance on the Four Classes Barracks Integration Program- that yields a grand mean of 3.23. This means that the Corps has an average positive response relating to the said program. The center of distribution of observations indicated that the Cadets Corps agree to the implementation of the Four Classes Barracks Integration.

Other parameters presented in the above table is the weighted Mean per class which showed that both the 4CL and the 2CL cadets exhibited a very high positive response (Strongly Agree) while the 3CL and 1CL cadets responded an average positive response (Agree).

Fourth Class Cadets' Perception in the Integration Program

The overall response of the 4CL cadets on the survey questions yield a total mean of 3.3 which means that the respondents had a very high positive response on the implementation of the program. Specifically, the quantitative responses which were rated as very high with a 3.26 – 4.00 range are those under motivations for studying as well as accomplishing academic and non-academic compliances. Also rated very high positive responses were those on upperclassmen's exercise of leadership and fostering of camaraderie in the barracks where the 4CL cadets observe and appreciate. On the other hand, there is a high positive response that 4CL cadets 'feel good' on the new integration scheme, and likewise agree that there is no maltreatment under this scheme.

Presented also in the table 1 is the standard deviation or SD; this showed the closeness or dispersion of individual cadet response from the mean. In almost all items, this shows that the 4CL cadets had an average close to the mean response per item except for item number 2 (*I learn better under the new integration scheme*) which has a mean of 3.58 and an SD of 1.88. In other words, it characterized that some responses under this item had a typical distance of an observation from the distribution center or middle value. Thus, 4CL cadets' response has some degree of variability. Meaning, the 4CL cadets have a distinct view, varied responses, and different perceptions under this item.

The result in the quantitative response corroborated with the cadets' verbal response. Some 77% of the Fourth Class Cadets, who were respondents of the study, cited that the program is highly effective. Cadets mentioned that their academic and non-academic performance, personal hygiene, self-efficacy (how they feel about themselves- like the feeling of becoming "snappier" and more diligent) and the total well-being as cadets and learners were greatly improved. As described by Center for Disease and Prevention (2019) on the importance of well-being, well-being is a positive outcome that is meaningful for people... it tells us that people perceive that their lives are going well. Having good living conditions, cleanliness and orderliness during military training, are fundamentals to cadets' well-being.

Robbins, et al, 2001, p. 284, as cited by Velasco, et al, 2004, explained that these 4CL cadets' behavior mirrors the blending of the said group of cadets to the norms of the Corps. All groups, like the CCAFP, have established acceptable standards of behavior that are shared by the group's members which are called norms. These norms guide members on what they ought or ought not to do under certain circumstances; that is, norms dictate what is expected of the person in certain situations. When agreed to and accepted by the group, norms act as a means of influencing the behavior of group members with a minimum of external controls' (Robbins, et al, 2001, p. 284, as cited by Velasco, et al, 2004).

McLeod (2008) further strengthened the claim of Velasco, et al, 2004 by citing that one's behavior can be influenced through the presence of others who seemed to set up expectations. In most cases, the culture of the old system is that 4CL cadets were seen as too sluggish, lacked care of their personal hygiene, and were seen dozing and non-attentive in their academics and non-academics compliances. Thus, the presence of the upperclass cadets entails its own particular set of expectations about the "proper" way on how the plebes behave in accordance to the standards of the Corps. The plebes will live and act in accordance to the expectation and the roles that each room mate play. McLeod (2008) further added that the behavior of the person changes to fit the expectations that an individual and others have of that role.

4CL cadets also mentioned in the verbal response that the integration program also improved the Barracks and Company procedures and system. Reporting system also became clear and this provided the upperclass cadets with a venue to expand their roles. Furthermore, 2CL and 1CL cadets became more responsible and accountable on the welfare of the 3CL and the 4CL cadets.

When the upperclass cadet will be given the responsibility over his underclass roommates, the former will instill in them the seriousness of their role in molding their underclass cadets into future gentlemen and officers. Thus, upperclass corps is empowered to initiate things for the improvement of the training system, thereby strengthening the upperclass system and the inter-relationship with the underclass (Velasco, et al, 2004). Discipline without relationship is doomed to fail and equals rebellion. Thus, the room integration allows the upperclass Corps to build mentor-mentee relationship, hence, effectively influence over the underclass cadets.

The new system provided the cadets with a venue for leadership development (followership and leadership). The claim of Velasco, et al (2004) on role expansion leads to leadership-responsibility and empowerment was supported by Farnworth and Galie (2019) in the latter's study on organizational psychology, that empowerment best works on the concept of job enlargement or what the former authors called as role expansion.

In the result in the verbal response, 4CL cadets cited good implications of the new program such as: it helps the cadets become snappy- by observing well the actions of the roommates' upperclass cadets; and this also strengthened the bond of the upperclass and the lower classes cadets. Cadets' verbal response also revealed that the upperclass cadets served as mentors and coach to the Fourth Class cadets. Moreover, 4CL cadets learned the basics of cadetship from mere observing the day to day actions of the upperclass roommates. In psychology parlance, these cadets' responses are termed as observational learning and this can be very helpful to the new cadet entrant. This is likewise under the principle of social cognitive perspective focused explicitly on both modeling and cognition; understanding the behavior of the upperclass cadets lead to learning by imitation (Bandura, n.d.) Meanwhile, behavior analysts have continued to contend that observational learning can be explained through processes of generalized imitation, conditioned reinforcement,

and rule-governed behavior (Catania, 2007; Pear, 2001; Pierce & Cheney, 2008). This feedback showed that the integration program strengthened 4CL cadets' learning on the basics of cadetship.

However, a small percentage (12%) Cadets' response also revealed that they have negative comments on the Integration Scheme at the start, however, their experiences proven otherwise. 4CL cadets also touched on the seemingly uneasy feeling that they have in their rooms because they cannot just simply move without asking permission from the upperclass cadets. Cadets generally perceived that the process of integration is a deliberate action on the part of the Academy. However, the respondents remain hopeful that it will instill effective changes in the Cadet Corps and improve the prevailing system- elimination of maltreatment for the welfare of the cadets. Kanter (2012) from Harvard University cited this reaction as normal resistance to change due to excess uncertainty, but despite of it, 4CL cadets showed massive support to the implementation of the integration scheme. Moreover, the transformation of the cadets' reaction from negative to positive reaction falls under the theory of self efficacy of which was rated as "high". Self-efficacy refers to the people's beliefs about their capabilities to produce the designated levels of performance that exercise influence over events that affects their lives (Bandura, 1994).

Moreover, in the aspect of eradicating all forms of maltreatment in the CCAFP, the 4CL cadets have three varying opinion in this case (1) one group said that the new system eradicates maltreatment; (2) the second group (19%) cited that the eradication of all forms of maltreatment is dependent on "who" the upperclass cadets the plebes are with- as roommates (3) the last group of respondents revealed that the new scheme did not totally eliminate maltreatment, only that it was less frequent. Maltreatment still exists especially when the other upperclass cadets (1CL and 2CL) were not around. One cadet cited that the violent culture started to go back again to the old system as of the time that the survey was gathered. The presence of risk factors perpetuating cycles of maltreatment maybe due to the cadets' (3CL) psychological thinking that since they had experienced the same ordeal, the same should be handed down to their underclassmen. The research evidence available considers the links between being a victim of maltreatment and going on to experience violence in later life, either as a victim or a perpetrator of collective, self-directed or interpersonal violence (WHO, undtd).

However, there is one aspect which was not covered in the item statements in the survey but was revealed in the qualitative responses. Cadets cited that the integration program only increases the malpractice of "shabbity"- wherein financial whacking and unlimited compliances of producing material and food needed by the upperclass cadets are being made to produce by the 4CL. Moreover, personal tasks (like preparing the upperclass cadets' uniform) were being handed down by the upperclass cadets to the 4CL cadet roommates. It was also noted that class integrity and communications of the 4CL cadets started to wane- given the fact that the 4CL cannot easily visit the other room of their mistahs (classmates) due to the presence of the upperclass cadets. Thus, coordination and communication became very difficult between class members.

Q1: Cadets' Perception on the Integration Program

Table 1: Cadets Perception on the Integration Program

Statements	Fourth Class			Third Class			Second Class			First Class		
	Mean	SD	Interpretation	Mean	SD	Interpretation	Mean	SD	Interpretation	Mean	SD	Interpretation
1. I perform my academic compliances better.	3.39	0.59	Strongly Agree	2.96	0.70	Agree	3.22	0.86	Agree	3.06	0.91	Agree
2. I learn better under the new integration scheme.	3.58	1.88	Strongly Agree	2.97	0.67	Agree	3.18	0.78	Agree	3.05	0.90	Agree
3. Academic compliances are more difficult under the integration.	2.94	0.86	Disagree	2.65	0.77	Disagree	2.68	0.89	Disagree	2.49	0.98	Agree
4. I am more motivated to study.	3.23	0.68	Agree	2.95	0.66	Agree	3.19	0.72	Agree	2.95	0.93	Agree
5. I can read my lessons in advance under the integration system.	3.03	0.75	Agree	2.71	0.67	Agree	3.11	0.76	Agree	2.81	0.91	Agree
6. I perform my non- academic compliances better.	3.23	0.63	Agree	3.02	2.06	Agree	3.32	0.68	Strongly Agree	3.00	0.91	Agree
7. The integration is beneficial to most of the members of the CCAFP.	3.39	0.60	Strongly Agree	3.18	0.64	Agree	3.45	0.68	Strongly Agree	3.11	0.94	Agree
8. Routines in the barracks are strictly observed.	3.37	0.59	Strongly Agree	3.11	0.66	Agree	3.22	0.85	Agree	2.98	1.05	Agree
9. The new integration scheme is favorable only to the plebes.	3.16	0.77	Disagree	2.59	0.85	Disagree	2.96	0.88	Disagree	2.72	1.05	Agree
10. The new integration scheme gives more responsibility to upperclassmen.	2.71	0.91	Agree	3.28	0.68	Strongly Agree	3.44	0.72	Strongly Agree	3.27	0.92	Strongly Agree
11. Leadership by example is conveyed to underclassmen.	3.42	0.63	Strongly Agree	3.41	0.61	Strongly Agree	3.61	0.53	Strongly Agree	3.45	0.76	Strongly Agree
12. Upperclassmen can exercise leadership under the new integration scheme	3.54	0.57	Strongly Agree	3.32	0.68	Strongly Agree	3.64	0.48	Strongly Agree	3.34	0.84	Strongly Agree
13. Camaraderie is developed under this scheme.	3.47	0.63	Strongly Agree	3.34	0.61	Strongly Agree	3.57	0.51	Strongly Agree	3.28	0.84	Strongly Agree
14. I see my roommates as my mentors and leaders.	3.58	0.60	Strongly Agree	3.33	0.60	Strongly Agree	3.47	0.64	Strongly Agree	3.01	0.95	Agree
15. I get enough number of hours of sleep	3.33	0.72	Strongly Agree	3.25	0.65	Agree	3.47	0.67	Strongly Agree	3.32	0.86	Strongly Agree
16. Observance of personal hygiene is improved.	3.65	0.52	Strongly Agree	3.41	0.63	Strongly Agree	3.57	0.50	Strongly Agree	3.56	0.70	Strongly Agree
17. The new integration scheme is a form of punishment to upperclassmen.	3.40	0.62	Strongly Disagree	2.99	0.75	Disagree	2.98	0.98	Disagree	3.11	0.93	Disagree
18. The new integration scheme deprives upperclassmen of rest and sleep.	3.49	0.66	Strongly Disagree	2.96	0.78	Disagree	2.91	0.94	Disagree	3.27	0.84	Disagree
19. Respect for human dignity is emphasized in the integrations system	3.31	0.61	Strongly Agree	3.20	0.54	Agree	3.43	0.59	Strongly Agree	3.35	0.80	Strongly Agree
20. I can attend to my personal necessities.	3.27	0.63	Strongly Agree	3.15	0.63	Agree	3.45	0.53	Strongly Agree	3.38	0.71	Strongly Agree
21. I feel good about the new integration scheme.	3.28	0.68	Strongly Agree	3.07	0.69	Agree	3.48	0.55	Strongly Agree	3.23	0.88	Agree
22. There is no maltreatment under this scheme.	3.19	0.80	Agree	3.38	0.63	Strongly Agree	3.45	0.80	Strongly Agree	3.57	0.69	Strongly Agree
23. The new composition of cadets per room deters maltreatment	3.18	0.75	Agree	3.29	0.68	Strongly Agree	3.47	0.67	Strongly Agree	3.51	0.69	Strongly Agree
Mean per Class	3.31		Strongly Agree	3.11		Agree	3.32		Strongly Agree	3.17		Agree
Grand Mean	3.23- Agree											

Ranges for the Mean	Interpretation
3.26 – 4.00	Strongly Agree
2.51 – 3.25	Agree
1.76 – 2.50	Disagree
1.00 – 1.75	Strongly Disagree

*Note: Inverse Interpretation for negative statements that has been marked with RED

Third Class Cadets' Perception in the Integration Program

The 3CL cadets on the other hand, being on the process of transition from their 4CL years to their yearling years still gave a positive response which is 3.11. The response of the yearling on the survey is not as high as the fourth class cadets' response but it manifested a strong desire on their part to establish reforms even if it means they have to exert extra effort to mentor the plebes from the rudiments of barracks inspection, parades and inspection, and in their academics.

In the aspect of academic and non-academic (barracks routines) implications of the integration system, this Group of cadets "agree" that integration system helped on this construct. However, the level of positive response is not that high. Both the two above mentioned classes cited that what hampers the performance in both academic and non academic compliances was brought about by less communication in the barracks among the members of the class. Mistahs or classmates found it hard to coordinate in team performance tasks and group work activities because of the inconvenience presented as to how their classmates are billeted in separate rooms. A high level of agreement was noted in the impact of integration system in leadership and personal development.

In the aspect of dispersion and closeness of cadets' response, 3CL cadets had very closed and knitted response on the survey except for item number 6 "I perform in my non-academic compliances better," with a mean of 3.02 (Agree) and SD of 2.06. In this item, 3CL cadets' response is too varied and sparse. It means that cadets' level of agreement on this area has high degree of variability. This means that cadets' answers are too sparse ranging from, Strongly Agree to Strongly Disagree and the variability of the responses are scattered and distant from the mean.

Majority of the 3CL cadets (64%) qualitatively gave a comment that the integration scheme is effective and is seen as beneficial and good for the Cadets Corps. 3CL cadets cited that the new system brought various good implications such as: easy supervision and monitoring of the status of the 4CL roommates in terms of its performance in Academics, Military courses and also in Physical development. The new system has greatly improved barracks routine and systems in reporting and accounting; camaraderie and bond among roommates from different classes has been strengthened; and some viewed that it deters maltreatment. Velasco, et al, 2004, called this as good implications of a socially mixed room. The integration of various cadet's activities in a "socially-mixed" room will further enhance team-building, and this is very important in an organization, much more, the military organization wherein one's survival in the area depends upon the other (Velasco, et al, 2004).

The socially mixed room or what PMA termed as Integration Program is also called as "organizational need for integration" in management theory. The room composition is too complex and diverse. But across the diversity with each pursuing their individual objectives, this ensures that organizational goals are being pursued and that each cadet in the room will survive the challenges of cadetship. Management gurus like Bekke (1959) proved that unity in diversity has various personal and organizational impacts such as increase in structural dimensions, specialization, conflict resolution and better performance and productivity. The said organizational changes can be equated to the good implications cited by the third class cadets in the previous paragraph.

Moreover, the mentoring and coaching skills of the 3CL to the 4CL cadets develop further the learning of the former and the latter. Thus, it was considered as a two way approach to learning. 3CL cadets viewed this as an opportunity on the part of the yearlings to apply the very essence of role modeling and mentoring to the plebes.

4CL cadets, in like manner, also imbibe the culture of seniority as the latter cadets continually observe the presence of the upperclassmen. Cleanliness in each room greatly improved and cadets get well organized i.e., upperclass cadets let their 4CL cadets take a bath daily, teach the plebes to do the proper way of shining and cleaning in a very fast and efficient manner. All occupants in the room tried its best to observe the neatness and cleanliness of the room- 4CL cadets do their job and in like manner upperclass cadets try their best to set good examples to the lower classes. Social norms, as a psychological theory, clearly play a role in this exhibited behavior of the cadets. The theory of doxa put forward by Bourdieu (1977: 167) suggested that some social norms are so deeply embedded "in our ways of thinking and acting that a person follows it unconsciously and without deliberation."

These actions exhibited by both the 3CL and 4CL cadets are part of the cadets' development program in mentoring and coaching. 4CL cadets are trained to become a good follower to their direct mentor and coach- the 3CL cadets. In like manner, 3CL cadets are expected to set good example to the plebes. And during the mentoring process, 4CL cadets learned new concepts and skills while the 3CL cadets develop the sense of self mastery on the things they taught to the 4CL cadets. Lunsford (2011) called this learning environment as a relationship that can transform talented mentors into elite performers. There has been limited empirical study on the psychology of the mentoring relationship. However, this environment was already proven in other psychological research studies that mentoring provided both the mentee and mentor an environment with more benefits and room for personal development. Hansford, Tennent & Ehrich, 2002 also supported this claim and stressed that mentoring was an overwhelmingly positive learning process for both mentors and mentees alike.

However, 15% of the 3CL cadets echoed their urge to have the new system be checked, to ensure that the new scheme will really address or prevent maltreatment. 3% of the respondents suggested to strictly implement the new program; however the statement lacks further elaboration on what particular aspect that needs tighter implementation. This is one of the vague result areas that needs to be checked or will be subjected for further research study.

Less than 10% of the 3CL cadet respondents cited that the integration program weakened class integrity and bonding among class members. 3CL cadets also commented that their patience over the 4CL cadets was also challenged since there are some 4CL cadets who do not attempt to clean nor fix the room. Others cited that it is very challenging to lead the 4CL cadets, stressing the rigors and challenges in mentoring. Although the mentoring environment, provided a beneficial environment, it is also coupled with challenges.

The results from this study revealed, not surprisingly, considerable commonalities in the results of other psychological research. For mentors, for instance, personal or professional incompatibility, undesirable mentee behaviors and attributes such as lack of commitment and unrealistic expectations were issues that caused problems for mentoring relationships (Erich et.al., 2011). Mentoring psychology journals also explained that in addition, for some mentors, mentoring to some incorrigible individuals was sometimes viewed as burden or workload issue that often went unnoticed. Mentees were concerned by a lack of mentor interest and training and a host of problematic mentor attributes and behaviors (like critical or defensive behaviors). Professional or personal incompatibility or incompatibility based on other factors was also seen by both mentors and mentees as impediments to the success of the relationship (Erich et.al., 2011).

Second Class Cadets' Perception in the Integration Program

The 2CL cadets' responses on the survey yield an overall mean score of 3.32 which means that the 2CL cadets show an average positive response on the effects of integration as regards to their academic performance, barracks routines and system enhancement, leadership and personal development. This result corroborates also the respondents' qualitative response in the verbal survey wherein 58.23% of the 2CL cadets cited good implications of the program.

The percentage of the Cadets' response can be calculated between 40th percentile (the lower quartile –48% of the data lie above this value) and the 98th percentile (the upper quartile – 98% of the data lie below this value). From this we can determine the inter-quartile range (IQR) which is represented by the 48th and 98th percentiles and encompasses the middle 50% of the data. Thus, the response of the 2CL cadets ranged within that IQR and can be seen that it is not thoroughly varied.

The respondents mentioned that emulation of good leadership and setting as good examples to the underclass cadets can be best exercised in this scheme. Both the essence of followership, discipleship and leadership are all well exercised in the barracks. A cadet was quoted, "*when I cleaned the room, immediately the 3CL and 4CL cadets followed.... unlike nong magmimistah kami sa iisang room kasigaan lang nagyayari.*" This observation illustrates the essence of "Leadership by Example". But in the world of psychology, the action can be best explained under observational learning, wherein there is a proposed localization of different visuo-motor representations of action in the cadets' brain. Chartrand & Bargh, 1999 explained that humans have a tendency to mimic the observed actions of the individual they see, and a series of studies demonstrate direct effects of a perceived action on the performance of a similar or different action (Brass, Bekkering, & Prinz, 2001; Heyes, 2001). Moreover, there are several reasons to believe that mimicry and imitation behavior has an important social function. Thus, this will create a bonding and socialization among roommates from different classes.

There is an agreement in the psychological research that shows a correlation between mentoring and leadership development of leaders. The mentee, the 2CL cadet, who guided the 4CL and 3CL cadets also learned on the process of mentoring. Mentoring offers significant benefits for leaders including: role socialization, reduced feelings of isolation, professional development, increased job satisfaction, improved leadership skills and leadership-capacity building (Browne-Ferrigno & Muth, 2004; Scandura, Wether & Lankau, 1996; Stott & Walker, 1992). 2CL cadets responded that followership and discipleship can be best exercised in the barracks, this has a positive implication that mentoring as leadership development can be viewed as a model based on relational learning that is helpful in co-creating a learning environment (Beattie, 2002) in the Cadet Corps.

Similar to the two lower classes, 2CL cadets also observed that the new system promotes the observational learning to the underclass cadets. Observational learning describes the process of learning through watching others, retaining the information, and then later replicating the behaviors that a person observed. Like the other previous classes, 2CL cadets also saw this action as a sincere action to deter maltreatment in the Academy because the room's composition is no longer confined with single class. Thus, a system of check and balance is working. Moreover, bonding with other classes, development of 4CL observation skills, and mentoring were also seen as good implications of this program.


But despite of the cited good implications, 20.3% of the 2CL cadets also raised some bad implications of the program. Respect of the 4CL cadets to other upperclass cadets depreciated because some

of the 4CL cadets were being spoiled by the 1CL cadets. Moreover, class and academic compliances became harder to comply and class disseminations were sometimes stalled since the members of the class were thinly distributed to different rooms in the barracks. One cadet mentioned that it is very hard to open up their feelings, views and opinions to their roommates since they are not their classmates. Rooms were also very quiet that one needs to observe his/ her actions.

Similar to the 4CL cadets' response, 2CL cadets also raised the issue of increase "shabbity." Cadets also commented that upperclass cadets asked a lot of personal stuffs such as ironing of uniforms and shining of parading paraphernalia. The strengthening of this malpractice has been considered as a byproduct consequence of the change in the system. Observational learning and social norms are learning process comprise of: "*Norms – understanding the environment- selective learning (adopt the desirable one and reject the undesirable one) – conformity - interdependent relationship.*" Since cadets are rational beings, the learning process is considered as selective in nature and cadets will selectively adopt which behavior is considered as desirable. Conformity to the observed behavior of the other person will only be done through a series understanding the behavior before adopting it. Velasco, et al (2004) cited that those things happen and strongly disagree for the so-called shabby orders as "part of the Academy's traditional practices". Everything done in the formative years of an officer serves as the strong foundation from which an officer and a gentleman of the armed forces are molded on. Thus, the courses relating to psychology and the psychological processes done by the Cadet Welfare Office can be of great help- to lead the cadets in proper way of thinking selective learning.

2CL cadets played an important role in eliminating Corps malpractices. Velasco, et al (2004), pointed out that setting as good example to squad mates will resort to good things when 4CL cadets become upperclassmen. Such good example might produce a multiplier effect on a better practice of leadership in such a little way for a start. Hence the latter follows the said good example of the upperclass corps and deviate from the so called traditional malpractices in the Academy.

The above suggested assumption discussed by Velasco has similarity on the famous Bobo doll experiment done by Bandura. The author demonstrated that young children would imitate the violent and aggressive actions of an adult model. In the experiment, children observed a film in which an adult repeatedly hit a large, inflatable balloon doll. After viewing the film clip, children were allowed to play in a room with a real Bobo doll just like the one they saw in the film. What Bandura found was that children were more likely to imitate the adult's violent actions when the adult either received no consequences or when the adult was actually rewarded for their violent actions. Children who saw film clips in which the adult was punished for this aggressive behavior were less likely to repeat the behaviors later on (Kendra, 2019).

Thus, if the Bobo doll experiment replicates and is also true to the cadets' behavior, there are certain interventions that are already in place that will serve as strengthening measures to eliminate undesirable aggressive behavior. One is the Cadet Welfare Office's action: (1) continuous psychological processing so that all cadets will understand the possible consequence of their action. (2) 2CL cadets should be educated on their role as models in their squad and importance of their day to day action on how it mirrors to create good multiplier effect in eliminating Corps malpractices. (3) the Corps should be well indoctrinated to eliminate the culture of glorifying maltreatment- as these are actions that was emphasized by Bandura that may lead to misconception of observed behavior. 

(To be continued next issue)



SALVADOR M MISON
President
VANGIE P RIVERA
Secretary

CLASS CALL

On Sad News

It is with sadness that we report the untimely demise of one of our dear classmates, retired BGen Madrino C Munoz, who passed away on 1 Nov, All Saints Day, after a brief hospitalization at the Asian General Hospital. His wake was at the Santuario de San Antonio in Forbes Park.

The necrological services were held at the Santuario on 6 Nov and he was interred at the LNMB on the following day. The speakers during the necro were Johnny Sanchez who spoke for the class about Muni's cadet life. Retired MGen Jose P Magno Jr related lengthily his stint with Muni in the Philippine Contingent (PhilCon) to Vietnam in the early 60's followed by PhilCagV, and their assignment in Central Mindanao and Sulu where Muni was appointed by the President as military mayor of Jolo. The third speaker was IPDG Lindon Diet of RI District 3850, under whom Muni served as president of Rotary Club of Dipolog. Alan, eldest son of Muni, gave the response. Ros Alquiza acted as the Emcee.

Members of the class and ladies present were Buddy and Ione Mison, Abe Baladad, Rene and Fely Ecarma, Johnny and Pilar Sanchez, Rene and Mila Tanseco, Grace Acaneses, Sally Arceo, Letty Jotie, Vangie Rivera and Ros. From the second gen were RJ Alquiza, Leo



Baladad and Greg Jotie. Others who attended were Sen Gordon, Eddie Ermita '57, Danny Bocobo '74, Vic Ibrado '76 and Alex Yano '76.

During the interment at LNMB, other than Ros, Buddy and Ione, Johnny and Pilar, Rene and Mila Tanseco, Porfing Santos and Jomari Solquillo '65 also attended. Muni was survived by his widow Ondette.

On 25 Nov, after more than a week at the ICU in the Manila Doctors Hospital, following a lingering illness, Eva R. Miranda, widow of the late BGen Mariano G Miranda, passed away. Her wake was at the Heritage Memorial Park, where a worship service was held on 29 Nov, which was attended by some members of the class and their ladies. Present were Buddy and Ione Mison, Johnny and Pilar Sanchez, Rene and Mila

Tanseco, Ros and son RJ Alquiza, Grace Alcaneses, Sally Arceo, Zeny de Guzman, Remy and daughter Susan Facto.

Eva's remains were cremated on 30 Nov. She was survived by her son Tommy and daughters Sarah, Marieva and Bing.

On Class 55 Foundation matters

The board of trustees of the Foundation had a breakfast meeting on 7 Nov at the Charter House in Makati. The corporate secretary reported that the Amended Articles of Incorporation and Amended Bylaws were finally approved by the SEC, increasing the number of trustees to eleven, and making one (1) second gen member, a son or daughter, from each member of the class a regular member of the Foundation with all the rights of a regular member.

Taken up was the budget for the class Christmas party on 15 Dec 2019 to be held at the Golden Sky restaurant in Makati. Johnny recommended a budget of P200,000 to be funded from the Foundation. Ros suggested that instead of tapping Foundation funds, the class contribute P10,000 from each member and P5,000 from each widow, like what was done before. He added that with the increase in our pension everybody can now afford to spend for the party. He emphasized that we should not spend Foundation funds for the party. After discussion, the recommendation of Johnny was carried.



The trustees present during the board meeting were Buddy Mison, Johnny Sanchez, Rene Tanseco, Ros Alquiza, Sally Arceo and Aaron Allanigue. Pilar Sanchez was also present and was designated to head the Christmas party committee.

Later, the Foundation disbursed the abuloy of P100,000 each to the families of Muni and Eva, and additional P25,000 medical assistance to Muni.

On Class activities

The October class lunch was hosted by the non-military male 2nd gen members on Sunday, the 20th at the Golden Sky resto in Makati. The hosts with their wives were Joemari and Grace Alcaneses, RJ and Teena Alquiza, Alan and MJ Munoz, Dindin and Joan Rivera and Bobby and Carole Sanchez. Also present were Cristina and Carole Zaide.

Present among the first gen were Buddy Mison, Johnny and Pilar Sanchez, Ros Alquiza, Grace Alcaneses, Zeny de Guzman, Letty Jotie, Ondette Munoz, Lolit Parado, Vangie Rivera, and Gigi Zaide.

The November party earlier scheduled on the 17th was cancelled by the host, Rene Tanseco, in deference to the passing away of Muni earlier in the month.

The class Christmas party was held on 15 Dec 2019 at the Golden Sky resto. It started with a mass at 11 a.m. celebrated by Fr. Jojo Gatdula, followed by a buffet lunch and then a Christmas program with songs.

Present from first gen were Grace Alcaneses, Ros Alquiza, Sally Arceo, Rene and Arfeli Ecarma, Remy Facto, Zeny de Guzman, Tess Isaac, Letty Jotie, Buddy and Ione Mison, Lolit Parado, Vangie Rivera, Johnny and Pilar Sanchez, Porfing Santos, Estel Silva, Romy Solina, Rene and Mila Tanseco, and Gigi Zaide.

From the second gen were Jomari and Grace Alcaneses, Veronica Alcaneses, Aaron Allanigue, Avi Alquiza, Leah Arceo and Robert Plucena, Didi Parado-Baladad, Alma and Susan Facto, Agnes Isaac and Philip Banez, Paul and Dezzie Isaac, Minjo Gatmaitan, Bing and Sarah Miranda, Niki and Flor Miranda, Jun and Cherry Mison, Gerry Parado, Binky Regalado

and Levy Ordonez, Sigrid Reymundo-Lizares, Dean Carlo Rivera, Bobee and Carole Sanchez, Joy Solina, and Teng Zaide-Garnace.

There were also many from the third gen, some of whom were my grandchildren Alexis, Oliver, Louise, Justine and Cito. And from our adopted class were Robert and Mabelle Rodrigo, Alvin and Abegail Matienzo, DJ and Rache Sumayo and Dranreb Lansang.

Before break-up, Christmas gifts and giveaways were distributed, and finally, the singing of the PMA alma mater song by members of the class joined by other graduates.

The next class affair will be on Saturday lunch, 18 Jan 2020 at the Korea Garden, Jupiter St, Makati, to be hosted by the second gen ladies,

Here is wishing one and all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! /ros alquiza





On 31 August 2019, coinciding with the 85th birthdays of the two youngest members of the class (Tony Fernando and Mon Farolan at 85), the August Group composed of the PAF survivors (Romy David, Mon Farolan and AC Paiso) hosted a lunch at the QC Sports Center attended by seven couples (Ching and Emma Corachea, Romy and Pili David, Mon and Penny Farolan, Mel and Pat Goyena, Mac and Aida Macabasco and Tom and Lulu Manlongat), two stags (Guzz Mateo and ACP) and four widows (Cecil Ampig, Tess Calip, Tessie Lukban, and Lily Pio Roda). A nice mistah to see was Guzz Mateo, thin and weak but still a-go-go after his long confinement and rehab at the Veterans Memorial Hospital.

ACP opened the program with a lunch prayer followed by the buffet lunch and songs of yesterdays started by Penny Farolan. She turned over the mic to Romy David who rendered his flawless interpretation of "Mona Lisa" ala Nat King Cole. ACP came next admitting his hearing handicap but still full of pip to render two Cebuano songs that were nice to hear, but hard to understand. The joke of the day was told by Mon Farolan, who related seeing an oldie accompanied by a sexy chick who entered the barbershop where he was having a haircut. When the duo was seated waiting for the oldie's turn, Mon asked his barber in whispers if he knows the sexy chick. Responding alike, his barber told Mon that the chick is the midwife of the oldie. When Mon asked why midwife? His barber whispered that she is the "maid by day" and the "wife by night".

With a one-man karaoke providing musical accompaniment, Mon handed printed copies of the PLEBE song and led the group in singing our must song in Loakan every noon mess after Saturday Inspection 67 years ago. Amazingly, it was still properly sang with the proper "knock, knocks", this time over balding heads of very old foggies.

At break out time past 2 p.m., Penny as usual passed out her delicious impanaditas as bring home foodies.

After golf at the PNGC on 11 Sept 2019, the class golfers lunched at the Din Tai Fung Resto at the BGC to have a good meal and as usual, connived to evoke laughter to their hearts' content. The quintet, Ching Corachea, Romy David, Mel Goyena, Levy Malto and ACP (who paid the bill) closed the place at past 2:30 p.m. and went home with happy memoirs to spice their trek to survival.

After golf on 19 Sept 2019, Romy David hosted lunch at the Choi Garden in the Promenade, Greenhills, Q.C. While dining, Levy Malto opened his cell phone to be informed that Rudy Tolentino, the class Athletic Saber Awardee, had passed away at 0730H. Rudy had just celebrated his 89th birthday last July 2019. His wake was made at the Loyola Memorial Chapels at Commonwealth Ave., QC with a necro service held after mass at 6 p.m. on 24 Sept and cremation at 10 high noon on 25 Sept 2019. Rudy will be remembered and honored as an all round athlete of the cadet corps, AFP and outstanding field commander during the MNLf rebellion in Mindanao in the 1970s.

After two postponements due to bad wx, Del Abaya's much awaited hosting of another golf tourney among Classes 56 to 59 was held at the Northwood Golf and Country Club at San Rafael, Bulacan on 25 Sept 2019. Only Class 56 (Ching Corachea, 89, Mel Goyena, 86, Levy Malto, 87 and Boy Paiso, 85) and Class 59 golfers (Chuck Agustin, 82 with wifey and son) were there to slug it out under the blazing sun. Luckily, all the golfers were able to hurdle the 18 holes golf game with no strugglers but all were dead tired and clamoring for their noon mess with a lavish menu ordered by Del. The lunch was stretched longer as usual due to stories of academy days then and now, specially the fatal hazing case of Cadet Dormitorio. At nearly 3 p.m. after a punishing golf game, a great meal and revival of academy unshakable linkages, it's time to say many thanks and goodbye to Del and Class 59.

Mel Goyena's turn in hosting the class weekly lunch after golf was held at the Saisaki's at EDSA attended by


the class golfers. Only Romy David was MIA.

Ching Corachea (with wifey, Emma) celebrated his 89th birthday at the Gloria Maris Resto at Greenhills attended by Mon and Penny Farolan, Romy David, Mel and Pat Goyena, Levy Malto, AC Paiso, Tom and Lulu Manlongat and Cecil Ampig. Ching, so happy to be 89 years old without physical impediments to bar him from playing 18-holes golf, served the diners so much food to make them all sleepy in going home.

At lunch time on 10 Oct 2019 hosted by Levy Malto after golf at the Din Tai Fung Resto in Mega Mall, Ortigas Center, Levy was informed by wifey, Nora, that Ralph Manganon had passed away. Ralph had been confined in quarters for so long after a stroke. His body was interred at the Paz Funeral Homes along Marcos Highway and transferred to the LNMB on 21 Oct for burial at high noon on 22 Oct 19. In less than a month two of our mistahs had suddenly left us, leaving only 19 survivors from the original 51.

The 36th golf game with Class 57 was held at the PNGC on 23 Oct 2019 with the following results: Cl 56- 291 points scored by Boy Paiso (86), Mel Goyena (91) and Ching Corachea (114); Cl 57- 185 points from Eddie Ermita (90), T. Jardiniario (94) and George Templo (101). Class 57 won by six points bringing its total wins to 17 vs. Cl 56's 19. With two successive loses, the class golfers are badly in need of rehab measures and lots of luck.

Romy David pushed thru his hosted lunch at the Choi Garden on 25 Oct 2019 without his wifey, Pili, who was still indisposed due to a lingering illness. Only Mon Farolan, Ching and Emma Corachea, Mel Goyena and AC Paiso were able to attend. For arriving late for mess, Davo told the group to order the best dishes in the menu and start boodling. The group happily complied and returned home dragging themselves heavily due to too much boodle.

The latest lunch-out of the class was hosted by ACP (Paiso) on 31 Oct 2019 at the Din Tai Fung Resto at the Megamall attended by the class golfers. Emma Corachea was the only lady who made it. The other ladies stayed at home due to various ailments. 



CARLOS L AGUSTIN
President
NICETO A FESTIN
Secretary

This is indeed a sad segment of our Class history.

HERMOGENES B “PALTING” PERALTA JR

We were in grief to see **Palting Peralta** finally succumbed to a long illness last 8 Nov 2019.

Wake was held from 9 to 13 Nov 2019 at the Sanctorium at Araneta Ave near Quezon Avenue, Q.C.

He was cremated and inurned on 14 Nov 2019. We pray for the eternal repose for Palting.

PROCESO “BOBBY” C FERNANDEZ, 82

We are again saddened by the news of another demise, this time our Mistah **Bobby Fernandez**, who succumbed at 1848 23 Nov to a head injury even after surgery last Thursday, 21 Nov 2019 at the Premier Medical Center, Sucat Road, Paranaque City.

Garrick Garcia was there with family and the Fernandez family during and until the surgery was done.

May Bobby rest in eternal peace!!



PMA59 LUNCH

A PMA59 STAG LUNCH was held at the SHANGRILA 30TH COR 5TH AVE BGC, Ft Bonifacio on 25 Oct. Above photo shows the attendees: From L to R: **Eddie Garcia, Nick Festin, Del Abaya, Chuck Agustin, Jess Alcordo and Benny Lomotan.**

After lunch, they drove over to the San Juan de Dios Hospital, Roxas Bvd., Manila to visit Andrew Francisco, who was in ICU there. We continue to pray for the healing of Andrew or Paco.

MORE BAD NEWS

Unfortunately, we still have another Mistah in ICU – **Kumeh Comendador**, who has been at VMMC for two weeks without informing us. He is in stable condition, and we plan to visit him soon.

FUTURE ACTIVITIES

We look forward to the 2020 PMAAAI Annual Meeting and Convention on Tuesday, 21 Jan 2020 and the Alumni Homecoming at PMA on Saturday, 15 Feb 2020. Those attending the latter please inform the secretary ASAP for room reservations. 🇵🇭



ORLANDO B SALIENTES
President
MARINO P PANES, JR
Secretary

Nestor and Edith Lim have not allowed the recent medical emergency of Edith to prevent them from travelling. They have just come from a tour of Canada. Furthermore, they have changed their mind about NOT attending our diamond jubilee. They are now planning to, God permitting.

I just hosted a grand reunion of the 1974 and 1975 Blue Diamond Acrobatic teams. It was quite nostalgic for us to talk about our glory days as fighter pilots. The acrobatic performances were the glamorous flying we did. The real hard work was flying close air support for ground troops in Mindanao during

the MNLF rebellion. This was a very cruel war largely ignored by people in Manila. Aside from my Facebook postings and the book of Gen Abat THE DAY WE ALMOST LOST MINDANAO, serious writers have not deeply delved into this cruel war. The Philippine Army recruits, called Kamagong recruits, are almost unknown to the general public. They were 18-year old thrown into combat in Mindanao, poorly trained and without firearms. Do you know that Lee Kwan Yew gave us 10,000 M-16 rifles in exchange for letting their pilots train in Crow Valley Range without benefit of an agreement or treaty?

To see for myself how the ground war was conducted I hitched a ride in a helicopter carrying payroll money to the camp of then Col Rudy Canieso's battalion in the Liguasan Marsh. These recruits were running around with tattered clothes unarmed. They could

get a firearm only if a regular soldier dies in combat. I told Canieso, I was hesitant to provide him close air support as the place was heavily forested and almost impossible for us to differentiate friend from foe. His answer floored me. He said "Loven, just drop your bombs. We will manage not to get hit." This answer would make him a legend as a combat commander.

Another plebe has died because of hazing. My PMA plebe Class 1959 certainly suffered. I have written about THE MASSACRE OF THE PLEBES OF DELTA COMPANY. There were 23 of us. After the first semester only five of us were left. The company had to import plebes from other companies. Those who survived were Loven Abadia, Artemio Tadiar, Pedro Yanes, Plaridel Abaya and Pio Garrido. All made the star rank except Ridel Abaya who opted for early retirement and became a 3-term congressman. I became



CG PAF. Tadiar became Philippine Marine Commandant. Yanes became a PC general. Garido made commodore and almost became PN FOIC but for a certain twist of fate.

Our class president Orly Salientes asked Loven Abadia, Sting Carino and

Pong Panes to help him plan and organize our diamond jubilee celebration. We assumed that only those who have given their 10,000-peso contribution will attend and were allocated the hotel rooms he reserved for the class. Schedule:

1. Feb 14 2020. Go up to Baguio and check in at Sierra Pines Hotel in 43N Outlook Drive, Barangay Gibraltar, Baguio City. You have to provide for your own ride to and from Baguio.

2. A PMA bus has been arranged by Orly for our use to and from Fort Del Pilar to lessen traffic. There are grandstand seats reserved for us. WE WILL NOT MARCH. Men will wear dark suit without tie. Ladies will wear smart casual dress.

3. We will have lunch in PMA grounds. Venue not yet known.


4. Orly has arranged a class party in the evening in the ball room of our hotel.

5. Morning of Feb 16. Early breakfast in our hotel and then drive back to Manila after.

6. Sting Carino has volunteered his Grandia vehicle and driver for the widows. It will be parked in Villamor Golf Club before 0600H 14 Feb 2020. Manifested passengers are the following:

1. Julpha Maniquiz
2. Juliet Yap
3. Chit Paredes
4. Glo Banaticla
5. Lilian Kintanar
6. Mildred Yamzon

In lieu of a diamond anniversary book I am writing a comprehensive history of our class to be published in the Cavalier Magazine Homecoming issue entitled PMA CLASS 1960: THE DIAMOND JUBILARIANS OF 2020.

/LOVEN C ABADIA '60 




ERNESTO T TAN JR
President
EDUARDO T CABANLIG
Secretary

The class did not have much activity for almost the entire year of 2019. During the month of September, Limon Agustin was admitted at the Veterans Memorial Hospital for suspected cancer in the intestines. Our Class President also underwent a heart procedure after suffering a slight heart attack. We thank

God that the procedure was a success and he is well and up again.

Our Class Executive Committee met about three times to discuss about our Christmas Party. We also made plans for our Diamond Jubilee on February 2021. For the first agenda, the Christmas affair will be held at the PN Officers Club on December 7, 2019. For the second, our tentative plans are for each member to indicate before the year ends their plan to join. We also estimate that those participating will contribute about Php40,000 each to cover all expenses while in Baguio.

Last October 22, 2019, Flor Marcelo invited the class to a dinner at her residence in United Paranaque. Present during the affair were Bert and Mimi Rodriguez, Tony and Mar Suratos, Pong and Monchie Biazon, Alex and Chit Aguirre, Ernie and Beng Tan, and Ernie and Cely Calupig. Nick Rodriguez was accompanied by a former classmate in High school while Ed Cabanlig and Domingo attended stag.

During the affair, Flora also announced that she would be celebrating her 80th Birthday on December 20, 2019. It will beheld at the Glass Garden in Evangelista Avenue, Pasig City. 



MANUEL B MARIANO
President
RAYMUNDO L LOGAN
Secretary
JUANITO R RIMANDO
Class Historian

Third Quarter Socials

Niu at the Podium was selected by the third quarter birthday celebrants and hosts as the venue for the class third quarter socials last 18 September. The party sponsors were Manny Salimbangon, Kit Carreon, Buddy Almagro, Tito Rimando, and Divine Divinagracia and Lolit Bringas, even if Divine and Lolit were not able to make it due to slight illness. We were all happy to see Cary and Buddy who have been absent from our gatherings for some time now, Cary because he has to take care of Betty and Buddy who resides in Cebu and who just flew in for the occasion. Another Mistah we were also so glad to see was Linda Cusi. Linda also just flew in from Orlando, Florida and she's back there again. Niu gave individualized mini birthday cakes with lighted candles to the third quarter birthday celebrants –Linda Meana, Chona Perez, Olga Ramiscal, Manny, Tito, Kit, and Maury Evangelista's son-in-law Joe Alcoriza. Even if Ernie and Hazel Dauz missed the fellowship because they inadvertently went to SM Mega Mall, we were still a big group. The roll call: Gerry and Baby Kagaoan, Tito, Maury, Ophy Ornopia, Joe and Annabelle Evangelista Alcoriza, Freddie and Methy Filler, Quintin and Luz Alcudia, Romy and Linda Meana, Budge and Alma Madamba, Ray Logan, James Ramon, Kit, Boy Abadia and niece Joyly Caballero, Buddy and son Tom, Nano Mariano, Mon Rodriguez, Manny and Becky, Joel and Rio Hinlo, Felix and Zeny Tong, Al Lumibao, Pabling and Chona Perez, Paco Atayde, Maura and Leika Soriano, Linda Cusi and daughter Aleta, Olga Ramiscal and Glo Fernandez.

Holy Land Pilgrimage

The class pilgrimage to the Holy Land was suggested by Al Lumibao during the second quarter socials. With the enthusiastic response from the class and after a series of meetings, the class finally chose 305 Travel and Tours as the



Class '62 third quarter socials at Niu, The Podium.

travel agency with November as the date for the trip. Realizing the tediousness of the trip and with certain unforeseen circumstances negating the participation of the some classmates and/or ladies, the plan as finalized involved combining our group with another group from a Paranaque Catholic parish. The 15 who finally joined the tour were Al Lumibao, Quintin and Luz Alcudia, Ray Logan and son Raymund, Tito and Heidi Rimando and daughter Kay, Mau and Leika Soriano, Evelyn Maniago, Lita Pacheco, Baby David, Aila De Ocampo, and all the way from Iligan City Annette De Castro. The tour took us to the Holy Land from 23 October to 3 November. In addition the Class 62 group sans Al, Quintin and Luz, and Baby opted to spend an addition four days in Abu Dhabi and Dubai extending their tour to 7 November. For the pilgrimage, the countries visited were Jordan, Israel, the Palestinian

controlled Bethlehem and Jericho, and Egypt. In every sense, the pilgrimage was really a pilgrimage, the group tracing the lives of Jesus and Mary in Israel and Egypt, and Moses of the Old Testament. We prayed and said the rosary in the bus. With a killing schedule, churches and places were visited; long walks were made including the Via Dolorosa. Tito and Heidi and Quintin and Luz also renewed their marriage vows at Cana. For a breather we also floated in the Dead Sea and saw the pyramids of Egypt. The stay at Dubai and Abu Dhabi was really a welcome breather, especially for the ladies who enjoyed shopping and for the Filipino food after days of vegetable Mediterranean diet.

Fourth Quarter Socials

Niu is becoming a favorite spot for class affairs. The fourth quarter social



Class '62 fourth quarter socials at Niu, SM Aura.



Class '62 pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Background is the Wedding Church at Cana, Galilee.

last 12 November, was also held at Niu, although this time at SM Aura. Hosted by the 4th quarter birthday celebrants, the class bonding-socials again drew a lot of classmates and ladies, and single ladies. Food as usual was

excellent; wine, beer, and beverage abounded; and the camaraderie was exceptional. The hosts present were the party coordinators Quintin and Luz, and October, November, and December birthday celebrants Paco

Atayde, Nick Custodio, Helen Custodio, Mike Hinlo, Ray Logan, Methy Filler, Aila de Ocampo, Rio Hinlo, Glo Fernandez, Becky Salimbangon, Lizzie Mendoza, Nani Jover, Mau Soriano, Gerry Kagaoan, Willy Cruz, Joel Hinlo, Felix Tong, Chiquita Cruz, and Heidi Rimando. The others who came to the socials were class president Nano, for class prexy Boy Abadia and niece Joyly, Al, Freddie, Evelyn Maniago, Tito, Romy and Linda, Manny Salimbangon, Leika Soriano, Charlie Tanega, James and Vicky Ramon, Noni Zabala, Ramon Rodriguez, Divine Divinagracia and brother Jonas, Baby Kagaoan, Maury and Ophy, Florida Reotutar, Ernie and Hazel Daus, Alma Madamba, and Nora Lee Mendoza. Additional guests were Rose and Auring from AGFO.

Rami's 40th Day

To mark Rami's 40th day after his death, Olga invited the class along with other relatives and friend to a holy mass and lunch at Club Filipino at Greenhills. This was last August 26. The mood, as Rami would have wanted, was less somber this time. There was singing even as we still tried to recall life with Rami. Those who came to the mass and lunch were the Dauzes, Rimandos, Madambas, Alcludias, Salimbangons, Cruzes, Fillers, Custodios, Hinlos (J), and Nano, Maury, Ray, Mau and Leika, Glo'w, Lita Pacheco, Noni Zabala, Rene Motus, Al, Kit, Charlie, Paco and Florida Reotutar. (JRRIMANDO) 🇵🇭



GUILLERMO R RUIZ
President
RENE LEANDRO P EBRO
Secretary

Christmas greetings from the PMA Matindi Class of 1963 and Happy Holidays to everyone. We also welcome the 57th Graduation Day Anniversary of our class in 2020.

Our activities from our Corporate Secretary logbook are as follows:

03 November 2019

Our no host lunch for 21 October 2019 was moved to 03 November 2019 due to conflicting schedule. The following mistahs attended: Bill and Norma Ruiz, Ebor and Flor Ebro, Danny and Nena Delgado, Pert and Inday Andaya, Rolly and Luz Espejo, Rudy and Offie Javier, Amy and Angel Ylagan, Bumi Bumanglag, Ven Roallos and son.

09 November 2019

We regret to inform the class that Brenda Iletto died on 09 November 2019. Cav Jimmy texted that cremation will be done at 9 a.m. and viewing will be at Heritage Park, Chapel 7 starting 6 p.m., 10 November 2019. Burial will be on 13 November 2019 at 10 a.m. May Brenda's soul rest inpeace.

10 November 2019

Ide Tillah invited all to his birthday party, 6 p.m. at his residence at 2 Sacrepante St., Boni Avenue, Mandaluyong City. His birthday was 12 November but he invited us on the 10th to avoid traffic. Please come and enjoy the fun.

24 November 2019

Our no host lunch for November at 11 a.m., PN Golf Club, NS Jose Francisco

(BNS), Taguig City. Please join us and enjoy the company.

06 December 2019

Our Christmas Party at 6 p.m. at the Philippine Navy Golf Cub, Ogbinar Hall, NS Jose Francisco (BNS), Taguig City. Cavs Rudy Javier and Pert Andaya is in charge. Motif is red for Christmas. Please bring for exchange gift P500.00 per person so you can all participate. Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year to all.

Birthday Celebrators (October, November and December 2019)

The PMA Matindi Class of 1963 wishes to extend warmest greetings, peace, good health, safety and abundance to all. May you have many many more birthdays to come.

October 2019: Perla Dario – 1, Beth Arevalo - 2, Nick Blancas (+) – 11, Fred Romero (+) – 12, Leny Valencia – 19, Johnny Andaya (+) – 21, Estela Andaya -21, Gaps Sabarre -22.

November 2019: Bigboy Adriano – 1, Romy Landingin -11, Ide Tillah – 12,

Nolan Laput (+) – 14, Josie Nale – 14, Pio Carranza (+) – 18, Boy Orevillo – 22, Warlie Tigas -22, Grace Valderrama – 23, Inday Andaya -25, Nena Delgado – 29.

December 2019: Alex Cirera – 7, Aida Mayo – 1, Jenny Batenga – 12, Ebor Ebro – 14, Dy Ylagan(+) – 14, Eugene Reyes -15, Arnie Acedera – 19, Amy Ylagan – 21, Mike Miguel(+) – 21, Josie Resos – 24, Naty Laput – 25, Bobby Babiera and Veny Venadas – 29.

To all members of PMA Matindi Class of 1963, be active and be happy as we are all growing old gracefully. Again please read the book *“Health and Fitness in the Older Adult”* by Esther Winterfeldt and Debbie Miller, 2018 by New Forum Press, Inc. 1018 S. Lehis St., Stillwater, OK 74074.

Abharam Lincoln stated in the end, *“It’s not the year in your life that counts, it’s the life in your years.”* Older adults can have both years and life. Let us again keep in touch as we prepare for our 57th Graduation Day Anniversary comes 2020. (18121605)





The previous month of August and September were not busy for the class to meet. During the previous quarterly meeting in July, some of our classmates informed the class that they will be out of the country spending vacation and visiting friends and relatives. Clem Mariano, Rey Reyes, Winston Arpon and Terry de la Cruz in particular went to CONUS.

It was quite unfortunate that Terry de la Cruz, upon arrival from CONUS, slipped and bumped his head. This caused him to be confined and operated for possible blood clot of the brain. The operation however was successful and he was released a week after the operation. Despite the condition of Terry, he still managed to organize mass for our departed classmates and class '64 ladies together with his wife Ellen at the V. Luna Chapel in Quezon City. Twenty-one of class 64 members and 10 class 64 ladies were read by the V. Luna Chaplain during the mass last November 01, 2019.

Again, through the efforts of Terry de la Cruz, the traditional Christmas Party of the class is scheduled on December 02, 2019 at 11:00 a.m., venue will be at Vikings Restaurant, SM Aura, Bonifacio Global City.

Happy birthday to the following October - December celebrants:

1. JUN PADILLA - October 01
2. WINSTON ARPON - October 05
3. SOL FLORES - October 26
4. ROGER SOLEDAD - October 28
5. GUZI DE GUZMAN - November 10
6. TONY AGUILAR - December 15

MAY YOU HAVE MANY MORE BIRTHDAYS TO COME! 🍷





MANUEL P ESPEJO
President
FREDELINO S BAUTISTA
Secretary

PAMBUNGAD

Tiyak, pag natanggap natin ang ating kopya ng Cavalier magazine, ay nakalipas na ang Pasko. Kaya, sa umpisa pa lamang, ay batiin natin ang isa't isa ng "MALIGAYANG PASKO AT MANIGONG BAGONG TAON." Dagdagan natin ng "nawa, ang mga darating na taon, para sa lahat, ay higit na masaya, maunlad at makabuluhan, sa kapahintulutan ng ating Panginoon.

OCTOBER EVENTS

Breakfast at Larry's

On 03 October 2019, a big number of sixty-sixers and their ladies converged at Larry's Restaurant, Bonifacio High Street, Taguig City after hearing mass at St. Michael's Chapel, Bonifacio Global City. Reason: to enjoy a breakfast jointly hosted by birthday celebrators Tess Arugay (03) and Tess Reyes (05). Present were Temi and Tess Arugay, Ben and Cel Espejo, Viusy and Mercy Daus, Fred and Paz Bautista, Bing and Elsie Rivera, Pons and Cena Millena, Jacie Aquino, Sylvia Agudelo, Fe Cuison, Edna Gopilan and Tita Belo. Also present were Sylvia's son, Josylo Agudelo and neighbor Bong Gumtang.

Lunch at NIU's, SM AURA

October proved to be a month of eating. The next gourmet event was lunch on 7 October at NIU, SM Aura. This time, what was celebrated was also Tess Arugay's birthday (2nd hosting) and Tess Reyes natal day (5 Oct). it was well attended by a really big number. Around were Temi and Tess Arugay, Viusy and Mercy Daus, Pons and Cena Millena, Raul and Iyay Urgello, Fred and Paz Bautista, Bert and Portia Varona, Bert and Fe Sabularse, Ben and Cel Espejo, Vic and Tita Belo, Bing and Elsie Rivera, Ding and Sylvia Wenceslao, Tess Reyes, Sylvia Agudelo, Beth Payumo, Fe Cuison, and Susan Gador.

This Time, Dinner at Santuario San Antonio

Breakfast to Lunch to Dinner. The cycle of feasting is complete. Completing the loop was the dinner hosted by Viusy and Mercy Daus at the function room

building of Santuario de San Antonio at Forbes Park, Makati on 20 October 2019. The dinner program followed the mass to celebrate Viusy's 75th birthday, one of the youngest in the class. There was also a big number of mistahs, friends and relatives. From the Class – Edd and Lil Santos, Louis and April Fernandez, Bing and Elsie Rivera, Noli and Leonor Espejo, Fred and Paz Bautista, Pons and Cena Millena, Ben and Cel Espejo, Sylvia Agudelo, Edna Gopilan, Fe Cuison, Susan Gador and Beth Payumo.

Mistah, Ladies, See You There

This activity has been a sacred tradition – visitation of graves of departed mistahs and spouses at Libingan ng mga Bayani (LNMB) and Heritage Park. We did it again last 30 October 2019, starting with the assembly of the group at Angie Reyes' grave at the Dignitaries' Area. Here, the sixty-sixers and the ladies present had breakfast ordered by Tess Reyes.

From Angie's grave, they went in groups to the different gravesites where prayers and candles were offered. It was hot and sunny, at first, then the rains came, fortunately, it did not last long.

Visited at the LNMB were the graves of Angie Reyes, Joselyn Nazareno, Vic Mayo, Teddy Gonzales, Vic Obillo, Jun Cagurangan, Benito Alba, Cal Banana, Nap Baylon, Joseph Espina, Johnny Mamorno, Johnny de Leon, Boy Lopez, Jesse James Catral, Joey Agudelo, Joe Lachica, Santos Camilo, Fermin Cuison, Rene Syquio, Sat Domingo, Nani Figueroa, Tirso Gador, Atong Pascual, Tito Payumo, Art Tagamolila, Roger Fernandez (USMA), and Roly Roque. At the other side, Heritage Park, rested Jun Teleg, Flor Paginag, Rene Domingo and ladies Juana Aquino, Flor Arugay, Josie Mayo, Minerva Nazareno, and Minda Teleg.

See you later, late mistahs and ladies!

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATORS

For our birthday celebrators, we have a long list. September celebrators have been included since they were not included last issue.

For September: Jocie Aquino (11), Serge Belleza (9), Rod Clautero (27), Ric Tanedo (19), Lysaias Cabusao (24), Leslie Lapus (12).

For October: Mar Antonio (25), Viusy Daus (20), Roy Nicolas (24), Edd Santos (16), Menong Garcia (7), Greg Llorca(13), Tess Arugay (3), Tess Reyes (5), Lita Garcia (15), Margie Galon (17), Cel Cunanan (21), Auring Paginag (21), Del Jabile (26).


For November: Ces Bello (29), Ben Espejo (9), Louie Fernandez (23), Doming Hontucan (11), Rose Carrion Buck (11).

For December: Conri Bruce (4), Cena Millena (4), Lucie Sarmiento (9).


HAPPY BIRTHDAY, FELLOW SENIORS!

P.S.

TESTIMONIAL DINNER, CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

The Class Christmas Program 2019 on 14 December 2019 at AFPCOC and the Testimonial Dinner in honor of those who have reached 75 years of age and above on 8 December 2019 at Blue Leaf, ASEANA Park, will be discussed in the next issue of the Cavalier, probably to come out next year. 



ANSELMO S AVENIDO JR
President
RUFINO G IBAY JR
Secretary

CLASS ACTIVITIES

A. The following were our activities for the August - October 2019 period:

17 August – Sergs and Zeny Austria, Fred and Yoly Encarnacion, Ed and Myrna Espinosa, Vir and Marina Odulio, Mar and Beth Santiago, and Orly and Reem Tucay hosted our Dimasupil Monthly Forum (DMF) (Lunch) at Alba Resto, Estancia Mall, Capitol Commons, Pasig City. Marina, Sergs, Orly, Mar, Vir and Ed are birthday celebrators on 3, 11, 16, 19, 23, and 27 August, respectively. During the meeting, we again talked about our Social Amelioration Fund and the need to raise funds for this project.



21 September - Our Dimasupil Monthly Forum (DMF) (Lunch) was hosted by Romy and Merle Odi also at Alba Resto, Capitol Commons. They were ably

supported by their entire family. It was a celebration of Romy's 81st Birthday (28 Sep).





UPDATES ON THE DIMASUPILS

Vic Laurilla was rushed to the PNP Hospital last 11 September due to a mild heart attack. After staying in the ICU for a few days, he was cleared to go home where he is now “back to life”. He is conveying his personal greetings and regards to the Class.

Abe Din is proud to announce that he is now an unquestionably good golfer, having won as overall champion in a golf tournament at the PN Golf Club last 21 September. He also won a major prize in the raffle, aside from winning hefty side bets.

Congratulations to Rudy and Nora Ruellos on the celebration of their Golden (50th) Wedding Anniversary last 25 June. The renewal of vows was officiated by Mistah Fr Fernando Suarez in Las Vegas, Nevada, USA.

Congratulations also to Mar Santiago for having reached his Diamond (75th) Birth Anniversary last 19 August. The celebration was held at the Philam Homes Clubhouse, QC, attended by his family, relatives, classmates and friends representing the different stages of his life. Even the band that played good music was vintage '44. The emcee was Bernie Patino and Jun Avenido spoke on behalf of the Dimasupils.

Araw Bernabe, after spending his extended vacation here for several months, will be leaving this November for Spain, where he and his family are based. Ed Galang, Bobby Lastimoso and Ernie Dionisio hosted despedida parties for him and friends at Barcino - Vertis Mall, Seascape Seafood - CCP Complex, and Manila Hotel, respectively, on different dates.

UPDATES ON OUR FAMILIES

Congratulations to Judge Anne Beatrice “Trixie” Aguana - Balmaceda, daughter of Roy and Ching Aguana, on her recent election as President of the Metropolitan and City Judges Association of the Philippines, Inc (METCJAP).

We were sad to learn of the vehicular accident involving Noel Ibay, son of Jun and Ronnie, last 6 November. He was hit by a van along Commonwealth Ave corner Winston St, QC, while he was walking towards BDO - Fairview. The occupants of the van brought him to the Commonwealth Medical Center for a thorough check-up, because his lower left leg was swollen, he had difficulty moving his body, and he was in pain.

26 October - Aging Alino, Joe and Myrna Andaya, Ching and Papoose Ballecer, Vic and Mely Corpus, Andy and Meds Reyes, and Sammy and Cora Tomas hosted our DMF (Lunch) in WackWack Golf and Country Club, Mandaluyong City. It was their way of celebrating with the Class the birthdays of Vic (4 Oct), Joe (6 Oct), Ching (8 Oct), Sammy (9 Oct), Aging (17 Oct), Andy (17 Oct), and Mely (22 Oct). Joe once again led the Class in singing Gospel songs.

B. Watch out for our schedule for the November-December 2019 period, onwards, as follows:

23 November (0730H) - DMF (Breakfast) to be hosted by Cords and Myrna Cordero, Ben and Lea Libarnes, Bernie and Aying Patino, and Vic and Evelyn Villacorta in Legend Villas, Pioneer St, Mandaluyong City..

14 December - Remembrance Day in honor of the departed Dimasupils and spouses and also Christmas Lunch to

be held in WackWack Golf and Country Club, Mandaluyong City. The affair will start at 1100H with Holy Mass (for Catholics). Lunch and then Christmas program will be at 1130H. We will also have the election of Class Officers during this occasion.

January - DMF to be hosted by Jun and Agnes Avenido, Bobby and Penny Lastimoso, Edsel and Toto Salvana, and Joseph and Reina Young. Details will be announced later.

25 January (0700H) – PMAAAI Annual Convention, venue to be announced later. Attire: Working long-sleeved barong.

15 February (0900H) - Alumni Homecoming Parade in PMA, Baguio City. We will have our Class Lunch (instead of Picnic) after the Parade and also our Post-Valentine’s Dinner to be hosted by the Class at our hotel. Our attire for the Parade will be our black Class Jacket with white shirt without tie and dark pants.

Aside from his left leg being in a cast, he is now okay.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATORS

Best wishes to the following Dimasupils and spouses who celebrate their birthdays in October, November and December: Vic Corpus (4 October), Lulu Larroza (4), Joe Andaya (6), Ching Ballecer (8), Sammy Tomas (9), Toto Salvana (9), Fredeswinda Enriquez (15), Aging Alino (17), Andy Reyes (17), Rudy Ruellos (21), Mely Corpus (22), Norma Aliac (27), Sonia Briones (29), Ronnie Ibay (31), Cherry Garcia (3 November),


Bernie Patino (3), Libbie Brawner (4), Yolly Encarnacion (7), Penny Lastimoso (10), Merle Odi (13) Ben Libarnes (14), Araw Bernabe (16), Ed Larroza (16), Cesar Quiambao (17), Romy Enriquez (18), Nora Ruelos (20), Vic Villacorta (23), Mar Cordero (27), Papoose Ballecer (29), Moises Boquiren (4 December), Lulu Perez (6), Lea Libarnes (10), Emay Bautista (11), Abe Sadul (27), and Vic Garcia (28).

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

CLASS TRIVIA

The notice on Facebook that the birth date of Louie Sanchez is 25 October is fake news. His real birthdate is 21 June. We received the following text from Bert Torres: "Aqq10p." When asked to clarify the meaning of this seemingly coded message, Bert replied: "Sorry, Mistah, I am just a low-tech old man using a high-tech gadget. Actually, that means I'll get 4 raffle tickets."

Merry Christmas to all Dimasupils and other Cavaliers and their families! 🎅



ARTURO B CARRILLO
President
CRISOGONO R FRANCISCO
Secretary

The rainy season kept a lot of us in the comfort of our homes. Staying home means avoiding crowded areas where one can easily be contaminated with the germs and viruses that prevail seasonally. For a lot of us, simple household chores were done while some did some 'spring cleaning' and the likes. Others took advantage of this time to reenergize, gain stamina and look after the welfare of family. Still others took advantage of the summer break in the west and visit family abroad to bond with grand kids.

Time waits for no one. Most of the members of the class shall be turning 75 years of age! One would say, 'How soon! Or How fast!'. Where did all those years go? But no regrets! PMA Class 68 remains to be positive and steadfast in gaining years and living life gracefully. Tita Pangan recently celebrated her birthday with a big Bang in Davao. She showed her prowess in singing and ballroom dancing. Meanwhile in Manila, Tess Pangantihon was treated by her children with a debutant like party in Villamor Air Base. Other celebrators chose to spend theirs only with family or with a trip abroad.

I heard from the grapevine that Ludy Duque sneaked in for a short and secret visit. Becks Raval was also in town to help celebrate Ros's birthday at the Manila Polo Club. Ying and Amy Palmos came over from the USA to attend to some important papers. While others came to the Philippines, Mel and Millette Rosales

left for the US of A to unwind and visit family. Volts and Rhodie Gazmin plus Nory and Candy Azcueta took off for Japan for a short respite. Tess Pangantihon went to Canada to visit family and tour again! She recently joined a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Sonny and Luth Penilla also came back from their regular 'apostolic

duty' in North Carolina. Evelyn Erolin also visited family in California. Art and Marite Garrido went to among other places Venice where they acted like two love birds in the gondola.

The Class found a new way of holding successful, fun-filled and meaningful gatherings. We now find time to attend



the novena prayer and mass at the St. Calunsod Chapel for thanksgiving, penitence and healing. Luncheon and fellowship follow afterwards. While we update each other, we do not get tired of recalling old stories, laugh at old antics and formulate class activities. Among those who have been joining the prayer meet are Norie and Candy Azcueta, Alex and Shirley Costales, Volts and Rhodie Gazmin, Sonny and Luth Penilla, Oskie and Gigi Cabaron, Bobby and Purita Santiago, Willy and Isay Nuqui, Art and Marite Garrido, Abe and Roxanne Abiol, plus Tess Pangantihon, Evelyn Erolin, Celia Canson, Art Carrillo and Ying and Amy Palnos when they were in town last September. As of now, we have agreed to meet every 2nd Wednesday of the month for this purpose. For those who want to exercise, please do come an hour ahead in order to walk the mall or window shop.

Our class general assembly and Christmas party shall be held at the Metropolitan Club in Makati on 01 December. The fun starts at 1800H. Attire for gentlemen is the class blazer and for the ladies as appropriate. 🇵🇭





JAIME S DELOS SANTOS
President
JUSTO P MANLONGAT
Secretary

The following are the important matters discussed during the latest meeting of the Class hosted by Benjie and Megs Defensor, Jus and Ellen Manlongat, and Jimmy and Lulu de los Santos.

- The Class will continue to extend limited medical assistance to Pol Gange and Dennis Nagtalon.

- Jimmy DLS, Ike B and Rene Aguda represented the Class in the PMA Golf Tournament held at the Baguio Country Club. Before the tournament proper, they joined the officers of PMAAAI and BIRC in a regional meeting held at Lingayen, Pangasinan hosted by Mayor Pol Bataoil of Class '76.

The Class looks forward to its forthcoming Christmas Party on 02 December 2019 at the Philippine Army Officers Clubhouse. We enjoin everyone to make it his duty to attend said event under the spirit of the Yuletide Seasons. 🇵🇭



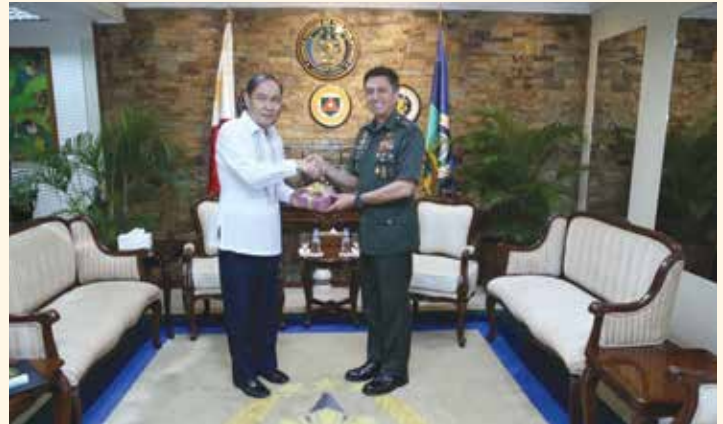
Benjie Defensor conducts an informal briefing to selected members of the diplomatic corps at Clark City.



Suaviters and their ladies during the Fellowship Meeting held at Mary Grace Restaurant at BGC.



Keeping in shape, night walk in Virginia, USA – Cleo Erfe.



Courtesy Call of Jimmy DLS to the new AFP Chief of Staff Gen Noel S Clement '85, former CenCom Commander, the forerunner of the Visayas Command, which Jimmy DLS once commanded.



RUFO A DE VEYRA
President
MARCELO R GARCIA
Secretary

birthdays this 4th Qtr., too, but they opted to celebrate in the next world:

- 1) Penny de la Pena, 26 Nov.
- 2) Perot Perez, 12 Dec.
- 3) Jun Ugale, and
- 4) Ed Visperas, 19 Oct.

the blessings we and our loved ones have received from Him.

As regards the Magiting project at Veterans Memorial Medical Center (VMMC), the DPWH engineers who inspected the site where the Magiting Ward will be constructed for seismic evaluation commented that the Americans who constructed Ward 29 did not completely finish it and thus requires retrofitting. The class will have to meet to address this concern. 🇵🇭

The following Magitings celebrated/ will celebrate their birthdays this 4th Qtr, 2019:

- 1) Bang Adriano, 16 Nov.
- 2) Ed Calvo, 12 Oct.
- 3) Nesty Carolina, 18 Oct.
- 4) Jun Ebdane, 30 Dec.
- 5) Pitong Heredia, 12 Nov.
- 6) Mar Ilagan, 25 Oct.
- 7) Ed Israel, 1 Oct.
- 8) Willy Lorenzo, 13 Nov.
- 9) Mel Madrid, 14 Oct.
- 10) Rudy Maluyo, 21 Oct.
- 11) Marks Marquez, 31 Oct., and
- 12) Godo Olores, 30 Oct.

The following Magitings would have celebrated their

To all of you, mistahs, wherever you celebrate your birthdays, we join you for a boodle fight. May your birthdays be opportunities to thank our Creator for all




EDGAR B AGLIPAY
President
JOSE C LALISAN JR
Secretary

Class meeting and birthday celebration

The class had their 4th Quarter class meeting last 3 November 2019 at the Valle Verde IV residence of our class Prexy Egay and Mawie Aglipay which was attended by the following: Mel and Hazel Acosta, Marte and Tet Chioco, Dick and Annie de Leon, Wency and Puring Cruz, Dong and Lulu Tabamo, Aris and Nina Delos Reyes, Manny Foronda, TexBalmaceda, Tito and Nona Legaspi, Popop and Evie Ocampo, Rene and Sara Paredes, Joey Lalisán, Jerry and Verna Albano, Oca and Jing Martinez, Danny and Chato Perico, Ruben and Diding Gange, Dan and Arlene Francia, Jennie

Domingo, Sec Greg Honasan, Ruth Viduya, and Lita Gil.

The Matatags had their class meeting which discussed mainly the preparations for the 2021 Golden Anniversary, the fund-raising for the BIRCI golf tournament, and the plans for the Christmas party.

Meanwhile, the ladies had also their own meeting which tackled mainly the requirements for the coffee table book.

After the meeting, a mass was celebrated and later, the 4th quarter

Merry Christmas to all! December is a season to be merry and to welcome the birth of the child Jesus. It is a time to reflect on our spiritual faith. It is also the time of giving and forgiving. It is a time for fellowship and showing good will to all mankind. Thus, from all of us, may your Christmas be happy and bright!



Riviera Golf Course, three flights of Matatag golfers played which was hosted by September-born mistahs namely Dick de Leon, Tex Balmaceda, Egay Aglipay, Joey Lalisán, Rex Piad, and Rene Paredes. Beautiful prizes were awarded courtesy of the donations from the hosts, Popop and Evie Ocampo, and Egay and Mawie Aglipay. Joey Lalisán treated some HL 71 members to the challenging course in South Forbes in Silang, Cavite. California-based Totoy Rivera immediately played at the Navy Golf course a day after his arrival to wean his jet lag. He beat easily the mainstays of the Navy Golf Course namely Rey Alcasid, Egay Aglipay, Jerry Albano, Tex Balmaceda, and Tito Legaspi. Rey Alcasid murmured to me that Totoy improved a lot with his swings which were now straighter and longer. No wonder Totoy and his team mates won the team Championship in the just concluded Jurado Cup 2019 held in Las Vegas, Nevada. Again, during the birthday golf fellowship of mistah Dan Belonia at the Navy Golf last 18 November 2019, Totoy was the biggest winner. Wow!

Quote for this Issue
Only a life lived for others is a life worthwhile. Albert Einstein JCL/18 Nov 2019//

birthday celebrators were given a small cake each. Those present to receive said “blessing” were Fim, Jinggoy, Hazel, Jennie, Tito and Nona, Wency and Puring, and Dong.

Travels

The months of October and November were ideal months to travel because of the nice autumn weather. Several Matatags and mas-Matatags took advantage of it and went to travel in Europe and the Middle East. Last October, Lulu and Dong went to Italy and later to Lourdes for their yearly service there. They had rendezvous with Rey Acop but only for a short cruise whereby the latter returned back to the country due to some commitments. Lulu and Dong Tabamo were later joined by Rey and Mina Alcasid who came from Normandy and Paris visits. The Tabamo and Alcasid couples participated in assisting the parishioners in Lourdes during the nightly processions attended by pilgrims from all over the world. This is a yearly service that the couples had pledged to serve mother Mary. Amba Jun and Tess Paynor and Rey and Benjie Rivera also visited the beautiful cities

in Italy with some friends earlier. Last November, Boy and Barrie Castellano visited the Holy Land coming in from California. They failed to meet with Joey and Celia Lalisán in Israel as their schedule was ahead of one day. The pilgrimage was fulfilling spiritually albeit a hectic one due to the tight schedule. The couples were lucky to leave Israel earlier before the missile attacks and air strikes at Gaza area due to the conflict between the Islamic Jihad and Israel.

Golf Fellowships

The Hampas Lupa '71 led by its Prexy Tex Balmaceda had made several sorties at the different golf courses in the country. Tex with Rene Paredes, Jerry Albano, Rex Piad, Rey Acop, Dan Perico, Dong Tabamo, and Tito Legaspi joined the Bishop Cenzon Cup 2019 golf tournament last 8 November 2019 in Camp John Hay Golf Course upon invitation of mistah Nelson and Chit Eslao. During their trip to Baguio, they had the chance to call on the newly elected City Mayor Benjie Magalong and met also two mistahs who seldom join the class meetings, namely Huoy Tabanda and Jing Cagurangan. At the



APOLONIO P LACERNA
 President
CELSO G CASTRO
 Secretary

Hello and warm greetings to all the Masigasig way.

We didn't have any social activities from July to November. The only one we had was the 3rd quarter social/fellowship last June 15 at PNGC. As decided by BOT, the 4th quarter social and Christmas party will be held on December 8, again in PNGC, our favorite venue. They say it is “two birds in one stone” concept to save a little to cushion the impact of huge spending in preparation for our 50th Golden Anniversary in 2022.

Class news updates:

- a. **Outreach program:** The Class will conduct an Outreach program on



Class 72 receiving trophy as 1st runner up during the BIRC team competition, Nov 26, 2019 at PNGC



The schedule of activities will be disseminated earlier than expected. By the way, the Valentines Party will be held on Feb 14 (Friday) in time for Valentine’s Day. So, it’s no longer a post Valentine affair we used to have. This is to give us ample time to rest and do our things; a respite after the tiresome and hectic alumni activities.

December 1 in form of visitation to the Home of Sumang (Home for Elders) located at Levi Subdivision, Las Pinas City. Known as “Share the Graces”, this humanitarian activity is the brainchild of the Sunshine Committee headed by Alyn Lacerna to bring cheers and joy to the elders of the house in time for Christmas season. There will be a simple program to be followed by snappy merienda for the recipients before the distribution of goodies. As of this writing, there are tremendous outpouring of support of cash and kind from our generous Mistahs who gracefully and willingly heeded our call for donations. It behoves upon us as Christians to share the blessings that we are enjoying as a Class to less fortunate elders of the House of Sumang. After all, the main purpose of life is to serve others for the love of God. AMEN.

b. **Preparation for 2020 Alumni Homecoming:** We are on course in terms of preparations for 2022 Homecoming. Right now, we already made coordination for billeting (Microtel), transportation (of course Pangasinan buses), venue for Valentines Party (Crown Legacy Hotel) and catering services among others. The Class T-shirts (emerald green) for the parade are ready for distribution before the year ends.

- c. **Mistah Espines as New BIRC Prexy:** Mistah Jun Espino was elected as Board of Director and President of BIRC last October 1, 2019 as a consequence of Babes Flores’ resignation. Congratulations and best wishes to him. Rest assured of our 100% support all the way to 2022 onwards. We know the gargantuan task ahead of you as President and Incoming Chairman of BIRC and of course as Class President. But with your dedication, hardwork and managerial acumen there is no doubt you can handle the job very well. “Espines is Espines” as we say. In the same token, we thank Babes Flores for his splendid job as BIRC President from January to September and for successfully completing the special project entrusted to him by the BIRC Board.
- d. **Ongoing Projects of PMAAAI and BIRC:** Hereunder are the ongoing projects of the mother chapter and BIRC under the leadership of Cav De Vera and Cav Aglipay:
 - Creation of Council of Class Presidents.
 - Held a Pasasalamat to Pres. Duterte for the implementation of Indexation of Retirees Pensions.
 - Search for PMAAAI permanent office out of the PH300M budget donated by Megaworld intended for the building. BCDA and PA allocated 838 sqm and 1,600 sqm respectively as building location. The process

- is ongoing for immediate construction of the office.
- There’s ongoing inquiry and investigation on the case of financial investment of the Association to ACES.
- Progress on the proposed merging of PMA foundations.
- Formulation of National Security Defense Code.

Due to limited space, we can’t expound further the knitty gritty of the above.

- e. **Updates on the publication of Golden Sword 72:** Mistah Manny Teodosio, the designated Editor-in-Chief of Golden Sword 72 made a detailed briefing of how he conceptualized the Golden Sword:
 1. **Tentative Editorial Staff:**
Editor in Chief: Teody Teodosio
Associate Editors: Ogie Alino/Alex Quirante
Feature Editors: Alfa – Eddie Adan; Bravo-Art Lomibao/Babes Flores; Charlie- Gene Senga/Vic Carag; Delta- OG Buenaventura; Out of Country Representative-Willy Mejia; Art Editor-Egay Paguio; Business Manager-Bing Valencia; Photography Editor-Albin Rivera/Gil Batestil; Social Secretary-Celso Castro.
 2. **Proposed Contents:**
Messages from: President of the Philippines, Secretary of National Defense, Secretary of DILG, Chief of Staff, AFP, Chief of PNP, CG, PA, CG, PAF, FOIC, PN, Coast Guard Chief, Class President,
 3. Remembering our Alma Mater
 4. Masigasig Class history (Our transition from civilian, cadets, professional and retired).
 5. Masigasig Golden Jubilarians (individual pages)
 6. Cost Estimates:
200 copies - P2,650.00/copy = Ph 530.000
300 copies - P1,999.00/copy = Ph 570,00.00
400 copies - P1,500.00/copy Ph 600,000.00

Teody will give the full details during the Christmas Party on December 8.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS: Birthday greetings and felicitations to our celebrators for **October:** Tess Salvana, Lennie Mejia, Abe Abesamis, Ed Pimentel, Willy Mejia, Marian Sua, Nanette Valles, Tita Catalan, Jack Cordero and Jess Alban


(dec); **November:** Mel Rivera, Benny Liwag (dec), Dionix Dionisio, Albin Rivera Lou Rivera, Ed Leyritana (dec), Linda Berroya, Jun Abuan, Marcil Conaco, Willy Blanco, Torch dela Torre, Maribel Espadero, TJ Tejada, Helen & Jimmy Viernes, Odette Bibit, and Carol Albanza; **December:** Jack Joaquin (dec), Siony Cordero, Eric Evangelista, Yolly Lasar, Mila Naval, Rock Tor, Tata Velasco, Monying

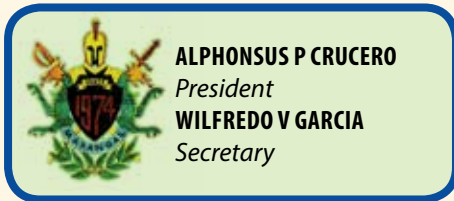
Dizon, Tony Villarosa, Ric Brillantes, Vic Carag, Ike Galang Bay Valles (dec) and Emiy Rivera. HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL AND GOD BLESS.

PRAYER OFFERING:

Let us offer this prayer for the healing of our beloved Mistahs who are suffering from various illness: "Lord Jesus, thank you for your love. We know that you

hate what the illness are doing to our dear Mistahs. We ask YOU in the name of Jesus, that YOU would heal their diseases, and that YOU would have compassion and healing from all their sickness. Help us trust in YOU, in Jesus name, AMEN."

Till next Class call, happy reading and MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL...oslec. 



I. UPDATES ON STATUS OF MEMBERS OF CLASS 1974

We wish to thank profusely our Mistah Lito Gamit for his efforts to account members of the class as shown below.

- a. Army
- b. PC/INP
- c. PAF
- d. PN/PCG
- e. Deceased

ARMY '74 = 34

1. Avelino M. Alonzo
2. Jose T. Barbieto
3. Roberto A. Bayona
4. Enrique C. Bernal, Jr
5. Ferdinand M. Bocobo
6. Eugenio V. Cedo
7. Alphonsus P. Crucero
8. Randy S. Daus
9. William V. Dormitorio
10. Paterno D. Escudero, Jr
11. Randolph Y. Espejo
12. Hermogenes C. Esperon, Jr
13. Pedro D. Fernando
14. Carlito F. Gamit
15. James S. de Guzman
16. Felicisimo V. Lagasca
17. Charlie S. Luis
18. Bernard Z. de Luna
19. Romeo P. Mayo
20. Rodolfo S. Obaniana
21. Edgar V. Peralta
22. Sittiporn V. Patarasen
23. Vladimir C. Punto
24. Allen V. Querobin
25. Pedro Cesar C. Ramboanga, Jr
26. Antonio M. Ramos
27. Romeo D. Ranay

28. Roland A. Rodriguez
29. Antonio I. Romero II
30. Trifonio P. Salazar
31. Anastasio A. Salud
32. Antonio I. Seville
33. Romeo P. Tolentino
34. Alberto M. Mabaquio

PC/PNP'74=22

1. Ernesto V. Belen
2. Jacinto S. Binuya
3. Tito B. Cagurangan
4. Emmanuel R. Carta
5. Edgardo M. Doromal
6. Rene J. Elumbaring
7. Antonio B. Enteria, Jr
8. Marcelino F. Franco, Jr
9. Wilfredo V. Garcia
10. Alejandro M. Gutierrez
11. Dencio Mar S. Laurico
12. Oscar T. Marinas
13. Prospero C. Noble, Jr
14. Errol T. Pan
15. Nicolas dy Iro Pasinos, Jr
16. Nicasio J. Radovan, Jr
17. Avelino I. Razon, Jr
18. Joselito U. Tan
19. Ameto G. Tolentino
20. Oscar F. Valenzuela
21. Reynaldo P. Varilla
22. Ching Lagrimas

PAF'74 =18

1. Romeo B. Buenaflor
2. Pedro C. Cruz
3. Napoleon I. Garcia
4. Estrelito F. Gutierrez
5. Oscar M. de Guzman
6. Jose Florencio B. Junio
7. Lorenzo B. Luistro
8. Rodolfo I. Monte
9. Jose C. Nano
10. Mapagtapat R. Ongchangco, Jr
11. Stanley I. Pagdilao
12. Ricardo D. Dela Paz
13. Dante S. Rillorta
14. Marcelo S. Santos
15. Roberto G. Sylim
16. Horacio S. Tolentino

17. Felipe R. Valerio, Jr.
18. Miguel Lopez

NAVY/PMAR/PCG '74 =14

1. Danilo A. Abinoja
2. Alfredo D. Abueg, Jr
3. Benigno T. Cabrieto, Jr
4. Rogelio I. Calunsag
5. Damian I. Carlos
6. Claro P. Doria
7. Salvador Q. Esguerra
8. Lodovico F. Franco
9. Ruben G. Garcia
10. Rufino S. Lopez, Jr
11. Oscar C. Mallabo
12. Renato P. Miranda
13. Amable B. Tolentino
14. Serafin Toots Padilla

DEPARTED MEMBERS'74 = 26/2

1. Eduardo V. Alava
2. Reynaldo C. Altamirano
3. Saulito R. Aromin
4. Rolando H. Bruce
5. Juanito P. Cabayao
6. Felix I. Cabreros
7. Cesar D. Elenzano
8. Carlito P. Espera
9. Gerardo G. Hilomen
10. Pedro Ike I. Inserto
11. Nicasio F. Jacob
12. Rolando I. Jimeno
13. Horacio T. Lactao
14. William B. Leano
15. Jaime R. Liwanag
16. Edwin B. La Madrid
17. Franklin R. Nerez, Jr
18. Michael A. Omengan
19. Ariel G. Palacios
20. Calixto M. Pamplona
21. Felix B. Raposo
22. Antonio A. Roxas
23. Pacifico B. Solidum, Jr
24. Eulogio V. Talco
25. Victor V. Valencia
26. Hansel B. Yen
27. Cadet Andres Dollente
28. Cadet Genaro Llorono

HONORARY/ASSOCIATE MEMBERS'74 = 43

1. Rafael Alunan II
2. Ralph Amador
3. Jess Bartolome
4. Napoleon Concepcion (Asso Mem)
5. Ben Corona
6. Rodolfo Diaz
7. Bong Estrella
8. Joey Flores (Asso M)
9. Emmanuel Geslani
10. Dante LA Jimenez
11. Harry Limtong
12. Nicolas Manalo
13. Butch Maglaya
14. Louie Maralit
15. Oscar Orbeta
16. Alan Paje
17. Romeo Posadas
18. Rene S. Rieza
19. Hanson So
20. Fidel Sy
21. Pete Tan
22. Kim Wong
23. Fernando Zabata
24. Jose Miguel "Migz" Zubiri
25. Chavit Singson
26. Ariel Abriam (Asso Mem USNA'74)
27. Bobby Delfin (PNP)
28. Eddie Garcia (PNP +)
29. Jack Enrile (PNP)
30. Mike Arroyo (PA)
31. Pete Curva (PA +)

32. Marcelo Jun Ele (PNP +)
33. Tony Lalisan (PN+)
34. Edgar Alvarez (+)
35. Gani Galang (+)
36. Ernesto Baylon (PA)
37. Resito "Bong" David (PMAR)
38. Mayo Ongsingco (PMAR)
39. Cesar dela Pena (PMAR)
40. Sonny Busa (USMA)
41. Romy Carlos
42. Elpidio Layson
43. Julian Elevado (Asso Mem 74)

II. CLASS ACTIVITIES

Of late, the class is becoming more active once again in bonding activities of golf games, small group gatherings and birthday parties in part because of incoming Jurado Cup Sports event in Las Vegas, Christmas party on 14 December 2019 and in anticipation of Golden Jubilee year 2024 which will mark the 50th year anniversary of graduation from PMA.

As early as now, we have organized a golden jubilarian committee to oversee the preparations for this significant event headed by Prexy Pons Crucero and composed of other Class officers and volunteers. We want to be sure that no stones will be left unturned for this event. We want to see that this event of once

in a lifetime be the fitting recognition of the unique but fruitful history and accomplishments of PMA Class 1974.

So far, we have already made reservations at Forrest Lodge Hotel in Camp John Hay for our billeting. By the list of those who signified to join the celebration, the Class is going in full force with their families.

Then there is this Jurado Cup Sports Competition in Las Vegas organized by the US-based PMAAI Cavaliers on 24-27 October 2019. A strong contingent from the Class will be sent to compete in golf, bowling, singing competition and others. We do not intend to go there to win but only to reach out to our fellow Cavaliers in that foreign land.

Finally, to rekindle our desire to have a regular get together, a joint birthday party will be held monthly. So that we had birthday parties for August-born celebrants led by Pons Crucero at AGFO Center followed by September-born led by Sonny Razon also at AGFO Center. Soon we will have another for October and November-born which will be held on November 16, 2019, also in AGFO Center. The ladies have introduced Bingo games for our usual program of singing and dancing which proved to be a huge success.



III. BIRTHDAY MESSAGE

"Count not the candles... see the lights they give. Count not the years, but the life you live. Wishing every celebrant a wonderful time ahead. Happy birthday!"

October

02 Roland Rodriguez
04 James de Guzman
18 Teepee Salazar
22 Joe Onchangco
25 Ching Lagrimas
25 Vldy Punto
26 Harvy Limtong

November

05 Willy Garcia
06 Pete Ramboanga
07 Ernie Belen
08 Nick Radovan
12 Vic Franco

17 Dencio Mar Laurico
20 Claro Doria
21 Sittiporn Patarasea
23 Chay Luis
23 Errol Pan

December

04 Boy Miranda
06 Nick Manalo
07 Stanley Pagdilao
11 Randy Dauz
15 Ruben Garcia
22 Romy Ranay
22 Marcelo Santos
30 Danny Bocobo

IV. CONDOLENCE

We would like to extend our sincerest condolence and sympathy to the bereaved family of Mistah Willy

Dormitorio for the untimely passing of his son, PMA Cadet Darwin Dormitorio. May his soul rest in peace with our Lord in heaven.

We likewise admire the courage and patriotism of Willy in the way he takes on the death of his son.

Reposted message from an unknown source:

"Mga Mistah, I have never seen nor heard an upperclass who is as professional as Col Dormitorio. Sabi niya sa PNP na nag-iimbistiga, "sundalo tayo, tanggap ko yan kahit masakit. Ayaw ko ng media, kailangan nating protektahan ang AFP. Yan ang personal request ko sa inyo." Then he told his Mistahs: "Mistah, tulungan na lang natin ang PMA na maayos ang sistema, kahit yan na lang ang action para sa akin." 🇵🇭



About 45 years ago, a bunch of 132 teenage boys tromped off to a Military Fort in a typical mountainous region in Baguio City. It was the home of the Philippine Military Academy at Fort Del Pilar. These young mammals were in jeans, bell bottom pants, loose t-shirts, party clothes, and many were sporting hippie long hairs. These boys will soon become members of the PMA Makabayan Class of 1975.

It was the Martial Law era and these incoming cadets were repeatedly told that they were in the most prestigious academy in Asia. The future was their destiny, the academy was the beginning of boys turning into men.

We evolved into typical military academy cadets starting as plebes. The military life was practically shoved right up our bottoms and we were taught manners, hard work, integrity and honour. We were largely supervised and the academy looked out for us and we thrived.

Soon, as cadets, all of us scooped the joy of living the life of a military man and the excitement of bachelors in search of the typical life of a living and breathing hormonal male figure. We studied, we paraded, we partied, and

soon we graduated and were immersed into the four branches of services of the Armed Forces of the Philippines - The Army, The Philippine Constabulary, The Air Force, and The Navy. And our class became close.

As lieutenants and ensigns, we "fought fiercely" together in land, air, and water. As we developed, we learned from our best commanders and our dedicated junior officers, and tolerated our worst. During rest and recreation periods, we thrived anywhere where life took us away from the rigours of our duties and even the horrors of combat ... laughing, gossiping, wisecracking, quarrelling our way through military life as if we were in a comedy movie. Our only real vice was - that's SECRET!

So, we went on to live lives. Some went on early retirement. Some settled far away. Many stuck it out with the Uniformed services. Most found life partners, raised families and seemed to do OK. All were broadened and sobered by the trials and joys of their personal lives and the amazing, ongoing, tumultuous evolution of our cherished country and the world.

Before I finish my compliance to Class President Willy, allow me to cite some of our successful classmates after retirement as of today:

Mayor Alandy Mesa - Alandy is in his third term as the Mayor of the developing town of Alabat, Quezon. He was recognized as one of the PMAAAI Cavalier awardees in 2018. Unlike his Golf

cart at Valley Golf, the town of Alabat is now progressively moving forward and developing;

Vice Mayor Benjie Tesoro - Benjie was a former 3-term mayor of the town of San Manuel. He is now the elected vice mayor with his daughter as the Mayor of the same Tarlac town. By the way, even with his daughter at the helm of the San Manuel leadership, Mrs. Tesoro is still the all time Mayor of Vice Mayor Benjie;

Councilor Walter Villagonzalo - Over at Wyndham City, Australia, we have our Karate Kid Walter who was elected as Councillor, Portfolio Chair of the said city. After graduating from the Academy, and honorably resigning his military service, Walter studied at the The Australian Institute of Company Directors before running for a political office Wyndham City.

Ambassador Noe A Wong - former Philippine Ambassador to Cambodia (2008-2014) and now our Ambassador to the Republic of Korea (2019 - present). He was quoted as applying for work in a barbershop but he was turned down due to old age and poor vision;

Usec Ding Luna - former Philippine Ambassador to the Netherlands and now is the most senior Undersecretary of the Department of National Defense, (the second highest official) and as Deputy Administrator of Martial Law in Mindanao;

Asec Ray Roderos - Ray is presently the Assistant General Director of the National Security Agency with a rank of Assistant Secretary;

Other Non - Political Positions held by adorable classmates are:

German Doria - Executive Director of the Association of General and Flag Officers of the Philippines (AGFO);

Prudencio Regis - Vice Chairman and Vice President of AGFO;

Pet Magno - Father Pet Jomags, aside from being lifetime deputy to Mrs Magno, he is currently the District Deputy of the Knights of Columbus District P26 of Paranaque City and the Unit Manager of MMC4, Fraternal Benefit Group, K of C Fraternal Association of the Philippines. Anybody with surplus money? Talk with Jomags.

Ernie Boac - Ernie is an Independent Trustee and a member of the Board of Directors Armed Forces and Police Mutual Benefit Association, Inc. He was also a former ASEC of the DND, and once a feared golfing opponent.

Leonard Leo Bernabe - Leo is now

the Deputy Governor Integrated Bar of the Philippines for Central Luzon. He is a Trial Lawyer for Bernabe Law and Accounting Offices, Subic Bay Freeport Zone. Let's pray that Mistah Leo may not be a lawyer for Battered Generals;

Dick Capuyan - Farmer

Ismael Rafanan - Rancher

And then one day, in February 2020, we will be awakened to come back to our beloved PMA for another class reunion. No big deal. We hold one every five years. There, we will find ourselves in the Parade ground with a sign proclaiming that we are the PMA Makabayan Class of 1975 celebrating 45 years since graduation. Some of us may limp carrying canes, brandishing snow whiteheads bobbing in the sun or even sporting no hair at all waving at the crowd with pale and skinny arms.

Smother us if you like ... we often tell each other. Becoming a fossil was an

impossible future to ponder when we were cadets. And though we complained of cataract surgeries, titanium hips and prostates the size of Luzon, we decided we were not quite ready for smothering after all. We will remember every living classmate's faces as if it were yesterday and we will still shed tears for those no longer with us. We will talk of our youthful pranks and all the happy, tragic and sometimes surreal dramas of cadet life. And for the nth time, we will hug each other - Tight - clinging like velcro to the grand memory of it all. Forty-five years will pass, just like that BUT ISN'T THAT LIFE? *Mistah ingat sa pag-akyat ng bus baka ma talisod ka.....*

Article inspired from quotations from Dick Hakes, semi-retired newspaper editor who lives in North Liberty. 🌐



EMILIO C MARAYAG JR
President
ZOSIMO D CARLOS JR
Secretary

The 2019 Magilas Charity Golf Tournament held at the PN Golf Course on 21 Oct 2019 was another overwhelming success participated by more than 50 players. Proceeds from this resource generation project is primarily intended for charitable projects of the class and to supplement our class fund for future activities. Kudos to Tournament Director Ely dela Paz and Vic Boco. Appreciated likewise were the efforts and contributions of the company supervisors, and the majority of Magilas members who donated, solicited, and contributed their utmost efforts for the success of this class activity. Modest lunch was served to all participants which was followed by the awarding ceremony, Congratulations to Sonny Cachuela for winning the Class "A" champion trophy, and also to the other winners. Joey, Abner, Cholo and the beautiful Tanduyay girls emceed the affair.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING AND CHRISTMAS FELLOWSHIP

The Annual General Assembly Meeting of the class will be held at PA

"BE HAPPY AND GRATEFUL FOR EVERYTHING IN YOUR LIFE"



MAGILAS CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT 2019



Officers Clubhouse, Fort Bonifacio on 8 December 2019. Meeting starts at 5 p.m. highlighted by the rendering of the President's and the Treasurer's Reports, and the ratification of all acts and resolutions of the Board of Trustees for 2019. The traditional Christmas Party of Magilas members and their ladies immediately follows. There will be plenty of boodles, raffle prizes, fun games, dancing, and goodies. Advanced congratulations to Efren Daquil and Nonong Cayton for organizing this happy event.

CLASS TRIVIA

On April 1, 1972, some 144 Cadets climbed up to Baguio to report as plebes of PMA Class 1976. Out of the original 144, only 56 cadets lasted up to graduation day on Feb 17, 1976. As of today, 46 of them are still healthy and enjoying retirement. They are Abadiano, Acuna, Alarcio, Allaga, Boco, Bontuyan, Busa, Cabalquinto, Caga-anan, Calderon, Caringal, Carlos, Deemongkol, Defensor, Ramon dela Cruz, dela Paz, Ditangco, Dolorfino, Ferrer, Francisco, Gatdula, Golez, Goltiao, Gonowon, Hilomen, Ibrado, Ikbala, Labiano, Legaspi, Lucero, Maclang, Marayag, Narcise, Pajarito, Perez, Punzalan, Ramirez, Resngit,

Salvacion, Tanabe, Tayag, Tenazas, Ticman, Verzosa, Yano, and Yapching. The 10 who left early and joined our Creator are Barrera, Estur, Jaleco, Gudani, Tabas, Sesante, Viduya, Dilodilo, Ray dela Cruz, and Pomposo. Joining the class during our cadet years are other Distinguished mistahs like Bataoil, Caballes, Cachuela, Agcon, Daquil, Dasallas, Fojas, Fontanilla, Gamos, Maligalig, Nano, Rodriguez, Soriano, and the late Aurelio and Salosagcol. Those are the names of the 71 graduates of PMA Magilas Class of 1976. Later on, four graduates from the US service Academies also joined the class, Dacanay, Solidum, and the late Gaboy and Cabrera. There is today a total of 61 Surviving Regular members of the class. **AND WE HAVE BECOME AS CLOSE TO EACH OTHER AS EVER BEFORE.**

CONGRATULATIONS

Advanced Congratulations to the 2019 Magilas Brats Awardees. They will be honored during the forthcoming Christmas Party on December 8, together with the proud parents:
 Dr. Erika Blanca M. Daquil
 Mr. Milo Victor (Brader) Ibrado
 Mrs Angelique Corrine Carlos-Lat
 Dr. Mutya Salvacion de Vera
 Dr. Cyrus T. Caballes

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

Our felicitations to the following Magilas who are celebrating their special day: Tui Deemongkol – Oct 6, Cecille Boco – Oct 7, Ely Dela Paz – Oct 9, Ariel Zerrudo – Oct 9, Abner Cabalquinto – Oct 9, Rose Gurrea – Oct 9, Louie Ticman – Oct 10, Tess Calderon – Oct 10, Malou Esguerra – Oct 13, Ed Gurrea – Oct 15, Bing Dacanay – Oct 16, Shirley Golez – Oct 17, Maria Montelibano – Oct 17, Alex Yapching – Oct 18, Wilson Young – Oct 18, Jojo Maligalig – Oct 19, Pol Bataoil – Oct 22, Raffy Dacanay – Oct 24, Efren Veran – Oct 28, and Joey Paz – Oct 31. Sonny Cachuela – Nov 4, Jimmy Caringal – Nov 5, Jogie Fojas – Nov 7, Rowena Lacanienta – Nov 9, Ben Dolorfino – Nov 10, Jeff Soriano – Nov 11, Babette Narcise – Nov 12, Doo Maligalig – Nov 15, Chilla Lucero – Nov 17, Diegs Dasallas – Nov 21, Ed Gonowon – Nov 23, Sluggs Nano – Nov 27, Annette Yapching – Nov 24, Ching Punzalan – Dec 5, Baby Salosagcol – Dec 5, Mia Dela Paz – Dec 6, Vita Salvacion – Dec 10, EpoY Lagdamen – Dec 15, Romy Hilomen – Dec 16, Nonong Cayton – Dec 18, Paul Chua – Dec 19, Estela Yano – Dec 21, Jess Verzosa – Dec 25, Gerry Defensor – Dec 28. Enjoy your special day and may you continue to be a blessing to others. 🙏



MAG-ULAT!

SERVICE

Rene HEREDIA is President of Global Medical Center in Cabuyao, Laguna.

SPORTS

Class 1977 and four other classes jointly host the 3rd Qtr Retired Cavaliers Golf Fellowship/Corps of 70s, Sept 24 (Tue), at Kampo Aguinaldo Golf Club

TSIKENKLAB

We are merry “freedom fighters” of the long table!
 Frolics continue during our regular Wednesday lunches or during birthday treats.
 Mistahs from overseas visit.
 We welcome Wilson TAN and Raul

BACALZO from USA.

It's OKTOBERFEST!
 We chillax and we sing the “BEER POLKA”
 Roll out the barrel
 We'll have a barrel of fun,
 Roll out the barrel
 We've got the blues on the run,
 We're 'freedom fighters'
 Ring out a song of good cheer,
 Now's the time to roll the barrel
 For mistahs are all here!

MEDICAL NEWS

1. Nebuchadnezzar ALEJANDRINO undergoes heart bypass operation in the US, on Nov 2. Nebu is healing well and recuperating fast.
2. Diosdado DOMINGO undergoes radio frequency ablation in St Luke's Hospital, BGC in Taguig on Nov 8. The procedure corrects Dad's arrhythmia, a problem in the electrical system of the heart. Get well be well, stay well, Dad.



Nov 2. ALL SOULS DAY

We remember our deceased mistahs:

ARMY (6)

- Henry Cinco - 2019
- Rolando Cruz - 2011
- Ferdinand Ileteo - 1987
- Vicente Riblora - 1979
- Nestor Sadiarin - 2015
- Alexander Tan - 1997

CONSTABULARY (5)

- Renato Cruz - 1977
- Leodegario De Guzman - 2012

- Arnulfo Espiritu - 2002
- Jessie Seblario - 1988
- Jaime Tagaca - 2019

NAVY (5)

- Eufracio Arancon - 2009
- Danilo Del Rosario - 1978
- Federico Favila (USNA) - 1998
- Teddy Pan - 2016
- Benjamin Saculles - 2014

AIR FORCE (4)

- Jolpata Edris - 1989

- Edmund Ferrer - 1983
- Mario Butch Lacson - 2010
- Salvaflor Lopez - 1981

OBITUARY

Sep 25.

Annie, wife of Raffy PABUSTAN, passes away. She rests in peace. Condolence to the family. 🕊️

**“Maligayang Pasko!
Manigong Bagong Taon 2020!**




RODOLFO Y MAGTIBAY
President
FELIPE HB BUENA JR
Secretary

PMA Class 1978 is formally endorsing the membership in the PMA Alumni Association, Inc. (PMAAAI) of Ernest O. Villareal, Reynaldo B. Odulio, Ph. D., and Justice Alex L. Quiroz as Honorary Members, and William T. Yu as Associate Member. Likewise, the Class is welcoming Ray Macalalad who is in the last phase of immersion as another Honorary Member.

For the scheduled PMAAAI BIRCI Golf Tournament on November 26, 2019 at the PN Golf Course in Fort Bonifacio, the Class is tasked to raise Php 50,000 sponsorship. Collective efforts are being undertaken to support this fundraising activity. Any amount raised over the tasked sponsorship will go the class fund to augment the financial assistance to victims of the recent earthquakes in Mindanao.

The Class initial financial assistance thru “The Class 78 Help Mindanao” has been sent thru Brig Gen BAJAO, Brigade Commander 1002nd Bde. On behalf of the Class, the actual distribution of relief goods in Makilala, Cotabato was done thru the 39th Inf Battalion and personally supervised by Ex Hagonoy Mayor, Conrad Laza and his family.

As part of our continuing social responsibility, the Class has pledged to donate two rooms in Ward 10 of the Veterans Memorial Medical Center.

Construction is now ongoing and expected to be completed in about 60 days. The first room is expected to be ready before Christmas Day.

The Class, thru Ernest Villareal, will have a medical/dental mission involving about 120 children in Sitio Cogonan, Bgy Sibul, San Miguel, Bulacan on December 1 near Camp Tecson.

For the year-end bonding, the Class Christmas Party together with the 4th quarter birthday celebration will be on December 11 at the Villamor Golf Club. 🕊️





NICANOR A BARTOLOME
President
JEFFREY R TUPAS
Secretary

Greetings to all of our Mapitagan classmates!

Well, we dozed off a little bit this time...hehe... We've been busy here and there for the past several months. It's Christmas Season and surely everyone's preparing for the greatest season of all!

Class Activities in Brief:

As the saying goes, a picture paints a thousand words! So, here are some of the ka-busyhan ng mga class 80 members ... hehehe.



Nickbart, Epoy, and Gerry during the AGFO Fellowship on Sep 12, 2019 with then CSAFP Gen Benjamin Madrigal as Guest of Honor and Speaker.



Ted, Onay, and Cess played a round of golf during the 80th DND Founding Anniversary on Oct 26, 2019 at Camp Aguinaldo Golf Course.



Jurado Cup battle of Classes at Las Vegas on Oct. 28, 2019 attended by Mandy, Jun, Edwin, Mike and Del.



Nick Bart attending a courtesy call of the PMAAAI Board to CSAFP Noel Clement on Oct. 30, 2019.



Mie Mendoza continues his trek to other parts of the country via his trustee motorcycle, this time in Bacolod City on Oct 12, 2019.

Again as expected, our mistahs celebrating their birthdays hosted birthday fellowships sharing their blessings and exchanging birthday wishes!

Birthday Celebrators for the month of August:

- 8 Angel Palmones
- 13 Ed Tamayo
- 15 Emil Gupana
- 17 Manny Amat
- 21 Ager Ontog
- 21 Bobby Ramos
- 31 Mon Muyargas

Birthday Celebrators for the month of September:

- 2 Nolet Ojeda
- 6 Rainier Cruz
- 6 Eugene Velasco (+)
- 8 Ces Ordoyo
- 12 Gerry Layug
- 15 Hermie Navarro (+)
- 16 Alex De Guzman
- 18 Bong Cabantac

- 19 Nes Bernardino (+)
- 23 Dante Balao
- 24 Rusty Francisco
- 25 Juni Carbonell
- 28 Mike Rodriguez

On Nov 23, the birthday celebrators for the months of Oct, Nov, and Dec shall jointly host a fellowship lunch at Gloria Maris Greenhills. See list of celebrators below.


Birthday Celebrators for the month of October:

- 1 Willy Lee
- 2 LitoPacia
- 2 Jeff Tupas
- 7 Nes Eloja
- 9 Norby Sta. Ana
- 10 Dodge Macatol
- 16 Orly Beltran
- 16 Nes Deona
- 16 Ed Talens
- 26 Joey Salceda
- 28 Jude Tadeo

Birthday Celebrators for the month of November:

- 2 Sammy Diciano
- 10 Arthur Yap
- 12 Drian Esplana (+)
- 12 Martin Jubas (+)
- 17 O'irog Macapagal
- 22 Ed Sayong Del Rosario
- 22 Zyryl Carlos
- 23 Marlou Salazar
- 29 Jun Sanchez
- 30 Mandy Espinel

Birthday Celebrators for the month of December:

- 1 Caloy Clet (+)
- 7 Meo Prado
- 8 Ome Carbonell
- 16 Romy Palaroan
- 16 Ed Angel Tan
- 19 Mon Loria
- 24 Noel Dominguez
- 24 Del Lee
- 31 Hermie Colina
- 31 Prime Primero 



Our classmate Angelo Palmones handing out Mapiitagan's modest donation to Mindanao earthquake victims last Nov 9, 2019.



The September-born classmates hosted a fellowship lunch at The Range, LOGCOM Driving Range, CGEA on 21 September.



For the August-born mistahs, a fellowship lunch was held at Phil. Navy Officers Club, PN Navy Base on 29 August.



ALAN R LUGA
President
OSCAR P LOPEZ
Secretary

Christmas is just around the corner. By the time this article comes out, many Classes have planned for their respective Christmas Parties. Some may have already celebrated theirs. For the Dimalupig Family, this season is the time for reconnecting, especially those who have not been seen during previous Class fellowship activities. I am sure the Manlulupigs have some surprises up in their sleeves for the Class Christmas Party.

In the meantime, I will just give a run-down on a few activities that happened these past months. Since the Cavalier Magazine is now published quarterly, we have to back-track on some of the happenings. The celebrants for the month of August (MJ, MonJ and Art A) sponsored a lunch fellowship at the CGEA Golf Clubhouse and some mistahs played golf in the morning. Last September, the Dimalupigs held a dinner-fellowship at the PNGC hosted by the celebrants (MannyB, EdwinR, ChaS and Boogie M). Also, Cav Boogie Mendoza hosted lunch for a number of Dimalupigs and Manlulupigs in his farm in Laguna. They were treated with a sumptuous luncheon of his produce at the farm. That is healthy living. The Dimalupig family once again met at the VABGC to celebrate the birthdays of mistahs (sobrang dami nila) last October. As usual, a number of mistahs played a round of golf in the afternoon prior to the party. In this occasion, we were entertained by the Manlulupigs led by mistahs Belle DL and Zeny B. Walang kupas pa rin sila sa pagkanta. A long-lost mistah was also introduced that evening. He is Augusto Cantor of Foxtrot Company. He reported with the Class on April 1 but left the Academy during the Summer Camp. Welcome to the Dimalupig family.

This time, there will be a joint-monthly birthday celebration for November and December, to be held again at CAGC on 23 November (ang dami rin nila). As expected, there will be a mini-golf showdown for those who are into the sport. Let us all look forward to these activities.



We also took note of the activities of our foreign-based (US) mistahs who recently competed in the Annual Jurado Cup held in Las Vegas, USA. Nag link-up ang mga taga East sa West. Congratulations to all the winners. Special mention goes to Cav Goodie who competed in the Karaoke challenge. May talent ka pala bok.

A contingent of Dimalupigs and Manlulupigs went to the Senate and visited the Sergeant-at-Arms, Cav Rene S. They observed the Session at the Plenary Hall where they met and had some photo-ops with our esteemed Senators. I hope they were lobbying for the inclusion of our pension differentials in the 2020 budget and not the Divorce

Bill. After their experience at the Senate, they visited the Coconut Palace where again, the group had a lot of photo opportunities.

As regards our preparation for the 40th Graduation Anniversary Celebration in 2021, all the committees have been doing their respective tasks as planned. The Billeting Committee has canvassed the priorities of those who will avail of the billeting facilities in Baguio. The Uniform Committee decided to let the individual choose his own tailor provided that the suit will comply with our desired specs. The fabric will be provided for, with the help of mistah Cav ThawipN. After the proposal was put into motion by the Program Committee, it was

decided that the Anniversary Celebration will be done in two parts. The first part will be in Feb during the Alumni Homecoming 2021, while the other activities (the second part) will be held in Manila in March 2021. Details will be disseminated in succeeding posts in our viber group. Finally, the Ways and Means Committee has been very busy looking for “ways and means” to support these activities. Therefore, by the direction of the President, all are encouraged to participate and contribute for the success of our 40th Anniversary Celebration.

On a final note, let me greet the Dimalupig Family a Blessed and Merry Christmas and Prosperous and Peaceful New Year. Stay healthy everyone! 🙏



ELMER R SORIA
President
PHILIP S FORTUN
Secretary

Life is “but a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away” (James 4:14). Last 19 August 2019, our very own Lyndel Alpuerto Desquitado went ahead of us to the Great Beyond, the first among us after our Class bowed out of military/police service. A man, husband, and father well-loved not only by his family, close friends, and mistahs, but also by the men and women who worked with and under him, Lyndel is one Sandigan whose shoes would be very difficult to fill. We will all miss your ala-Mona Lisa smile, bok, ever-friendly, ever-endearing, and ever-mysterious. You were here for a moment, and now you are gone. But rest assured, wherever you are now, mistah Lyndel, that your beloved family you left behind shall always be a close and integral part of us, your Sandigan family.

For us who are still around, we salute and also pray for the success of our fellow Sandigans who continue to advocate good governance and transformation: Benjie M. in Baguio and Rambo DG. In Sta Teresita, Cagayan as public servants; and Erwin L. and many others, both locally and abroad, for spiritual renewal and righteousness. Particularly, we would like to congratulate our very own Robert Y., President and CEO of Intelligent Touch Corporation, for his innovative accomplishments that

greatly improved the systems of the Philippine Veterans Bank. Idol ka talaga namin, Boss Pai! Likewise, we extend our congratulations to our technical wizard, Vic C., who was recently appointed to the DICT as Assistant Secretary for Maritime and Aquatic Information Management Systems. He has joined the ranks of USec Alex L. of DOE and USec Ed G. of BFAR, DA. To all of you, our esteemed mistahs, may you continue and carry on your service consistently marked with dignity and integrity.

When it rains grasya, lahat sinasalo ni Chris L.! Congratulations to our witty mistah who won a Peugeot 508 last 21 September 2019 during the EG Golf Cup in Tagaytay Golf and Country Club! Our thanks, too, for the generosity of the sponsor, Edwin Gardiola, an active honorary member of our Class, for sharing your blessings! And may chismis din na si Cris A., nanalo din ng brand-new Fortuner?! Mukhang naengganyo natuloy mag-aral ng golf ang iba pang mga mistah natin, ah! Soar high, Sandigan golfers! We wish you

all the best in the forthcoming Fil-Am tournament in Baguio!

Our Christmas Party, set on 11 December 2019, will be held again at the Makati Sports Club. As always, we look forward to a well-attended fellowship of Sandigans with our lovely spouses for another night of bolahizing, dancing, and the usual raffle draw. See you there, mga mistah!

And now, our warm greetings to our September and 4th Quarter 2019 celebrants! Better late than never, ‘ika nga!



For September birthdays: (01) Ninoy A., Edwin E.; (04) Elmer S.; (06) Bong L.; (07) Jojo DL.; (08) Cecil C.; (09) Manny T.; (10) Boy "Suplix" S.; (15) Allen F.; (18) Tonton DG., Andy G.; (19) Amin U.; (26) Jun G.

Wedding anniversaries: (03) Lito and Marsha P.; (10) Dex and Loi C., Manny and Tetey O., Joey and Arlene S.; (13) Wendy and Lhen R.; (14) Leo and Didi B.; (29) Noel and Jenny DR.

For October birthdays: (01) Ed L.; (03) Bien C.; (04) Ren P., Fidel P.; (05) Alfred "Pangga" F.; (06) Jet V.; (07) Ed "Robocop" A., Gordon D.; (09) Willy O.; (10) Ding L.; (13) Danny E.; (19) John B.; (21) Jun "Cru" C.; (22) Noli T.; (23) Freddie U.; (24) Manny O.; (26) Rudy "Iso" I.; (27) Jimmy "Monta" M.; (28) Sam G., Rod "Gemini" J.; (29) Roger "Mazong" D.; (31) Armand B.; Ding D.

Wedding anniversaries: (10) Kleng and Marie C.; (16) Eli and Cathy P.; (19) Nar and Sharon C.; (21) Rolly and Jojo M.; (22) Freddie and Joy U.; (25) Jorge and Annabel C., Ed (+) and Nessie V.; (26) Manny and Gina C.; (27) Jun and Marivic C.

For November birthdays: (01) Lester C.; (02) Jorge C.; (03) Dardz G.; (04) Henry E.; (05) Dexter C.; (07) Rolly M., Bert Y.; (09) Boyet DC.; (12) Arleen G., Danny S.; (13) Cesar T.; (17) James M.; (18) Rudy J.; (21) Gammy C., Gilbert R., Boy "Tagoy" S.; (22) Leo B.; Nar C., Joey S.; (24) Romy P.; (25) Bestre G.; (28) Romy N.; (29) Manny C.; (30) Bill (+) and Rufy Y.

Wedding anniversaries: (04) Ernie and Leah B.; (08) Onie and Anna B.; (11) Manny and Marivic T.; (14) Bert and Cymer D.; (18) Natz and Myrtle O.; (22) Gilbert and Becky R.; (27) Audie and Adel D.

For December birthdays: (05) Roger S.; (08) Noel "Tiger" DR.; (12) Ed "Usec" G.; (14) Bert "Domayns" D.; (15) Percy B., Willy F., Benjie "Mayor" M.; (17) Noel V.; (18) Erwin L.; (19) Noel P.; (22) Lito P.; (25) Jess S.; (28) Cenz M.; (29) Vic D.; Boyet L.


Wedding anniversaries: (03) Vic and Malou L.; (04) Ninoy and Violy A.; (05) Mel and Pinay M., Pat and Marilyn P.; (08) Danny and Luz S.; (14) Rolly and Dulce M.; (18) Ed and Valerie A.; (21) Ren

and Vising P.; (23) Tonton and Tess DG., Frank and Nessie U.

We would also like to call to remembrance our beloved mistahs who have gone ahead of us who would surely have celebrated their birthdays with us had they been still around: Raul C. Andaya (Sep 05); Chester R. Guerzon (Sep 20), Antonio A. Borja, Jr. (Sep 24), Angel O. Delos Reyes (Oct 01), Benjamin Roman L. Arceo, Jr. (Oct 02), Aniceto Pablito Madarang (Nov 22), Alrex B. Celiz (Dec 06), and Reynaldo O. Corpuz (Dec 19).

Note: The publications of the Cavalier Magazine became quarterly effective 3rd Qtr 2019. As the previously submitted Class Call covered only activities for July-August 2019, the September celebrants were not covered then. Thus, their inclusion here in this 4th Qtr issue of the magazine.

See you all in Baguio sa next year's PMA Homecoming, especially that we plan to have a courtesy call kay Mayor Benjie M. then!

Maligayang Pasko sa ating lahat, mga mistah! - **JimMonta82-** 



Maharli-kids and Parenting Them

Children are God's most wonderful creations. They are our legacies' caretakers long after our time.

It is every *Mahalikan's* birthright to perform a sacred intergenerational duty—parenting – an act of gratitude we owe to our forebears. Growing our children was delivering us to many of our unchartered boundaries—being their best coaches, best cheer leaders, and best friends, too. We helped build their confidence, allowing them to do what they think they can do best, and much to our astonishment, they have lived up to our greatest expectations, and, most often, exceeded them.

Two simple rules make up the *Maharlikan* parenting role.

First, invest in their education money cannot buy. Allow them to grow righteously, rationally, intellectually, and on a global scale so that they may live full, competitive, productive lives, and contribute to the nation their most equitable, responsible share.

Second, instill in them life's fundamental values. Those values such as obedience, humility and hard work,

honest toil, creativity and excellence, perseverance, respect, and Godliness are what resonate most during their transformative years. With us around, they become strength-deep, fearless as they are fierce, and made them the promising professionals they are today.

For ten *Maharli-kids*, finding their role models was not a complicated task. In their tender ages of 17, they plunged into joining the country's premier military and police academies, a silent veneration of their Dad's chosen profession.



Four among the four children of Ronnie and Chuchay Estilles top this list. Ronald Jr, their eldest son, is a member of PNPA Class 2008. In the years after his graduation, he enrolled at the Ateneo Law School, and passed resoundingly the Bar Examination in 2016. Today, at the rank of Major, he serves as one of the best legal luminaries of the PNP. Their second and third sons, Miguel and Rannie Jose, are both members of PNPA Class 2016, and hold the ranks as Fire and Police Lieutenants, respectively. Their youngest daughter, Cleofe, was, likewise, undeterred to join the police force as a nurse. She is currently assigned with the Health Service at the NCRPO as Police Captain. For Frat and Annabelle Malijan, they are the proud parents of Frann-Crist who, as a member of PMA Class of 2012, joined the Cavalry, and has become a top-notch aviation pilot under the Mechanized Infantry Division. He is assigned at the Special Mission Aviation Company in Davao City. Their other daughter, Ma. Flor Diane Malijan-Pascua, joined Frann-Crist in the AFP through the Officer's Candidate School in 2013. Finishing the Bachelor of Science in Management at the University of the Philippines, she serves as the Special Disbursing Officer of the Chief of Staff, AFP.

Similarly, Edgar Jeric, son of Egay and Jerissa Gonzales, has always looked up to the honorable, professional military service of his father. He graduated from PMA in 2015 and, like Egay during his junior officer's years, aligned himself with the intelligence service. He is currently assigned with the MIB of 10ID, PA. For couples Eric and Mumsy Uchida, and Harold and Sandra Cabreros, they now enjoy a sigh of relief after the PMA infamously caught recent media limelight. The latter couple is counting the few remaining months before their son, Martee, shall be graduating in March with Class 2020, while the latter are finger-crossing for Wilson Harold to survive the Yearling Year. Both cadets are showing early signs of an outstanding

leadership competencies to assume the legacies of their respective Dads who retired as the AFP's AJ8, and the Philippine Army's Vice Commander.

Bob Villanueva's physical toughness is succeeded by an equally determined daughter, Claire Ann, who graduated with PMA Class 2009. She is currently assigned at the AFP's Financial Management Office, and is married to Paul, a naval officer of PMA Class 2008. Today, he and wife, Lydia, enjoy performing their new-found roles as full-time volunteer babysitters to their grandchildren, Rob Yvan Seal, 6, and Myla Isabelle Ymra, 5, children of Claire Ann.

On the other hand, there is an ostensible increase in the number of *Maharli*-kids who are making it to the medical licensure examination annually. And, what first started as a Class jest may turn out to be pivotal to some serious planning discussions for the *Maharlika* Class to establish a medical center of its own to take care of its ageing members.

Middle and center of this distinction of medical doctors is the powerhouse

couple, Ranier and Cresilda Idio, who, reaping overwhelming successes, guided all their three children to being the full-pledged medical doctors they are today. Kenneth Junel, their eldest son, has always been a pride of the West Visayas State University. He started as a Registered Nurse in 2009, and would further pursue the medical course, and pass its licensure examination five years later. 'Manong Ken' to his younger siblings, he championed the keen interest of Karl Ely and Johanna Marie



who, with tons of determination and perseverance, respectively, made it to the same Licensure Examination in 2017 and 2019. Both of them are now resident physicians of two most distinguished medical institutions in the Visayas. To sub-specialize in Robotics and Critical Care is in their respective, near-term bigger plans.

In March this year, the Class jubilated with another proud *Maharlikan* parent, Eric Uchida, whose intellectually gifted daughter, Maica, likewise, passed the Physician Licensure Examination. Also, in September this year, Jerille Gay, third child of Egay Gonzales, was among the 84.94% board passers to join the country's roll of new doctors. Not to be outdone are the Tangco sisters, Irish and Ivy, two scholastically gifted daughters of Raul and Puring, who have, in the previous years, made it as Doctors of Medicine. They were consistent academic scholars during their St Louis University days in Baguio City. Today, Irish is nearly finished with the Diplomate in OB-GYNE, specializing in infectious diseases. Ivy, on the other hand, recently passed the diplomate of Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery. She sub-specializes in facial plastic surgery and, currently, studies as a Craniofacial Fellow in Taiwan.

In the year 2016, Rey Mutiangpili's eldest daughter, Rea Carmen, graduated on top of her class, Cum Laude, taking up the Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy at the Centro Escolar University. She passed the board licensure in the same year, and is currently employed in Cagayan de Oro City. Three of four of Nandy and Cynthia Gabriel's children are medical practitioners, too. Their eldest son, Bryan, is a nurse, who has landed a good-paying job in Houston, Texas. Hansel, their second son, is a practicing Senior Dialysis Nurse in Tarlac City, while their eldest daughter, Chyna Mae, is a Psychology graduate who is in Dubai, UAE awaiting for her job confirmation. Diana Ruby, another daughter of Bob and Lydia Villanueva, graduated the BS Psychology in UST and is in the critical task of handling Megaworld's Corporate Social Responsibility functions.

Completing this roster of medical practitioners is Chantal Ellis, daughter of Caloy and Enoch Tabo, who is a licensed Psychometrician since 2013. Her rise

to the medical field is impressive and implausible, finishing Masters in Counselling Psychology at Ateneo de Manila University in 2016 after she qualified for the licensure as a Psychologist in the same year. She is, currently, a PhD candidate in Clinical Psychology at Ateneo. She co-authored the article, 'Engaging the Family in Recovery: Outcomes of a Community-Based Family Intervention' which was published in the current year 2019.

As a lawyer, PCpt Ronald Estilles Jr is in a company of two other equally illustrious barristers born out of the rare *Maharlikan* breed.

First is Atty Charlemagne Tabo who was admitted to the Roll of Attorneys in 2017. As a young lawyer, he has performed exceptionally well in leading the BPI Family Savings Bank's relentless Anti-Money Laundering campaign. He was conferred the 'Bank Excellence Award' for restoring the competency and credibility of the country's banking system. And, second, is Jenina Buan, daughter of Noel and Cielo, who has demonstrated the Medal of Valor DNA in the legal domain that only her father can match. Her accomplishments are exponential, relentlessly delivering much brilliance and speed to contribute to the country's justice system. Ranking Number 7 in her class at the Ateneo de Manila University, she was admitted to the Philippine Bar in 2016. She acquired full-time associate membership to the ACCRALAW where she developed expertise in court litigation and dispute resolution. She is a member of the school's pre-eminent faculty teaching in various subjects. She specializes in International Human Rights, Law on Armed Conflict, Peace Process and Peace Agreements, Gender and the Law, Refugee Law, Dispute Resolution, Intellectual Property



Law, Data Privacy and Protection, Technology Law, and Constitutional Law, among others. A consistent Dean's Lister and a commissioned 'Captain' in the AFP's Reserve Force, she is one of only two Filipinos currently pursuing a Master of Laws (LL.M.) degree at Harvard Law School, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA.

Children are just as good as their role models. Sooner, they ought to be better.

(Profound apologies to the other Mistahs who submitted information of their children that, by space limitation, cannot be accommodated in this quarter's issue of the Class Call of The Cavalier. They will be included in the First Quarter Issue of 2020.)



JOSE MA VICTOR F RAMOS
President
SAMUEL Z FELIX
Secretary

Warmest Sinagtala thoughts and wonderful Christmas greetings to everyone! The last months of 2019 had been quite busy for everyone and here were some of the highlights of significant activities for Sinagtala:

- **02 September 2019** – **PLTGEN Archie Francisco F Gamboa** celebrated his birthday with a Thanksgiving Dinner at Camp Crame Multi Purpose Hall.
- **06 September 2019** – Justice Secretary Menardo Guevarra designated Retired Deputy Director General Melvin Ramon Buenafe as the Bureau of Corrections Officer-in-Charge with a tall order to ensure the integrity and proper safekeeping of official records of good conduct time allowances (GCTA).
- **28 September 2019** – A Testimonial Parade was rendered in honor of **Police General Oscar D Albayalde** at Borromeo Field, Fort Gregorio del Pilar, PMA, Baguio City.



Sinagtalans and their lovely wives join Archie in celebrating his birthday.

- **01 October 2019** – **Rear Admiral Allan Ferdinand V Cusi** formally takes his post as the 81st Superintendent of PMA. The Change of Command Ceremony was led by the Secretary of National Defense, Secretary Delfin N. Lorenzana and AFP Chief of Staff, General Noel S. Clement at Borromeo Field, Fort Gregorio del Pilar, PMA, Baguio City.
- **23 October 2019 and 21 November 2019** – Sinagtala Association, Inc Class Officers had a meeting at ODC, 2nd flr, NHQ Building, Camp

- **13 November 2019** – The Commission on Appointments confirmed the ad interim appointment of **RADM Alan Ferdinand V Cusi** as PMA Superintendent.
- **20 November 2019** – **BGen Archimedes H Viaje** AFP (Ret), PhD, MNSA took oath as the 20th President of the National Defense College of the Philippines (NDCP)



Alan addresses cadets to be warriors of the motherland with a heart and soul.



Sinagtalans strike a pose during Oca's Testimonial Parade at PMA.



Class President Jovic presides over the meeting.

Birthday Greetings: We are here to greet you, on your natal day. We are here to sing you, a birthday round the lei. It is a happy birthday, we are happy too.

Now we sing with all our hearts, because we love you so a very blessed and happy birthday mistahs!!!

Name	Birthdate
CAV ARTHUR L MACOGAY	01 Oct
CAV LEODEGARIO D DELA PAZ	02 Oct
CAV AMADOR V CORPUS	03 Oct
CAV ANTONIO RAMON A LIM	04 Oct
CAV ENRICO T PEÑA	05 Oct
CAV MARIEL M MAGAWAY	08 Oct
CAV ELIAS H ESCARCHA	11 Oct
CAV FERNANDO H MENDEZ JR	12 Oct
CAV ROSAURO V ACIO	15 Oct
CAV REYNALDO M AQUINO	25 Oct
CAV JACINTO A CESAR	29 Oct
CAV OSCAR D ALBAYALDE	08 Nov
CAV REYNALDO G BIAY	09 Nov
CAV ARNULFO G RAFANAN	09 Nov
CAV ELIAS H ESCARCHA	10 Nov
CAV ARNOLD F FERNANDEZ	10 Nov
CAV ALLAN FERDINAND V CUSI	17 Nov
CAV ROEL B OBUSAN	20 Nov
CAV GAUDENCIO C COLLADO JR	23 Nov
CAV FAUSTINO M BEJARIN JR	24 Nov
CAV AL ULIDAN M BONGOLAN	24 Nov
CAV JOSE MA. VICTOR F RAMOS	25 Nov
CAV DANILO A PEÑA	30 Nov
CAV RUSSEL J RAMOS	03 Dec
CAV MACAIROG S ALBERTO	06 Dec
CAV RAMON O PURUGGANAN	12 Dec
CAV RENE GLEN O PAJE	15 Dec
CAV CHARLO C COLLADO	16 Dec
CAV VICTORINO MISAEL G MINA	16 Dec
CAV LARRY S SIGNEY	20 Dec
CAV JOSE MARIA M ESPINO	21 Dec
CAV ANTONIO B SUGAROL	21 Dec
CAV EMMANUEL P PRIVADO	24 Dec
CAV JESUS D MADLANGBAYAN	25 Dec
CAV ELPIDIO S GABRIEL JR	26 Dec
CAV ARWEL R OROPESA	29 Dec
CAV DIOSDADO G RESPECIO	30 Dec





RAMON B MITRA
President
RAMIL RB ENRIQUEZ
Secretary

Greetings fellow Maringals!! After a long slumber, we shall not be caught dozing anymore. The year 2019 is a period for great rejoice and sorrow for the Class. While Maringals are on their way to occupying the top leadership posts in the AFP, PNP and the PCG, we also lost one of our own when Kuya Resty Bilbao was recalled by our Creator. In the last issue of the Cavalier magazine, Eric Gloria, the current TDCS, led the host of AFP Maringals who assumed their new posts at GHQ, while Mike Pestaño was designated as the head of DIPO-SL. Army Maringals now lead five Infantry Divisions and one Mechanized Division. On the Coast Guard side, Leo Laroya is now donning the rank of a Vice Admiral having been designated as the PCG Deputy Commandant for Operations and Toinks Valenzuela is now the Vice Commander of the PAF. The foregoing is just a sampling of the success stories for the Maringal family.

The stars are falling on the shoulders of Maringals and the rest are in hot pursuit. We are thankful to Ninoy Aquino for hosting a celebration at Solaire last October 4 in honor of the new promotees

(including himself) and those designated to new positions. It was a fun-filled night with the spouses and some brats who all enjoyed the good food, dancing and listening to the songs of the ASCOM Band courtesy of Jojo Regondola. Marami ring nag enjoy sa concert nina Rynell, Ajiboy at Macky.

The Maringal family indeed has a lot to be proud of. PNP Maringals are Regional Directors in Regions 1, 2, 5, 6, 8 ARMM and CARAGA, while the others are occupying equally important positions at Camp Crame. The active PNP group together with our PAF mistahs are all wearing stars on their shoulders. The other half of the PCG group, Ugis dela Cruz is a 2-star Rear Admiral himself.

As for the Class updates, the Navy (Fleet-Marine- PCG- CoP-BIRC) group has formally replaced the Air Force guys as the new officers of the Class. When this Class Call sees publication, the Maringal Golf fund raising project would have been successfully completed. Many thanks to all those who supported the Class activity. We all hope to see you in our Christmas Party to be hosted by El Presidente Monmon Mitra at the Philippine National Oil Company premises at BGC. (Details will be posted later). The Class is also making preparations for the annual PMA Alumni Homecoming and we all hope to see each other in Baguio.

Jojo Gacal and Joyet Esquivel are the Maringal entries to the 2020 Cavalier awards for the Command and

Administration and Police Operations categories respectively. Let us all support them in this endeavor mga mistah.

It was sad to see Resty Bilbao go ahead of us to eternal rest due to concerns with his heart. We thank the mistahs that helped and extended support to Stella and Restel during their low moments. In this regard, everyone is encouraged to look out for their health. Let us do some exercises and keep a healthy lifestyle.

Speaking of exercise and healthy lifestyles, the Maringal Golf Association is again extending the invitation to the rest of the non-golfing Maringals to see each other in the golf course. Let us all do at least 10,000 steps in the fairways and exert some 70-100+ strokes for fun and the much desired camaraderie among mistahs. (Wag na lang natin masyado gayahin ang mga taga CDO. Masyadong strenuous ang mga activities nina Maestro doon at di ko kaya. Sumasama lang si Boogie kasi napipilitan). RJ Hinanay is posting nice to know tips and some rules in golf via Viber. Basahin mabuti MGAers para sa kabutihan na rin nating lahat ang mga ito. MGAers are also encouraged to register with NGAP to get their respective individual handicaps to better facilitate the conduct of golf tournaments. Para mas level ang playing field. Masyadong pangit tingnan na even lang si Oti at si Mike Pessa Army Open.

Till next Class Call. Happy reading everyone. 🍷



FILMORE B ESCOBAL
President
PERFECTO P PENAREDONDO
Class Historian

In keeping with our class name SAMBISIG and after going through our common experiences, the value of SOLIDARITY must be among the most valuable lessons that the PMA has inculcated into us. Likewise, the value of INTEGRITY has always been with us since our cadet days and beyond in the manner we carry out our class affairs and individual, family as well as professional lives. From the initial cohort of 514 plebes on 1 April 1987 to a total of 220 graduates by 17 February 1991, over

70% of us remain in active military and uniformed services.

As of November 2019, the first 15 members of Class '91 who have attained the Star Rank among the different Services are:

- BGEN JOSE ERIEL M NIEMBRA AFP
- BGEN FERNANDO M REYEG AFP
- COMMO ERNESTO O BALDOVINO AFP
- COMMO JOSE MA Q EZPELETA AFP
- COMMO ROBERT N PATRIMONIO PCG
- BGEN JEFFREY C HECHANOVA AFP
- BGEN RENE DC HONASAN AFP
- BGEN EDUARD L LIBAGO AFP
- BGEN AUGUSTINE S MALINIT AFP
- BGEN STEPHEN P PARRENO AFP
- PBGEN JON A ARNALDO PNP
- PBGEN VICENTE D DANAQ JR. PNP
- PBGEN MICHAEL F DUBRIA PNP

PBGEN FILMORE B ESCOBAL PNP
PBGEN ROBERT T RODRIGUEZ PNP

Another batch nearing 20 have been getting designations to O-7 positions and will be promoted to star ranks in due time. Likewise, most of those remaining in the active service are occupying "jumping board" positions at higher headquarters and major units in preparation for their eventual selection to O-7 posts.

Outside of the military, those now in government service include our class topnotcher, Undersecretary Jose Ernie B. Gaviola of the Department of Social Welfare and Development; the indefatigable traffic czar of the Metro Manila Development Authority, Edison "Bong" Nebrija; our career diplomat, future Ambassador Gines Jaime Ricardo



Representatives of PMA SAMBISIG Class of 1991 with the survivors of their departed members pay respects at their annual wreath laying ceremony at Libingan ng Mga Bayani in Taguig last 10 November 2019.

D. Gallaga at the Department of Foreign Affairs; the ever reliable Jerry T. Loresco being head executive assistant of the Secretary of the Department of Interior and Local Government; Gerlo Elchico at the Maritime Academy of Asia and the Pacific; Eduardo “Dong” Chico Jr. - Director of Port Operations and Paul B. Oandasan at the Bureau of Customs who have been doing their share in nation building. Our class baron, Jason Laureano Y. Aquino used to be Administrator of the National Food Authority while former Mayor Salvador C. Divinagracia had a stint at his hometown in Calinog, Iloilo. Not to be left out are those in private sectors distinguishing themselves as international and domestic airline pilots, expats, security executives, business people and entrepreneurs.

Over 60 have retired or left active service earlier for various reasons such as shifting to another field (mostly as commercial pilots for those from PAF), migrate abroad (Australia, Ireland, US among others) or are simply raising their children to be responsible citizens of the world.

Carrying the spirit of bayanihan and humanitarianism since that 16 July 1990 Baguio Earthquake, Sambisigs members have made their marks. By acting conscientiously and with propriety at each stage of their careers and community involvement, they contributed to tactical, operational as well as strategic achievements. Learning from sacrifices like that of their first

battle casualty, 2Lt. Jojo Ferrer in Marag Valley among others, Sambisigs always heeded the call of duty in Luzon, Visayas, Mindanao and in peace-keeping missions overseas. By making apt decisions and actions during crisis situations like the 2013 Zamboanga City Siege, the chaotic aftermath of Typhoon Yolanda or in Marawi in 2017 - Sambisigs directly and indirectly did their share to restore order. Aside from those in active service, those out of uniform have also been making their respective sectors more peaceful, productive and progressive. Lastly, by adopting distinguished honorary members from other sectors, we are now expanding our horizons and over-all contributions to the Philippine society.


According to our Class Membership Committee Chair, Cav Poten Camba, below is the list of our honorary members based on the order by which they have taken oath as SAMBISIGs:

- Evangeline Lourdes A. Bernas
- Dindo Tejada (+)
- Enrique Yap, Jr.
- Joey P. Leviste, Jr.
- Ferdinand Martin G. Romualdez
- Perfecto J. Sisi
- Ser-me L. Ayuyao
- Maria Felisa C. Marques
- Napoleon M. Magno
- Christopher Lawrence T. Go
- Jayvee Tyron L. Uy
- Rey Victor V. Vigo
- Christopher M. Camba
- Aristotle B. Viray
- Inigo O. Golingay, Jr.

Greco Antonious Beda B. Belica
Giovanni DC Alingog

More than half of 20 souls who have gone ahead were in line of duty while the rest were due to grave medical conditions. They include the following:

- Albano, Rudolffe
- Advincula, Julian Omar
- Bumanglag, Dennis Co, Edickson
- Dado, Rene Randy Jr.
- Dela Rosa, Richard
- De Villa, Edison
- Domingo, Ferdinand
- Ferrer, Jovito
- Fronoso, Rollie
- Ignacio, Ethelbirth
- Jover, Hilarion Rodolfo
- Juan, Sunny
- Loyola, Edwin
- Madelo, Harry
- Mongcal, Sammy
- Ochoco, Jerome
- Pangilinan, Jaybee
- Ramos, Eric
- Tan, Daniel

In remembrance of those who have gone ahead of us, every first weekend of November since 2002, masses and wreath laying activities are held at the Libingan ng mga Bayani (LNMB) and in such other resting places with the survivors of our departed mistahs. This year’s ceremony was held on Sunday 10 November at LNMB with widows, parents and honorary members. 



JOEY A ESCANILLAS
President
RANDY O REMONTE
Secretary

On 7 September 2019, fourteen Maalabs, composed of 11 frontline infantry operators (Ronald Alcudia, Jason Almagro, Ricky Bunayog, Pete Burgonio, Mel Cordova, Bong Deocadez, Vic Llapitan, Mike Logico, Greg Nieveral, Arsing Sadural, and Chris Tampus), a battle-tested tank commander (Jon Goyena), a royalty among the Kings of Battle (Rey Ga), and a solitary naval skipper (Josel De Guzman), emerged from the hallowed grounds of the National Defense College of the Philippines (NDCP) more assertive in their world view as newly minted graduates of the Regular Course Number 54 (RC-54) of the Master in National Security Administration (MNSA) program. These accomplished Maalabs joined the ranks of Maalab MNSA pioneers, particularly Maalab command pilots and proud marines, as well as the lone Army groundbreaker, Vlad Cagara of RC-53. After a year-long and arduous research journey-cum-relaxation, these 14 Maalabs were inducted into the NDCP’s Hall of Fame as scholar-experts in securitizing any issue using Busan’s localized PESTEM framework and in differentiating the various concepts, constructs, and variables of the theories of Realism, Liberalism, and Constructivism.

Following the glorious path of the trailblazing Army, Air Force and Navy Maalabs of RC 51, 52, 53, and 54, are 21 Army Maalabs poised to conquer the challenging grounds of NDCP’s Honor Hall, Classroom 1, and Pandayan as members of RC-55. All, without exception, are raring to duplicate Rommel Cordova’s feat as Class Valedictorian and Best Thesis awardee.

With the admission of 21 Army Maalabs, it goes without saying that the instructors will be puzzled by questions from Ed Pilapil (kilabot ng HPA), Gerry Besana, and Rani Sevilla. “Splitting” sessions will be enhanced by Lutz Carin while Lennon Babilonia, Wally Icaro, Marion Angcao, Romnik Romanillos and Ali Macawaris will continue to improve their golfing skills. The 21 Maalabs are also lucky with two logisticians Pangga Fernandez and Velay Velasquez providing service support requirements. Complimenting further the collaboration are Ambo Rustia and Mandy Mandanas with their insights in personnel services and operations.

It is expected that Emong Lachica, Toto Escanillas, Leroy Daanton, Allan Taguba, and Rod Magallanes will, by force of settled habit, scan the academic environment and characteristically profile their classmates for eventual co-optation, spearheaded by Chi Coronel as matinee idol and cut-out for the effort. Providing balance is Jigs Gesolgon with his patented accounting

of “one-badminton!” Curiously, Danny Alzaga will ensure that whatever he does in the course becomes profitable as he gradually positions his Danny A Minola Coconut Oil as brilliant engine oil substitute that will ultimately, say in 93 years, take the automotive maintenance market by storm.

But, knock on wood, there are those who take the position shared by Maalab’s Uncle Bobo, that Experience and Common sense are still the better teachers and that the most relevant strategies in national security are best learned in the line of fire, the way the Roman legions of long ago did. Other considerations for taking the course are at best, arguable. After all, the best guarantee of national security still remains embedded in the mantra, “speak softly and carry a big stick.” Sadly, it is almost a cliché to say that while our “los vecinos” and potential geopolitical rivals are currently armed to the teeth, we are testing our fates merely armed with our teeth.

For the Whitecaps, Dwight already assumed as Bullfrog, not wasting the Maalabs’ only chance for command in that prestigious Naval unit. Aldrinin the meantime has secured a foothold at HPN, having had his fill of durian and the glittering service reputation that it brings. He joins other Maalabs at HPN (Jun, Raul, Rene and Enjie). René B nowadays is regarded not only as a man of principle but of principal as well,



being the Head, FMO at HPN. Francis like always fortifies his remarkable billet as the Captain of BRP RAMON ALCARAZ FF16, eager to equal if not surpass the exploits of former Maalab skippers Jepoy and Casey. Truth to tell Lued came home from the Naval War College practically empty handed, if not for his acquisition of knowledge in naval projection and the enduring boxing skills he sharpened. These attributes he expects to share to the students of AFPETDC. Likewise of note was the recent transfer of Jepoy from (upgraded his unit) the Group to the Naval Air Wing (Bravo Zulu for the excellent accomplishments in his unit).

The few and the proud, the Marines to include the Maalab BIRC are well entrenched in their respective fox holes. Special mention to Gino who is our newest Captain (from LCDR) flying our national airline.

We eagerly await the promotion of Charlie to Commodore so he could join Alan, Ronnie and Roy in their exalted positions in the PCG. Next in line after completion of their Command at Sea are Louie and Edgar. 🇵🇭



LAST CALL

COL CASIANO V SALUDARES '64
26 April 1938 – 16 July 2019

Cav Saludares died Tuesday, 16 July 2019 in Upland, California. He immigrated to the US in 1978. He is survived by his daughter Clarisse, her husband, Glen, and their two children, Stephanie and Matthew; his brother Bernardo and his family and his sisters Elizabeth, Rose, Emma, and Sophia and their families.



BGEN RODOLFO R TOLENTINO '56
28 July 1930 – 19 September 2019

Cav Rudy Tolentino, the Class of 1956 Athletic Saber Awardee, had passed away at 0730H on 19 September. He just celebrated his 89th birthday last July 2019. His wake was made at the Loyola Memorial Chapels at Commonwealth Ave., Q.C. with a necro service held after mass at 6 p.m. on 24 September and cremation at 10 high noon on 25 September 2019. Cav Tolentino will be remembered and honored as an all-round athlete of the cadet corps, AFP and outstanding field commander during the MNLF rebellion in Mindanao in the 1970s. He is survived by his wife Luzviminda, and children; Lorraine, Lynette, Lorelie, Luz and Robert.



PCOL CARLOS F GADAPAN '87
21 June 1962 - 27 September 2019

Cav Gadapan passed away on 27 September at the VRP Medical Center, Mandaluyong City. Wake was at Camp Crame Mortuary from 29 September to 6 October. He left behind his children M.C. Jethro, Carl Joseph and Nashley Audrey.



COL RENE V FERENAL '84
23 September 1960 – 03 October 2019

Cav Fernal passed away on 03 October 2019 at the Perpetual Succour Hospital, Gorordo, Cebu City. Wake was at Camp LapuLapu Central Command and he was buried at the Golden Haven Memorial Cemetery, Talamban, Cebu on 13 October. He is survived by his wife Mary Joy I Fernal and children Kristel Kay, Katlyn Xyza, Florence Ben, and Rene Jr.



COL RALPH L MANGONON '56
08 February 1934 – 10 October 2019

Cav Ralph Mangonon passed away on 10 October 2019. He had been confined in quarters for so long after a stroke. His body was interred at the Paz Funeral Homes along Marcos Highway and transferred to the LNMB on 21 October for burial at high noon on 22 October 2019.



MGEN RESTITUTO C PADILLA SR '57
09 December 1932 – 30 October 2019

Cav Restituto C Padilla Sr '57, former Undersecretary for Veterans and Retirees Affairs and former Commanding General of the Philippine Army passed away early morning of 30 October 2019 at the VMCM. His remains laid in state at the Heritage Memorial Chapels and later buried at the LNMB on 5 November 2019. He was survived by his wife Dolores and children: Edith, Agnes, Victor, Joseph, Resty Jr, and Dino.



BGEN MADRINO C MUNOZ '55
23 December 1931 – 01 November 2019

Cav Munoz '55 passed away on 1 November 2019. He was a former

member of the PMAAAI Board of Directors from 1999 to 2001. He was assigned with the Army Battalion Combat Team in Luzon, moved to Staff works at GHQ, then to Jolo, Sulu for field command. He went on General Staff Training at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas USA, then to the 41D where he earned his Stars and subsequently as Regional Unified Commander, both in Mindanao. His wake was made at the Santuario de San Antonio, Forbes Park, Makati City and buried at the LNMB. He is survived by his wife Ondet and children: Allan, Babot, Bok, Nappy (+) and Joel, their wives, husband and children.



MGEN HERMOGENES B PERALTA JR '59
05 January 1936 – 08 November 2019

Cav Peralta finally succumbed to a long illness last 8 November 2019 at the Medical City, Pasig. Wake was held from 9 to 13 November 2019 at the Sanctorium at Araneta Ave near Quezon Avenue, Q.C. He was cremated and inurned on 14 November 2019. He left behind his loving wife, Divina; children: Heidi Sarah, Hayley Jean, Harriet Joan, in laws and grandchildren. His last position held in PNP was as Director, Directorate for Investigation PNP.



VADM PROCESO C FERNANDEZ '59
15 February 1937 - 23 November 2019

Cav Fernandez passed away on 23 November at the Premiere Medical Center, Paranaque City. Wake was from 25 to 30 November at the BNS Mortuary and he was buried at the LNMB on 30 November. His last position held in the AFP was as The Deputy Chief of Staff. He is survived by his children: Alejandro, Joel Ricardo, Marie Shanaz, Xerxes Proceso, Ma. Lourdes Angelica, and Raphael John Roberto; in-laws and grandchildren.



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