



The

# CAVALIER

COURAGE ★ INTEGRITY ★ LOYALTY

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

APRIL – JUNE 2022



## Setting Our Course and Charting Our Path

## ABOUT THE COVER



At the onset of another Association Year for Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association, Inc., ushers a new set of leadership that will steer the association to great heights and direction.

The Cavalier magazine editorial board and staff welcome the Board of Directors, Ex-Officio Directors and Chapter Officers. The Cavalier community will support you all the way!

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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 magazine and the articles in the issue would be appreciated.

Readers may now view The Cavalier online at [pmaaaai.com.ph](http://pmaaaai.com.ph)

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Some articles have been edited to meet space requirements.



# FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S DESK

AMB VIDAL E QUEROL '73

**W**ith humility and commitment, I accepted the leadership of the PMAAAI as its Chairman and CEO, at a time of daunting challenges here and around the world. We now face totally new architecture of national and global affairs. **First**, we have a new government under President-elect Ferdinand BBM Marcos, Jr who represents the ultimate nemesis of the ruling group which ousted his father 36 years ago in 1986. Like it or hate it, many of those who voted him to power delivered their message of liberation from the monopoly of truth, thought and action of that ruling group which sprouted with the election of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte in 2016 and nurtured in his entire term. This clash in the model of Thucydides trap consequently produced the most passionate and divisive national elections of the country. And surely beyond, with simultaneous mass action by left-leaning sectors and the losing political party called its supporters “to fight on”, despite the fact that this election produced in one-ticket the big majority President and Vice President in multi-party system.

We have to point out that the uniformed services remained truly apolitical throughout the elections, and this display of professionalism deserves our congratulations. As retired Cavaliers following our own free will and discernment, we voted and campaigned for separate candidates but after the elections, all Cavaliers have to unite, guard our ranks so we may assist the uniformed service to be the national healing, unifying force, and remain committed to the Flag in these critical times. This call becomes more urgent as the Church somehow gravely dented its neutrality and moral ascendancy when it actively campaigned for a political party and aggressively against another party. Every Filipino who loves the Motherland cannot do less than working together in overcoming the fractures of national economy created by the pandemic, the cratering of the body politic begotten by the national elections. While we have gone over the hump, the economic recovery remains hazy in the horizon and made even more terrifying by global economic downturn because of Russia-Ukraine war which has broken down the global supply chain, skyrocketed costs due to economic and financial sanctions.

**Second**, the South China Sea (SCS) issues will continue to challenge Cavaliers' normal thinking nurtured in our nation formative years as US colony and allies during the WW2. Our alliance with our former colonizer must endure particularly at this time when the SCS is in the cusp of great power rivalry as the counterweight to the dominant China elephant in the room; yet how we insulate the Philippines from pernicious effects of superpower conflict in the SCS requires very practical, imaginative and profound patriotic moorings, wide-eyed in the reality of geopolitics and that economic partnership post-pandemic is all too necessary in the national recovery and development. The devastation of neighbor Ukraine in terms of lives and infrastructures as the direct result of Russia invasion, whether NATO expansion to Ukraine truly is Russia existential threat or not, is too hard to ignore. Ukraine now at war has produced admirable patriots and heroes standing tall amongst the ruins of devastation, has to literally beg for aid and support to the war which portends a long and protracted war and concomitant sufferings of the Ukraine citizens. And those aid would not easily come by, must go through the equation of national interests. We just do not want those thing to happen in our country as we crawl out of the pandemic; instead set as priority picking up the pieces of nation-building and development strewn in the path of the pandemic. Without a doubt war stalls national development, it is the counterforce

against national peace, security and stability, and Cavaliers ought to fully understand and cover all the bases before we are hypnotized by flurry of dizzying narratives of the day and getting sucked slowly, inexorably as the proxy of great power war in the company of Syria, Afghanistan, Libya and Iraq, and now Ukraine.

**Third**, the 4IR (Fourth Industrial Revolution) has now emerged. Cavaliers and families ought to reboot to be able to keep apace and better yet to take the driver's seat in this new era. Looking back, the pandemic protocols displayed at the lowest level the power of information technology, rearranged how we conducted our daily lives, did business and governed while keeping safe distance. Face to face may be done when absolutely necessary now and in the future. This may reduce cost of travel, oil consumption, gas emissions and environmental pollution. Among nations, country with higher IT skills more likely will recover from the pandemic ahead of IT laggards. Which requires upgrade of national IT infrastructures, individual skills transformation and development from “nice to know to need to know”.

Across this new architectures, the PMAAAI must embrace even more firmly its strategic plan encapsulated in the acronym **PLEAD**.

**“After this highly divisive elections, the uniformed service across the land can be the healing and unifying force in nation-building; the Church by its high profile partisanship gravely dented its traditional neutrality and moral ascendancy.”**

On the **P**reservation of PMA's Heritage, Customs, Values and Traditions, we need to live our long-held core values under the new normal adjusting in the process to make them relevant, important as an anchor of stability in an ever-changing dynamics of Philippine Society.

On **L**iving the PMA Ideals of Courage, Loyalty, and Integrity, we will consistently embody these ideals as non-negotiables under a new government. Cavaliers, specially the retired, have been at the forefront of our country's governance history more significantly under President Duterte. We heard comments that the Duterte government, about to exit in

unprecedented favorable ratings relied heavily on the group of Cavaliers in Cabinet positions.

On **E**ngaging our fellow cavaliers, much headways have been provided by the previous PMAAAI Leaderships. Our engagement did not only prevail during the global pandemic of 2020 and 2021, but has actually flourished, deepened with more interactions with members from all demographics and across the globe. Such headways must be sustained and improved in this new hybrid situation that we are in.

On **A**lloting resources back to our Alma Mater, we will be needing to navigate the new socio-politico order of our country, giving priority to strengthen the position of PMA as the country's premier leadership school both in the hearts and minds of our new leaders aside from giving the usual resources to our beloved institution as pay back for our eternal debt to the Philippine Military Academy.

On **D**eepening our social responsibility, in midst of both the post-pandemic society, as well as the new socio-politico environment, affords our association with ample opportunities to strengthen our relevance and amplify our social impact. There is so much to be done in an environment that is constantly reorganizing itself both socially and politically.

In the face of this new architecture, multi-faceted challenges here and abroad, the PMAAAI must strengthen our organization and members in order to be able to engage in robust and constructive internal discussions and help in the formulation of national and foreign policies to support national peace, security, stability and development for better living conditions of the Filipino people.

Let's get to work.





# PRESIDENT'S CORNER

CAV JOSELITO E DE GUZMAN '93

## With Full of Hope and Optimism

**T**he new set of PMAAAI Board of Directors welcome the opportunity to serve the Cavaliers community with full of hope and optimism despite challenges that may lurk in the volatile situations that the country may face at present and in the immediate future.

Last month, we exercised our civic duty and voted our preferred candidates. Whoever won in their bids, let us keep our fingers crossed that they will diligently implement good governance and will work hard and with determination to raise once more our country above the quagmire of poverty, pandemic issues and pandemonium from protesting electorates because of their candidates who lost.

We Cavaliers, I hope, are still in perfect harmony and well-spirited camaraderie despite our opposing views, opinions and sentiments in the past and at present. We are nurtured deeply in the spirit of brotherhood during our early start at the Academy up to the day we were declared graduates and official members of the PMAAAI. This brotherhood that sustained us while in the active military service and the esprit d' corps that will bind us after we shed off our military uniform. We need to show what Cavaliers are made of... strongly united despite all odds.

The Cavaliers Community would like to extend our congratulations to newly commissioned Navy Ensign Krystlenn Ivany Quemado, PMA's Bagsik Diwa Class of 2022 valedictorian. She is considered as *"the first child of an alumnus to graduate at the top of her class."* Krystlenn is the daughter of Army Colonel Cavalier Nicolas Quemado Jr., member of Maalab Class of 1993. Good luck, Cavalier Quemado'22 and live up to the ideals of

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**"We need to adopt to the changing scenarios of the world and locally. We have to arm ourselves with steely determination if we want to spell S-U-C-C-E-S-S in all that we have to do and accomplish. May I repeat, with hope and full of optimism, we can never go wrong."**

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Courage, Integrity and Loyalty."

Now that the notion of *"having no PMAyer yet so far has children who graduated at the top of their class"* has been broken, I cannot help but ask: When will we ever have a President of the Republic that is an alumnus of the Philippine Military Academy?" Just asking.

The Association Year 2022-2023 will see us committed to our tasks and activities at hand as an expression of love and care to our fellow Cavaliers. Our Board Chairman and the rest of the Board Directors will do our utmost best to steer the Association to greater heights

and support humanitarian endeavors beneficial to all Cavaliers and to our different stakeholders. But most importantly, we need the support and cooperation of every Cavalier to accomplish our goals and objectives. We will count on you, Cavaliers!

Our *"Setting our course and charting our path"* theme for this second quarter will help the board traverse narrow and thorny roads ahead, if ever there are any, but will welcome with open arms positive developments that will redound to the betterment of the Cavalier community and the Association. We need to adopt to the changing scenarios of the world and locally. We have to arm ourselves with steely determination if we want to spell S-U-C-C-E-S-S in all that we have to do and accomplish. May I repeat, with hope and full of optimism, we can never go wrong.

Let me end this column with a quote from Kathy Bartilson: *"By practicing brotherhood, we set a good example for those around us and in return we feel a sense of self-fulfillment for having aided a fellow human being."*





# SUPE'S REPORT

**CAV FERDINAND M CARTUJANO '88**

It is with great pride and honor that the Philippine Military Academy has continued to set its course towards the standards of excellence amidst the myriad challenges that the academy faces today. In charting our paths towards the academy's mission and vision, not only have we sustained the mandate of our service as we have likewise innovated the academy both in its quality systems as well as infrastructure. Further, in this global transition of the 'new normal', Fort General Gregorio H Del Pilar has opened its gates to the public, fully showcasing to our stakeholders the upgrades and innovated facilities befitting our most revered academy.

Foremost is the reopening of the Philippine Military Academy as a prime tourist destination to the public effective 24 March 2022. As the City of Baguio declared the COVID-19 Alert Level 1 and based on the series of research studies and meetings conducted by the PMA COVID-19 Prevention and Action Group (CPAG), the PMA has now opened its gates to tourists and cadets' visitors.

This aimed to allow the public to see the different tourist spots inside PMA, appreciate its history and its role in producing future officers of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and also boost the welfare and morale of the cadets in seeing and interacting with their families and love ones. Furthermore, PMA believes that the support and guidance of parents, relatives, and foster parents is a positive force in motivating the cadets to meet PMA Education and Training standards.

This announcement was made available to the public in various media, along with the necessary implementations of camp entry and cadet interaction guidelines of the Command for all visitors. This involved a time-limit for the visit from 0830H to 1500H everyday with the presentation of vaccination IDs and undergoing triage as appropriate. Also implemented was an online scheme where visitors needed to schedule their visit by registering at the <https://bisita.pma.edu.ph> in addition to registration to the Baguio Visita website.

## Air Power Park

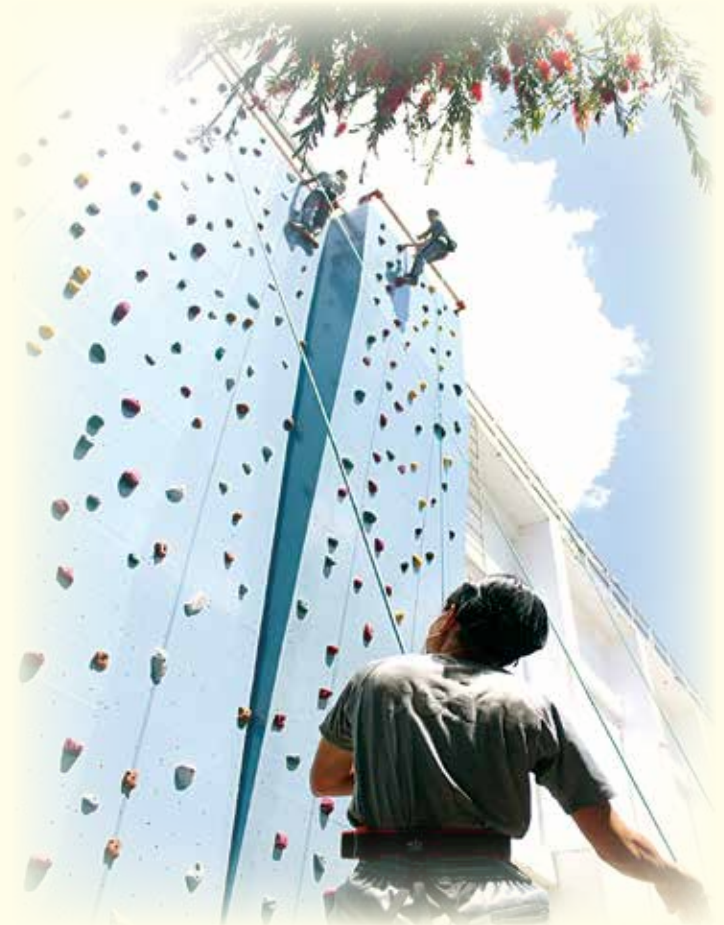
Foremost is the Air Power Park which showcases the capabilities of the Philippine Air Force (PAF) through a variety of aircraft on static display. The park features aircraft that had been used by both the Air Force and Navy throughout their history ranging from fighter jets, attack helicopters, airlift, transport and trainer aircraft among others. This elicits an appreciation of our aviation history as it showcases the various roles our military aviators and air crew have accomplished in the service of the Filipino people through Air Power. In turn, the park likewise honors the heroes and airmen who unselfishly dedicated their lives in the accomplishment of their mission in service to the nation.

## Archangel Façade

Following the Air Power Park is the blessing and inauguration of "Archangel Façade" in front of the Air Force Laboratory. This showcases the replica of the two-modern aircraft of the PAF (FA50-PH Fighting Eagle and Sikorsky S-170i Black Hawk Helicopter) signifying the competence of the PAF to conduct and sustain Air Operations to accomplish the AFP Mission.

## PMA Cavaliers Cliff Wall Climbing Facility

Another infrastructure is the PMA Cavalier's Cliff, a wall climbing facility placed in support to the PMA mandate of providing holistic physical fitness development to the Cadet Corps Armed Forces of the Philippines. The activities espoused aim to enhance the cadets'



physical and mental development as wall climbing improves muscle development, flexibility, coordination and balance, increased strength and stamina, boosts the confidence and mental resiliency, and above all, instill discipline. This project was realized through the collaboration between the Commanders of the PNP Northern Luzon spearheaded by PLTGEN MARNI C MARCOS JR PNP and PMA led by Superintendent LTGEN FERDINAND M CARTUJANO PAF.

### **TIKAS Projects**

The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) and PMA forged a strong foundation for peace, security, and development through the TIKAS Projects – “Tatag ng Imprastruktura para sa Kapayapaan at Seguridad”. On 13 November 2021, the DPWH Secretary Roger G Mercado and his staff visited PMA and the different TIKAS Projects inside the Academy. During his speech, Secretary Mercado gave his commitment to support the TIKAS projects, particularly the approval of additional funds needed to complete other pending projects that will help the PMA in its mandate and the accomplishment of its mission.

There are a total of eleven (11) projects, namely: 1) Construction of FDP Perimeter Fence, 2) Rehabilitation/Reconstruction of Roads with Slips, Slope Collapse and Landslide (I Love PMA – temporarily suspended), 3) Construction of PMA Access Road from PEC to FDP Elem School, 4) Construction of PMA Access Road from Globe Tower to SAO area, 5) Construction of Spiritual Enhancement Center Building, 6) Construction (Completion) of Kill house, 7) Construction (Completion) of Headquarter Support Group Building, 8) Construction of PMA Museum, 9) Construction of Concrete Road from TMC to Tower 66, 10) Rehabilitation/Reconstruction of Roads with Slips, Slope Collapse and Landslide-PMA Cut Off Rd (Roxas Avenue), and 11) Construction of five-storey Officers Condominium.

### **HAG/HTG Building**

Another ongoing infrastructure project is the completion of the HAG-HTG Building which is projected to function as the main facility for the Academy’s education and training groups: the Headquarters Academic Group (HAG) and the Headquarters Tactics Group (HTG). Both groups address the planning and execution of the various courses in both academic and military subjects respectively, from the crafting of their relative programs of instruction to their execution thereof.

In addition to the provisions of modern and well-equipped facilities for both these groups, the completion of the building shall address the need for additional classrooms, lecture facilities, and multipurpose areas to be utilized by the CCAFP within the historic Melchor Hall, the present headquarters for the Academic Group.

### **PMA Library and Learning Resource Center**

At the present, construction of the PMA Library and Learning Resource Center has begun. To be erected shall be a modern facility which shall function as a repository of books, scholarly references, and other literature in various media. As a responsive facility to the PMA Curriculum, resources shall be made available as printed works or e-Learning sources in both the military and academic disciplines.

### **New PMA Museum**

Befitting its national and historical status in our country, the construction of the New PMA Museum has likewise begun. As an innovated facility, the PMA Museum shall continue to collect, preserve, interpret, and display objects of artistic, cultural, or national significance for the education of the public. Given the rich military history of our country and the involvement of the Academy in its national events, the New PMA Museum shall be educating the curious and patriotic spirit of visitors and citizens alike.

### **PMA Evangelical Church**

As part of the holistic development of PMA Cadets in addressing the individual spiritual need, the Command has likewise begun the construction of the PMA Evangelical Church as the main venue for the evangelical services offered by the Command.

The Academy has, likewise, strengthened its partnerships with stakeholders with the aim of improving its systems up from the helm at its headquarters down to its education and training functions in the Headquarters Academic Group and Headquarters Tactics Group.

### **LEAD Academy**

The Philippine Military Academy through the Headquarters Tactics Group, has officially formalized its partnership with Life Empowerment and Actions for Development (LEAD) Academy on 31 January 2022 through a Memorandum of Partnership (MOP). This is in support to the PMA mandate to provide holistic development to the cadets and provide avenues for personal and professional development of its personnel in order to attain its mission-essential tasks and Transformation Roadmap goals. Paramount to the current thrusts of the Command is the continuing development of all its cadets and personnel, especially in terms of character building and competency development aimed towards the molding of honorable, patriot, professional, committed, and excellent Team PMA.

With this, the Academy ensures that all training development activities for the cadets and the Command personnel are purposely designed to develop their essential skills. Moreover, the LEAD Academy will aid the PMA in forging the future leaders through the formulation of leadership courses such as the conduct of skill-based leadership, coaching, and mentoring seminars and the implementation of the life-improvement activities for the cadets and other personnel as well.

The signing of MOP signifies the fervent desire of Team PMA to improve the practices in the field of training and educating the young leaders as they face the real situation in the field after their cadetship journey here in PMA.

### **Headquarters Academic Group ISO 9001:2015 Certification**

True to its sworn mandate, the Headquarters Academic Group under the leadership of COL JOSE DEMAR A PAULY (GSC) PROF has once again proven its commitment in providing the best quality of academic instruction to the Cadet Corps AFP by maintaining its ISO 9001:2015 Certification on 28 January 2022.

The ISO 9001:2015 is an international standard that defines the guiding principles in providing an efficient quality service to its stakeholders and other relevant interested parties. The standard also requires that the Quality Management System of the organization must be improved continuously to respond competently to the needs of its stakeholders thru a risk-based thinking approach.

With this notable achievement, the Headquarters Academic Group assures its stakeholders that providing the best quality of academic instruction will always be the unit’s top priority.

### **PMA Board of Visitors (PMABoV)**

The PMABoV is established as a high-level advisory body to the Secretary of National Defense, mandated to conduct a comprehensive review of the systems, policies, and programs of PMA. The board is composed of prominent individuals from the various sectors of society and an ex-officio representative from the Department of National Defense. The board shall visit the academy at any time during the year for the purpose of appraising and reexamining the PMA curriculum, with a view of making recommendation to the office of the Secretary of National Defense on possible improvements or changes in the curriculum.



The PMA Board of Visitors (BoV) conducted the 1st Quarter Meeting on 18-20 March 2022 led by the Chairperson of the Board, Dr. Teresita V Atienza. The Board intended to administer a comprehensive review of the systems, policies, and programs of the PMA. This includes its infrastructure, recruitment, curriculum, instruction, and academic methods, morale, practices, physical activities, budget and improvement of the entrant-graduate ratio.

One of the highlights of the meeting is the presentation of the various committees.

The present Board members are the following:

- Vice Chairperson - Mr. Dennis Uy, Presidential Adviser on Sports and Founder, Chairman and CEO of Udenna Corporation. He was represented by MGEN CARLOS B HOLGANZA PA (Ret).
- Chairperson for Education and Training Committee - Dr Alex B Brillantes Jr, affiliated with the University of the Philippines whose works put premium on Public Administration. He was conferred as UP scientist of said University and is continuously extending service as a mentor, scholar, academician and as a leader in various government organizations.
- Chairperson for Governance and Values Enhancement Committee -LTGEN OSCAR H RABENA AFP (Ret) is a member of PMA "MAKATARUNGAN" Class of 1978. He was the 31<sup>st</sup> Commanding General of the Philippine Air Force. He is currently the Director of the Association of Generals and Flag Officers, Trustee of the Filipino War Veterans Foundation Incorporated, Cluster Shepherd of "Bukas Loob Sa Diyos" Covenant Community (AFP-PNP District) and Chairman of PMA 78 Board of Directors.

- Chairperson for Marketing and Recruitment Committee -LTGEN SALVADOR MELCHOR B MISON JR AFP (Ret) is a member of the PMA "MAHARLIKA" Class of 1984. He was the 47th Vice Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines. He is now the Vice Chairperson and Board of Trustee of the Armed Forces and Police Savings and Loans Association Incorporated (AFPSLAI).
- DND Ex-Officio Representative -ASEC ANTONIO L BAUTISTA is the Assistant Secretary for Human Resource of the Department of National Defense. He was the former Deputy Chief of Staff for Reservists and Retirees Affairs. He was represented by DIRECTOR DINNA ANNA LEE LUMIBAO-CARTUJANO.
- Chairperson for Gender and Development Committee - COL LEAH SANTIAGO PA (GSC), Executive Officer of the Assistant Chief of Staff For Personnel of the Philippine Army and a member of PMA "KALASAG-LAHI" Class of 1997.

Other members of the Board are the following:

- USEC ARNEL M DUCO is the Undersecretary for Strategic Assessment and Planning, Department of National Defense. He is a member of PMA "SINAGTALA" Class of 1986 and the former Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel, J1.
- LTGEN ERICKSON R GLORIA PAF is a member of PMA "Maringal" Class of 1988. He was also the Commander of the Armed Forces of the Philippines Western Command.
- LTGEN WILLIAM N GONZALES PA is the Inspector General of the Armed Forces of the Philippines. He is a member of PMA "MAKATAO" Class of 1989. Before his stint as the Inspector

General, he was the Commander of the 11th Infantry Division of the Philippine Army based in Jolo.

#### **PMA Board of Visitors (PMABoA)**

The PMA BOA has a three-fold mandate: 1) to champion the PMA Transformation Roadmap 2028 (PMATR) to the organization's external stakeholders in order to encourage support and participation; 2) to provide expert advice in the implementation of the PMATR; and 3) to help improve transparency and accountability in reporting performance. The PMA BOA shall ensure the sustainability and continuity of the PMATR until the attainment of the PMA vision of "*reaching international standards for military academies in producing principled and competent junior military officers.*"

As a governance mechanism, the Board shall provide polices and recommendations in steering the Academy towards the achievement of its vision and strategy among other functions.

#### **Recognition Rites of PMA Class 2025**

On April 30, 2022, the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) held the Recognition Rites of the "SIKLAB-LAYA" (*Sundalong Ibinigkis ng Katungkulan na Lakas ng Amang Bansang Malaya*) Class of 2025 with HONORABLE ALEXANDER GESMUNDO, Chief Justice of the Philippines as Guest of Honor and Speaker.

The Recognition Rites of PMA Class 2025 marks their acceptance to the Cadet Corps Armed Forces of the Philippines

(CCAFF) and the bestowing of bigger roles and responsibilities as future military officers. This day also hallmarks the courage and determination of all 356 fourth-class cadets (285 males and 71 females), as future members of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP). The fourth-class cadets received handshakes from their upperclassmen as an acknowledgment of their growth from a plebe that is still adjusting to the very structured military life, to capable and full-pledge members of the CCAFF.

The highlight of said activity is the Recognition Ceremony which includes the octagon formation of fourth-class cadets and the handshake of recognition of upper-class cadets that was witnessed by the parents and loved ones of the cadets.

Despite the challenges that the new Omicron variant poses, PMA decided to push through the rites, but not without constant observance of precautions such as the presentation of antigen results and vaccination cards from guests, and the reinforcement of COVID-19 safety protocols. This was to ensure the safety of all the cadets and guests who participated in the said activity.

#### **Graduation Rites of the PMA "Bagsik Diwa" Class of 2022**

The Graduation Rites of the PMA "Bagsik Diwa" Class of 2022 was held on 15 May 2022. The event was conducted with the AFP Commander-in-Chief, PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE, President of the Republic of the Philippines as guest of honor and speaker.







**DIRK KIRYL A DAVALAN**  
Cdt F/Cpt 1CI  
"B" Company, CCAFP  
Regimental Commander

# Baron's Dissemination

## Cadetship is only the Beginning of the Course

John C. Maxwell once wrote, *"Until I understand where I am, I can't get to where I am going. This is the value of a compass when we are out walking or hiking and need to know we're going in the right direction. But we also have an internal North Star. It's that little nudge that tells us if we are on the right path to fulfilling our potential, or on the wrong path wasting energy traveling somewhere we don't need to go. So my advice to you is, pull out that compass every once in a while and make sure you are navigating in the right direction on your journey."*

**W**e all have goals in life. To get there, we need to know how to get there. No platoon leader sets out to patrol without a map and compass. And, no pilot or captain sets out on a voyage without a chart. They will always have a guide on how to get there. In life that guide is our sense of purpose, our determination, and our values.

### Purpose.

It is in everything that we do that we find our purpose. It's that purpose that drives us to do better each day. It's that purpose that pushes us to strive for more. It's that purpose that helps us set our goals and achieve our dreams. Cadetship brings out just that. In the beginning of it all, I think it would be fair to say that we were all confused back then. No one expected cadetship to be what we thought it would be. Because of that many have fallen out of our ranks and only the determined have made it to the goal—Graduation Day. They made it because they understood their purpose as cadets.

As we rank-up in the echelons of the Corps, we begin to realize more of what our roles really are. By being good followers as Plebes, following-up our buddies as Yearlings, leading our

squads as Cows, and leading the Corps as Firsties we find out what it really means to be men and women in uniform—more importantly what it means to be a PMA Cadet. And that pushes us even more towards achieving the goal of graduating.

### Determination.

Having a big goal means having to achieve even the smallest of goals with the highest level of determination. One cannot just graduate from the Academy without having completed all the requirements. Acing PFTs, exempting final examinations, and making the Dean's List, Commandant's List, or even Superintendent's List are just some of the small goals that are big steps in making it to Graduation Day. Later on, Graduation will just be one of the smaller goals in the bigger goal of serving the Nation. Staying determined from the very beginning to the very end keeps the fire burning.

**"What lies ahead for us relies on our determination to reach our goals. Achieving our big goals relies on accomplishing even the smallest tasks. And, achieving our goals relies on our values as our compass."**

### Core Values.

Most importantly, achieving our goals relies on our personal and organizational values. It is Courage, Integrity, and Loyalty are just three of the ten PMA Core Values but are the most remembered. It is what defines a PMA Cadet and Graduate. Our core values guide us, together with our purpose, in achieving our goals. It is our compass that points us towards the right direction. Without our values, we would not be able to find our true purpose as cadets.

In closing, the achievement of our goals depends on our understanding of our purpose in whatever we do. What lies ahead for us relies on our determination to reach our goals. Achieving our big goals relies on accomplishing even the smallest tasks. And, achieving our goals relies on our values as our compass.

Cadetship brings out all of these in us. But mind you, cadetship is only the start of our course set, the path charted, or way plotted towards our goals as future officers. We just have to keep them in mind and focus on the goal.

*Dirigma Hanggang sa Wakas—Bagsik Diwa!*





# CAVALIER NEWSLINE

**CAV ROSALINO A ALQUIZA '55**

## **Cav Querol elected PMAAAI Chairman; Cav De Guzman, president**

Former Ambassador to the Republic of Indonesia, Cav Vidal E Querol '73 has been elected as the new chairman of the PMAAAI for AY 2022-2023. Cav Joselito E De Guzman '93, Commander, GHQ & HSQ has been likewise elected as president.



**Querol**



**De Guzman**

The other officers elected are retired Cav Danilo A Abinoja '74, vice chairman; Cav Adriano SJ Duadico '94, vice president; Cav Loreto B Pasamonte '93, corporate secretary; Cav Jesselito L Castro '98, treasurer; and Cav Charlie Q Rances '93, auditor.

Likewise, the major chapters of PMAAAI have elected their respective chapter chairman and president: PMARAI chairman, Cav Danilo A Abinoja '74, president, Cav Raul S Gonzales '75; PA Chapter president, Cav Ricky P Bunayog '93; PAF Chapter president Cav Angelito R Retuta '93; PN Chapter president, Cav Zosimo M Bolanos Jr '93; PNP Chapter chairman, Cav Bernabe M Balba '88; PNP Chapter president, Cav Ritchie Medardo A Posadas '90; and PCG Chapter president, Cav Allan Victor T dela Vega '93.

## **PMAAAI affiliate foundations elected their chairmen and presidents**

The PMA Foundation, Inc. (PMAFI) and PMAAA Educational Foundation, Inc. (PETFI) held their Annual General Assembly on 4 March 2022 and 27 April

2022, respectively. Cav Rufino G Ibay Jr '67 has been elected as chairman and Cav Leo Angelo C Leuterio '88 as president of PMAFI for AY 2022-2023. Cav Efren Q Fernandez '71 and Cav Arthur M Biyo '86 have likewise been elected as chairman and president of PETFI for AY 2022-2023.

## **Cav Danao appointed OIC PNP**

Cav Vicente D Danao '91 has been appointed as OIC, PNP, vice Cav Dionardo B Carlos '88 who reached the mandatory retirement age of 56 on May 8, 2022. Before holding key positions at Camp Crame, Danao headed the Calabarzon regional police and the Manila Police District. He also served as director of the National Capital Region Police Office. Also, in Camp Crame are Cav Rhodel O Sermonia '89 as the deputy chief for administration, the second highest official of the PNP, Cav Danao is also the concurrent deputy chief for operations, and Cav Manuel M Abu '89 as the chief of directorial staff.



**Danao**

## **Cav Abu appointed as new PCG commandant**

Cav Artemio M Abu '92 has been appointed as PCG commandant, vice Cav Leopoldo V Laroya '88 who compulsorily retired. Before said designation, Cav Abu served as Commander of Maritime Safety Services Command and Task Force Commander of the PCG Task Force Kaligtasan sa Karagatan — a unit that ensures the effective enforcement of laws and regulations



**Abu**

relevant to the promotion of safety of life and property at sea within the Philippine maritime jurisdiction. As a Coast Guard officer, he was assigned as Commander of the PCG District Southern Visayas, PCG District Southern Tagalog, and the Coast Guard Education, Training, and Doctrine Command (CGETDC). With Cav Abu in HPCG are: Cav Eduardo D Fabricante '89 as Deputy Commandant for Operations; Cav Rolando LN Punzalan '92 as Deputy Commandant for Administration; and Cav Tito Alvin G Andal, Chief of Coast Guard Staff.

## **In Memoriam**

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

Cav Alexander I Bacalla '62	08 March 2022
Cav Markevin M Adan '17	10 March
Cav Victor S Villacorta '67	12 March
Cav Edgardo H Divina '77	07 April
Cav Constancio L Jardiniano '73	17 April
Cav Edgar M Calvo '70	21 April
Cav Kevin A Babaran '21	05 May
Cav Levy M Malto '56	06 May

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

The qualified children or the widows and parents concerned may get in touch with Mabel at the PETFI office, PMA Alumni Center, Camp Aguinaldo, QC. or at her cellphone no. 0917-808-1456 or by email at [petfi@yahoo.com](mailto:petfi@yahoo.com).



# The Wonder Years

COURAGE



INTEGRITY



LOYALTY

## RETIREES SECTION

• **CAV DANILO A ABINOJA '74**  
Chairman, PMARAI

• **CAV JOSE JM CENABRE '83**  
Director for Public Relations

### PMARAI Activities for Association Year 2022-2023



#### GRAND RAFFLE FUND RAISING PROJECT

PMARAI and PMAAAI, together with the Council of Class Presidents had jointly conducted a Grand Raffle which was held during the Alumni Homecoming in PMA, Baguio City on 18 February 2022. The drawing of the raffle was done electronically. The winner of the grand prize Toyota Vios 1.5 CVT (Black) was Cav Honorato Pascual of Class 1997.

#### PMARAI OATH TAKING OF NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

The PMARAI Board of Directors and Officers for AY2022-2023 have taken their oath of office on 7 April 2022 at the PMA Alumni Center, Camp Aguinaldo with the Chairman of PMARAI Cav Danilo Abinoja '74 as Inducting Officer. Newly elected PMARAI Board and Officers:

**Chairman:** Cav Danilo A Abinoja '74

**President:** Cav Raul S Gonzales '75

**Vice-President:** Cav Luizo C Ticman '76

**Corporate Sec:** Cav Alejandro T Camagay Jr '77

**Treasurer:** Cav Felipe H Buena Jr '78

**Auditor:** Cav Ramon C Liwag '79

#### Directors:

Cav Vidal E Querol '73

Cav Edmund C Tan '80

Cav Romeo V Poquiz '81

Cav Job Nolan D Antonio '82

Cav Jose Johriel M Cenabre '83

Likewise, Plaques of Appreciation were awarded to Cav Nelson Allaga '76 and Cav Van D Luspo '75 (received by Cav Raul Gonzales '75 on his behalf) for their invaluable service to PMARAI as Director and Officer for the AY 2021-2022.

#### PMARAI WEBINAR

PMARAI will be conducting its first webinar for the Association Year on 01 June 2022 with Commo Eduardo Gongona '82 as speaker on livelihood projects. This webinar aims to provide knowledge to the retirees, as well as the retiring cavaliers who are interested in pursuing business after they retire. The final details of this activity will be posted on the social media.

#### VIRTUAL RUN/WALK CHALLENGE

PMARAI will be hosting a virtual run/walk challenge in partnership with Pinoy fitness Atleta/pep squad events in July 2022. This is an event where runners can join any where, any time, and in any way (treadmill/village street). The activity aims to motivate active and retired alumni of the Philippine Military Academy to lead active lifestyles. Likewise, it would be a venue to get to know the community and connect with fellow alumni.



# The PMARAI Forum Community Guidelines

## I. Overview

The PMARAI Forum Community aims to assist its members in their personal and professional pursuits, to help maintain friendships and connections formed at the Philippine Military Academy and/or while still in the Active Service, to build strong and mutually beneficial ties among all alumni, to promote goodwill in the community, and to stimulate interest and enhance involvement with our Alma Mater through increased opportunities for engagement.

### Guidelines:

- Treat others online as you would treat them in real life;
- Be tolerant towards others' viewpoints; respectfully disagree when opinions do not align;
- Respect the privacy and personal information of other alumni;
- Communicate with courtesy and respect;
- Post information from verifiable sources; and

To encourage free-wheeling discussion, Chatham House Rules apply on matters of PUBLIC POLICY AND CURRENT AFFAIRS.

### Please do not:

- Make personal attacks on other community members;
- Use defamatory remarks or make false statements against others;
- Post prejudiced, argumentative, and indecent pictures or comments, GIFs, caricatures, or profanity; and
- Bully or make inflammatory remarks to other community members.

## II. Use messaging responsibly

- Identify yourself by this naming convention (First Name Last Name, Last two digits of the Class, example: Cav Anita Dugumon '45 or simply Cav Dugumon 45 will do). A portrait of the user is highly encouraged.
- We will take immediate and most appropriate action when we see someone violating these guidelines.

## III. We request that all community members report behavior that violates our guidelines to [jcenabre83@yahoo.com](mailto:jcenabre83@yahoo.com).

## IV. By joining the community and activating your profile, you are considered to agree with the terms and conditions listed above.



## JURADO CUP ANNOUNCEMENT

### Battalions... attention!

SoCal Chapter as the 2022 Jurado Cup organizing committee announces our much awaited sports and fellowship event to be held on September 2-4, 2022. Register early to help the host committee ensure success. Enjoy the sports, fun and camaraderie amongst former cadets, families and friends.

# ADJUTANT'S BULLETIN

## PMAAAI Awards: Rules and Criteria

• CAV RAUL S GONZALES '75  
Chairman, PMAAAI Awards Committee AY2022-2023

Pursuant to Sec 3, Art. IX of the PMAAAI Amended By-Laws, the Association shall confer the **Cavalier Award**, the **Lifetime Achievement Award**, the **Valor Award**, and the **Outstanding Achievement Award**, and the **Plaque of Meritorious Recognition** to qualified regular members of the association in good standing for distinguished, exemplary and unblemished service and outstanding performance of duties, under such rules as the Board shall prescribe: Provided, That an affirmative vote of at least thirteen (13) or two thirds (2/3) of all the voting members of the Board is required for the grant of the above awards. Accordingly, the following Rules and Criteria in the selection of the awards are hereby prescribed unless modified by proper authority.

### A. CAVALIER AWARD

1. **Number of Awardees** - The Cavalier Award shall be given annually to the twelve (12) most outstanding regular members of the Association for outstanding performance of duties during the past five (5) years, in various fields of endeavor as enumerated in paragraph 2 below. In addition, a Cavalier Award (slot) may be granted to outstanding junior officers in the following field: Army Operations; Naval Operations; Air Operations; Police Operations and Coast Guard Operations. Additional Cavalier Award may also be granted to Special Operations and Public Administration provided that the total number of Cavalier Awards shall not exceed twenty (20) Cavalier Awards every Association Year.
2. **Fields of Awards** - The Cavalier Award shall be given to those selected as the most outstanding members in the following fields of endeavor:
  - 2.1. **Military/Police/Coast Guard Service in:**
    - 2.1.1 **Command and Administration** - for commanders of AFP/PNP/PCG units with TO rank of Brig General/Commodore/PBrig General or higher, except AFP chief of staff, PNP chief, PCG commandant and AFP major service commanders.
    - 2.1.2 **Staff Function** - for staff officer positions in the AFP/PNP/PCG units.
    - 2.1.3 **Operations** - for officers holding the positions other than those covered under para 2.1.1 and 2.1.2 above who are directly engaged/employed in PA, PAF, PN, PNP, PCG and Special Operations. There shall be one awardee per AFP major service, PNP and the PCG, each being considered a separate field. The awardee for Special Operations may come from any of the five services.
  - 2.2 **Private Enterprise** - for members in private enterprise who are either entrepreneurs or managers.
  - 2.3 **Public Administration** - for members in government agencies and in government-owned and/or controlled corporations.
  - 2.4 **Contribution to Alumni Affairs** - for members who have made invaluable contributions and/or services to the PMAAAI and/or the alumni.
  - 2.5 **Special Fields** - for members who have outstanding achievements in sports, arts, literature, music, science and technology or in other endeavors which at the discretion of the Board of Directors deserve the Cavalier Award.
3. **Qualification and Eligibility.** To be qualified and eligible to receive the Cavalier Award, a nominee must satisfy the following criteria:
  - 3.1 Is a regular member in good standing of the Association and preferably a member of all the four affiliate foundations;
  - 3.2 Has faithfully lived up and adhered to the PMA motto of Courage, Integrity, and Loyalty; and
  - 3.3 Has an honorable and unblemished record and whose reputation is beyond reproach. (Any act of commission or omission that tends to cast doubt on the nominee's reputation shall be sufficient ground not to consider the member for the Award.)
4. **Disqualification** The following shall be disqualified from receiving the Cavalier Award:
  - 4.1. Alumni who have been recipients of Association awards are disqualified from receiving the same Association award category for the next ten (10) years except for Outstanding Achievement Award which can be granted to a recipient cited for his/her election to another position of major responsibility; and
  - 4.2. Members of the PMAAAI Board of Directors and Awards Committee during their tenure.
5. **Criteria for the Awards.** The Award shall be based on outstanding, distinguished and exemplary achievements worthy of emulation, personally and directly attained or done by the member during the past five (5) years in any of the fields enumerated above, that have:
  - 5.1 Enhanced the prestige of the PMA and the PMAAAI;
  - 5.2 Contributed significantly to the attainment of the AFP/PNP/PCG mission; and/or
  - 5.3 Resulted in the improvement of the general welfare of the community or country.
6. **Selection Process.** The selection process shall be from as wide a zone of consideration as possible. All regular members of the Association are qualified and should be considered for the Award, except as earlier provided for.
  - 6.1 **Nomination.** Any PMAAAI member, Class President, or Chapter President can submit nomination for the Award not later than last working day of July of the applicable association year. The nomination shall be in writing,

addressed to the PMAAAI Board of Directors (Attn: Awards Committee), and e-mail to [pmaaaai@yahoo.com](mailto:pmaaaai@yahoo.com). Soft copy must also be furnished to the Committee in a word format saved in the USB. The nomination shall specify the field of award and shall include the following which should be in seven (7) copies each and properly filed in appropriate folders.

- 6.1.1 Curriculum vitae of the nominee;
- 6.1.2 Authenticated description or summary of nominee's achievements or accomplishments;
- 6.1.3 Justification for the Award; and
- 6.1.4 A write-up of the nominee's accomplishments in not more than 150 words for possible publication in the Cavalier Magazine.

6.2 Search Committees. The different chapters and classes of the PMAAAI shall conduct an extensive search for outstanding alumni deserving of the Award. For this purpose, all chapters, whether service or fraternal, shall create their respective Cavalier Award Search Committees. The Committees shall make a thorough search for nominees.

6.3 PMAAAI Awards Committee. The PMAAAI Board of Directors has a standing Awards Committee composed of representatives from the various service chapters and chaired by a member of the Board. The Awards Committee shall evaluate the qualifications of the nominees in accordance with these rules. It will submit to the Editor-in-Chief of the Cavalier Magazine the names of those favorably considered after the initial screening, indicating the particular field of the award for which nominated.

The names of nominees shall be published in the Cavalier Magazine July-September issue to solicit comments or reactions from members of the Association, for or against the nominations. Screening and consultations with Class Presidents and Personnel Chiefs of the AFP/ PNP/PCG and other resource persons shall be completed by the PMAAAI Awards Committee by the **1<sup>st</sup> week of December**. The Awards Committee shall evaluate the final list of qualified nominees in each category of award and submit the final list of the principal and alternate recommendees for each category of award, to the Board of Directors in time for its last meeting in December.

6.4 Deliberation of Board of Directors. The Board shall deliberate on the recommendees and select the Cavalier Awardees during its meeting in December. Approval of any of the awards requires a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote or 13 of all the voting members of the Board. The Board shall limit its deliberations only to those recommendees submitted by the Awards Committee. The list of Cavalier Awardees shall be published in the Cavalier Magazine's January-March issue.

7. **Presentation of Awards.** The Cavalier Awards shall be presented to the awardees during the Alumni Homecoming Parade in February. The order of presentation of the awards shall be from the most senior awardee by class to the most junior.

## B. LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

This Award shall be given to a regular member of the Association who has rendered at least fifty (50) years of distinguished, outstanding, exemplary and unblemished service to the country and people, whether in government and/or in non-government organizations, who must have

served for at least two (2) years as head of any such organization, and who must have been a recipient of any of the other Association awards provided herein. The award will be given during the Alumni Homecoming Parade in February. Any PMAAAI member, Class President or Chapter President can submit nomination for the Award not later than last working day of July of the applicable association year.

## C. OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

This Award shall be given to regular members who have distinguished themselves by being elected or appointed to high positions in government, such as, but not limited to, President, Vice President, Senator, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ambassador, Department Secretary, AFP Chief of Staff, PNP Chief, PCG Commandant and AFP Major Service Commander. The Award will be given during the PMAAAI Annual General Membership Meeting in January of the applicable association year.

## D. VALOR AWARD

The Valor Award shall be given to regular member of the Association who have been recipients of the Medal of Valor.

## E. PLAQUE OF MERITORIOUS RECOGNITION

This Award shall be given to regular members who have been assigned, designated, or appointed to higher positions of authority in the government which do not fall under any categories of the present association awards. The Award will be given during the PMAAAI Annual General Membership Meeting in January of the applicable association year.

## F. TIMELINES

For the Association Year 2022-2023:

1. **18 March to 30 July 2022** – PMAAAI members, Chapter and Class Presidents shall conduct a search of nominees for the Awards.
2. **29 July 2022**– Deadline for submission of nominees to the PMAAAI Awards Committee. Screening by the Awards Committee starts.
3. **08 August 2022** – First meeting of the Awards Committee and Submission of list of qualified nominees to Editor, Cavalier Magazine for publication in the 3rd quarter issue.
4. **Sept-Nov 2022** – Awards Committee receives comments on the nominees from Cavaliers.
5. **30 September 2022** – Submission of Chapters Deliberation.
6. **14 November 2022** – Finalization of the list of nominees by the Awards Committee by categorizing them as Principal and Alternate by field of award.
7. **1 December 2022** - Submission of the Awards Committee's recommendation to the PMAAAI Board of Directors for the:
  - a. Lifetime Achievement Award
  - b. Outstanding Achievement Award
  - c. Cavalier Award
  - d. Valor Award
  - e. Plaque of Meritorious Recognition
8. **07 December 2022** – Meeting of the Board to select the awardees.

The PMAAAI Awards highlight the various significant contributions of the cavaliers to national security and development. We therefore enjoin everyone to participate in the search for awardees.



## Ambassador Cav Querol Administers Oath of PMAAAI Membership to Class 2022



AMBASSADOR CAV VIDAL E QUEROL '73, PMAAAI Chairman and CEO, administered the oath of PMAAAI membership to 214-strong "BAGSIK-DIWA" Class of 2022 on 15 May 2022. Composed of 49 female cadets and 165 male cadets, the "BAGSIK-DIWA" Class completed their Bachelor of Science Degree in National Security Management. As regular members of PMAAAI,

they swore that they will faithfully perform their duties and responsibilities; abide to its Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws; obey the rules and regulations promulgated by its Board of Directors, uphold the PMAAAI Code of Ethics; and be guided in all their undertakings in life by the PMA's motto of Courage, Integrity and Loyalty.

## PMA Conducts "Salute to the Class" PMA "Bagsik-Diwa" Class of 2022

The graduating cadets of "BAGSIK-DIWA" Class of 2022 took their oath on the Long Gray Line on May 12, 2022. The oath-taking ceremony was led by Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association, Inc. President, CAV JOSELITO E DE GUZMAN, member of PMA Class 1993. PMA Superintendent, CAV FERDINAND M CARTUJANO PAF also graced the event, showing his unending support and guidance to the graduating cadets. The program formally opened with the opening prayer led by the Command Chaplain, LTC JOEL T SIMBAJON CHS,

followed by the remarks of PMA Class of 2022 President, CDT 1CL ADRIANO A ORTIZ CCAFP.

The ceremony, dubbed as "The Salute to the Class" is a symbol of the graduating class'acceptance of bigger challenges and responsibilities as they shift from being members of the Cadet Corps Armed Forces of the Philippines to being full-fledged members of the Armed Forces of the Philippines and Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association, Inc.who are ready to serve the Republic of the Philippines and its citizens.



Cav Joselito E De Guzman '93 (3<sup>rd</sup> from right), PMAAAI President, unveils the Class Crest of PMA "BAGSIK-DIWA" Class 2022 to the Long Gray Line. Joining him (from left): Cav Julius A Tomines '92, Commandant of Cadets; Cav Ferdinand M Cartujano '88, PMA Superintendent; Cdt 1Cl Adriano A Ortiz, PMA Class of 2022 President; Cav Roger P Viduya '93 PN, Asst Superintendent PMA; and Cav Jose Demar A Pauly '92, Dean of Academics.



Cav De Guzman leads the oath taking on the Long Gray Line of “BAGSIK-DIWA” Class of 2022 graduating cadets.

CAV DE GUZMAN enjoined the 214 members of PMA Class of 2022 to live up to the motto of PMA of Courage, Integrity and Loyalty. “...Enjoy your military career, start on the right foot, stay on cadence to righteousness. We may stumble sometimes but we must continue to rise and pick up the pieces and carry on. As you live up to the Motto of our Academy of Courage, Integrity and Loyalty, remember also to live up to your Class name as well, that is, “BAGSIK-DIWA”, Bagong Sibol ng Kinabukasan, Didigma

*Hanggang sa Wakas.” Meaning never give up. In the Navy, we aptly say it, don’t give up the ship,” said CAV DE GUZMAN.*

*He further said, “When you’re still at a loss on what to do or not, or still confused as before, me kodigo na tayo, remember the phrase from Ms Eleonor Roosevelt, the wife of U.S. President Theodore Roosevelt and I quote: “Do what you think in your heart is right, for they will criticised you anyway, damn if you do and damn if you don’t,” unquote.*

## Ambassador Cav Querol '73, leads in the Groundbreaking Ceremony of the PMAAAI Center



The proposed PMAAAI building, dubbed as Center of Leadership and Excellence, held a ground breaking ceremony on 23 March 2022 at Lawton Ave. corner AFPOVAI Access Road, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City.

The PMAAAI building is a 6-storey building project of PMAAAI, PA and the Megaworld, the latter being the Donor of the building. Defense Secretary Delfin N Lorenzana was invited as Guest of Honor and Speaker in fitting appreciation of his personal efforts in initiating such idea to Dr. Andrew L Tan of Megaworld several years before the pandemic and following through up to this day. He collaborated his personal commitment to the Project, together with past leaderships of PMAAAI, GHQ AFP and the PA that resulted to this momentous event. The Center symbolizes the realization of PMAAAI members to have a respectable office and building of their own on a place they can be proud of.

Also invited were the previous Chairmen of PMAAAI led by Cav Mel Rosales, Cav Jimmy delos Santos, Cav Egay Aglipay and immediate past Chairman Cav Amado Espino, Jr. The most senior in attendance was Cav Meliton Goyena '56. Cav Jose Erwin Villacorte '83 delivered the remarks of Dr Tan of Megaworld.

Cavaliers of all ranks through the years have dreamed to have a very respectable PMAAAI Center; Megaworld answered to make our dream come true.





# PMAAAI PA Chapter News



LIEUTENANT GENERAL ROMEO S BRAWNER JR leads the oath taking of newly appointed officers of Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association – Army Cavaliers Chapter, Inc.

**FORT BONIFACIO, Taguig, Metro Manila** – The new set of officers of the Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association – Army Cavaliers Chapter, Inc. took their oath of office which was officiated by Lieutenant General Romeo S Brawner Jr, Commanding General, Philippine Army last March 18, 2022 at the Silid Andres Bonifacio, Headquarters Philippine Army.

The newly appointed officers who took their oath of office were led by Cavalier Ricky S Bunayog who is a member of PMA Class 1993 and is appointed as President of PMAAA – ACCI. Other Army Cavaliers who pledged to serve the organization as officers of PMAAA – ACCI CY 2022-2023 are Cavalier Virgilio C Hamos JR '94, Vice – President, Cavalier John Oliver F Gabun '95, Athletic Representative, Cavalier Benjamin T Aguilar JR '07, Auditor, Cavalier Rogelio S Velano '08, Public Relations Officer, Lady Cavalier Jennelyn S Tamacay '08, Treasurer, Lady Cavalier Dyan A Cabalza '10, Asst. Treasurer, Cavalier Carlo Rufino D Aguilar '10, Asst. Auditor, Lady Cavalier Marisol L Fulgosino '12, Secretary, and Lady Cavalier Joyce J Omac '14, Assistant Secretary. They swore to do their duties, functions, and responsibilities as PMAAA - ACCI officers by offering their time, efforts, and skills in implementing plans, programs and initiatives that will promote the general welfare and protect the interest of the active, retired,

and separated Army Cavaliers. The newly installed officers are expected to serve the organization for the span of one year.

Prior to the informal oath taking, six outgoing officers of PMAAA - ACCI were bestowed with Plaque of Recognition for their invaluable services and outstanding performance as PMAAA-ACCI officers for Calendar Year 2021-2022. Said commendations were also presented by Lieutenant General Brawner.

Being a former President of PMAAA - ACCI, Lieutenant General Brawner advised, *“Be relentless in reinventing your strategies and creating effective plans that will advance the Army Cavaliers’ interests and promote their general welfare of PMAAA-ACCI members so that they will remain steadfast in serving our nation while living up to the ideals of Courage, Integrity, and Loyalty. I also encourage you to cultivate the unique camaraderie of the Long Gray Line as you develop more means to respond to the challenges that may come your way. Being an officer of PMAAA - ACCI may be a challenging task, however, the fulfillment of serving our fellow Cavaliers is beyond rewarding.”*

Minimum health standards were strictly observed during the activity, such as the antigen testing prior to the event, mandatory wearing of face masks, and observance of physical distancing.



LIEUTENANT GENERAL ROMEO S BRAWNER JR together with the new sets of PMAAA - ACCI officers.



introducing the relieved and newly installed PMAAA - ACCI officers to CG, PA.



Former President of PMAAA-ACCI, COLONEL PATRIACH ROBINSON P PEL, receiving a plaque of recognition from General Brawner.



A simple memento from PMAAA - ACCI presented by COLONEL RICKY P BUNAYOG, President of PMAAA – ACCI to CG, PA.



# PMAAAI PN Chapter News

## PMAAAI-PN Chapter Turnover of Duties and Responsibilities



The PMAAAI-PN Chapter AY 2021-2022 board and committee members successfully relinquished their duties and responsibilities to the newly appointed members during the Turnover Ceremony at the Fleet-Marine Restaurant on April 08, 2022.

CAV JOE ANTHONY C ORBE '92, formally turned-over the helm to CAV ZOSIMO M BOLAÑOS JR '93 as the PMAAAI-PN Chapter AY 2022-2023 President. CAV ADELUIS S BORDADO '88 graced the ceremony as the Adviser.

CAV ORBE '92, PMAAAI-PN Chapter AY 2021-2022 President, along with the chapter officers assumed the mantle of leadership beginning March 02, 2021, of which showed great feats of effort and dedication in pursuing and upholding the objectives of the association despite the challenges faced with the Adaptation of the new normal due the COVID-19 Pandemic.

PMAAAI-PN Chapter AY 2021-2022 board and committee members successfully conducted several annual activities strictly complying with the protocols set by the IATF. One of which is the reception rites and oath taking of the new members of the PN cavalier family, a ceremonial tradition of welcoming the young blood of the organization that took place at the Naval Education Training and Doctrine Center (NETDC) graced by limited PN cavaliers.

Second of which, PMAAAI-PN Chapter AY 2021-2022 board and committee members also donated a significant amount to the Department of Naval Warfare for the second phase of the renovation of the navy laboratory which will be utilized by





navy cadets of PMA in pursuit of high quality of education at the Philippine Military Academy on naval matters. The Association also conducted the “Voice of Experience” wherein the Navy cadets were given the opportunity to widen their knowledge on what to expect in joining the best Branch of Service.

Third of which, The Association Year 2021-2022 in coordination with the Mother Chapter was also keen with regard to the preparations during the last alumni homecoming. They facilitated the various activities relative to the homecoming.

Finally, PMAAAI-PN Chapter AY 2021-2022 board and committee members also successfully conducted the various events for the Jurado Cup 2021, which is composed of the sportsfest, shootfest and golf tournament.

PMAAAI-PN Chapter AY 2022-2023 board and committee members took an oath to take over all the responsibilities of the former members and vowed to exert their utmost effort and dedication in fulfilling their given roles and uphold the objectives of the association.

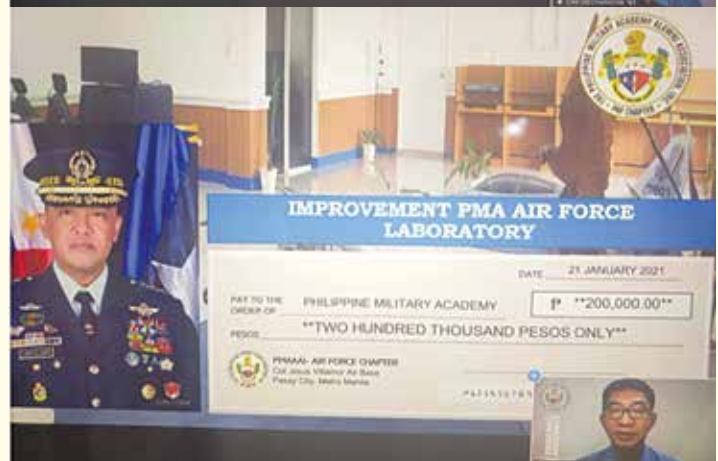


# PMAAAI PAF Chapter News

## “LIPAD AIR CAVALIERS!” - AY 2022 1st Quarter Updates

• CAV EDSON CARLO M TADEA '05

To kick off the year 2022, the PAF CHAPTER conducted the Annual General Assembly and Elections for Association Year 2022 on 21 January 2022. This traditional event was actively participated by 352 Air Cavaliers led by **LTGEN CONNOR ANTHONY D CANLAS SR PAF**, Commanding General, PAF as the Guest of Honor and Speaker. Among the highlights of this momentous activity are the recognition of our Golden Jubilarians, newly promoted Generals and Air Force Cavaliers Awardees, ratification of By Laws and Articles of Incorporation, and approval of additional automatic deduction for the Air Cavalier Special Fund for Medical Assistance. In his message, LTGEN CANLAS quoted the Cadet's Prayer and expounded on how we can find meaning from it amid our current situation.



The CG,PAF ended his message with these powerful words of encouragement for his fellow Air Cavaliers: *“As we officially welcomed the new year, new challenges also tested our mettle. For one, we are doing our best to recover and repair the damages in our hard-hit bases in Mactan, Palawan, and other areas in the Visayas, and Mindanao. Second, the new surge of the “Omicron” variant has again affected our workplaces, our families and even our very own homes. Nevertheless, the bible assures us in Romans Chapter 8 verse 28, that: “All things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose. “All we have to do now is to be at our best, and at the same time, keeping our faith and trust in God in everything that we do. To my fellow Cavaliers, you are all my Co-pilots in this endeavor of serving God, Country and People. Tuloy lang natin ang pag LIPAD ng Hukbong Himpapawid! Once again, thank you everyone, stay safe and to God be all the glory!”*

The Annual General Assembly was a venue for the Chapter to showcase its support to all fellow Air Cavaliers and Airmen affected by the super typhoon “Odette” and to the Aerocadets for the renovation of the PMA Air Force Laboratory. A total of PhP500,000.00 was donated to the PAF Welfare Fund and the Philippine Military Academy.

Another significant milestone for the Chapter is the completion of our very own Alumni Center located on the 3rd Floor, Airmen’s Mall, CJVAB. This facility shall be home to all alumni-related activities and will be the main venue to cater to the needs of fellow Air Cavaliers. Manning the daily operations of this Center is a Civilian Secretariat recently hired by the Chapter.





Following the successful conduct of the Annual Elections, the new sets of Board of Trustees headed by Cav Angelito R Retua '93 (President) together with Cav Loreto B Pasamonte '93 (Senior Representative to the Mother Chapter), Cav Genaro C Menor '94 (Vice-President), Cav Arthur D Laylo '96 (Treasurer), Cav Melvin A Banua '97 (Auditor), Cav Gene Paul P Santos '04 (Public Relations Officer), Cav Edson Carlo M Tadea '05 (Secretary) and Cav Abraham S Pasion '06 (Junior Representative to the Mother Chapter) and the different Committee Chairpersons namely: Cav Maynard P Mariano '99 (Public Relations), Cav Alvin M Sevilla '00 (Sports), Cav Anselmo A Ty II '01 (Morale and Welfare), Cav Sharon Louie C Montallana '02 (Socials), Cav Anthony R Amora '03 (Ways and Means), Cav Owen M Avenido '04 (Female Affairs), Cav Michael Angelo S Patron '05 (Membership and Election), Cav Randell R Medina '06 (Education and Professional Development), and Cav Ken T Kiat-Ong '09 (Awards) rendered a Courtesy Call on the Commanding General, PAF who formally admitted the oath of office and extended his assurance of full support to the Air Force Chapter on 24 February 2022.

To pursue our commitment for transparency and efficient management of the Chapter's Resources, the Chapter commissioned a third-party auditor (*another first in our history*) through the Aquino and Balbosa Company of Certified Public Accountants to prepare and review our Financial Statements and ensure timely submission of subsequent regulatory requirements.

Finally, in support to the Mother Chapter, the Air Force Cavaliers also hosted the PMAFI Election at our Chapter's Alumni Center to encourage participation of our fellow Air Cavaliers.

**More great news!**

Through the sterling efforts of our predecessors, the Chapter now takes pride of its official and updated Registration with the Bureau of Internal Revenue and Pasay City LGU (*a first in our history*), and with the Securities and Exchange Commission. These feats are in addition to the updating of our permits and requirements set forth by the PAF and GHQ.



Together, these humble accomplishments were made possible through the collaborative and selfless dedication and commitment of the current and past PAF Chapter Board of Trustees and Committee Chairpersons, ably supported by the Philippine Air Force under the stellar leadership of the Pilot-in-Command of "Team Lipad", CAV CONNOR ANTHONY D CANLAS SR '89.

# FEMALE CAVALIER SEGMENT



## This Lady Cavalier in the Midst of Fire During the Marawi Siege

*On 10 March 2019, then Capt Tamacay was awarded one of the ten Outstanding Women in Law Enforcement and National Security (OWLENS) by no less than President Duterte at Malacanang. She was selected by Republic Defenders under its Chairman and Pres Cav Vidal Querol '73 in partnership with San Miguel Corporation.*

**M**ajor Jennylyn S Tamacay was designated as the Alpha Battery Commander, 3<sup>rd</sup> Field Artillery Battalion (3FAB) on 24 August 2015. Back then, her areas of operations (AO) were the entire islands of Panay and Negros which are within the area of responsibility (AOR) of 3<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division, Philippine Army. Since the Communist Terrorist Group (CTG) area during those days was declared a No-Fire Area (NFA) or areas with fire restriction, it was impossible to conduct a fire mission. Although she never wished for a combat operation that would lead to the use of artillery, it has been her dream to experience a fire mission. She believes that the baptism of fire during her stint as battery commander will define her as a full-fledged Artillery Officer.

At the start of her designation, Major Tamacay admitted that being a female battery commander is not an easy responsibility because she had some doubts and reservation whether her troops will believe and follow her or not. Fortunately, she was thankful and blessed to have reliable and snappy Battery First Sergeant and Platoon Sergeants who kept on guiding her, shared their

respective experiences in operations and eventually followed her order as their battery commander. Since most of her personnel were ever since assigned in the Visayas area, and not all had experienced an actual fire mission, she always made sure that before the day starts, the entire battery has performed their daily gun drills and fire direction center (FDC) exercises. She kept on reminding them that they must equip themselves with the basic and necessary knowledge and be prepared for war anytime.

After a year stint as Battery Commander, an unexpected opportunity came to Major Tamacay. On 14 September 2016, their unit received a warning order thru a radio message to prepare to be transferred and redeployed to Western Mindanao Command (WESMINCOM) Joint Area of operation (JAO). The redeployment of 3FAB was in line with the President Rodrigo Duterte's declaration of State of Lawlessness in Mindanao due to the escalating terroristic and lawless activities in the area. Finally, on 01 October 2016, her unit was redeployed and took over and assumed the AOR in Piñan, Zamboanga Del Norte; Guipos,



Zamboanga Del Sur; and Salvador, Lanao del Norte, all under the AOR of 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division, Philippine Army.

When the Marawi Siege erupted on 23 May 2017, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Howitzer Platoon, Alpha Battery, 3FAB, PA was one of the first responders. Said platoon had immediately established a strategic firebase at Saguiaran, Lanao del Sur and subsequently established a forward fire base at Brgy Tuca to deliver an accurate and timely fire support to the engaged operating troops of Joint Task Force Marawi (JTF Marawi).

*“When all of us had settled down and already laid the artillery guns, we were anxiously waiting for our first ever fire mission which happened on 30 May 2017. The fire support was requested by the Marine Special Operation Group (MARSOG). I could not forget the feelings that I had during that time as we fired the first round. It seems that the time had stopped while we were still waiting for the Forward Observer’s correction. When they called, I knew that we plotted the gun correctly and we were doing great. At least, all of our sacrifices and endeavors had resulted in giving a perfect delivery of fire mission,”* Major Tamacay narrated.

When her platoon needed to be displaced and emplaced to Tuca Firebase, which is two (2) kilometers aerial distance from the main battleground, there were a lot of scenarios running through her mind, *“that every time I felt anxious and uncertain, I always seek guidance and protection from our Lord God Almighty. I also remember that there was one time during one of our fire missions when we were fired upon by the enemy, and we took cover while successfully delivering fires to support the maneuver units. Every night, I just prayed and hopeful that we could surpass each day without any casualty from my troops,”* she further added.

However, everything must come to an end. Just like her designation as Alpha Battery Commander, her two-year stint came to an end in which she was relieved on 17 August 2017 allowing another deserving Officer to take her post. *“I was not able to finish the siege as the battery commander, but I was still in the area as one of the staff officers of JTF Marawi while performing my duties until the liberation of Marawi on 18 October 2017,”* she quipped.

For her sterling leadership and bravery, Major (then Captain) Tamacay was awarded the Gold Cross Medal for gallantry in action while serving as Battery Commander of Alpha Battery, 3<sup>rd</sup> Field Artillery Battalion, Army Artillery Regiment, Philippine Army emplaced at Tuca Firebase (51N XJ 40824 83141), Marawi City. Alpha Battery provided indirect fire support on 13 August 2017

to operating troops of 3<sup>rd</sup> Scout Ranger Company under Captain Iriberry; 10<sup>th</sup> Scout Ranger Company under 1Lt Santiago; Task Group Panther under Captain Del Rosario; and Sniper Team of 4<sup>th</sup> Scout Ranger Battalion under Captain Pulido during their simultaneous assault towards several objectives at Building 582 cluster and Building I12 during the implementation of OPLAN “Liberation of Marawi” from 23 May 2017 until it was declared cleared and free by Commander-in-Chief and President Rodrigo R Duterte on 18 October 2017 from ISIS-inspired Maute Group led by Isnilon Hapilon, Maute brothers and its fighters who took siege the Marawi City for almost five (5) months.

Moreover, then Captain Tamacay also gallantly directed her firecrews while providing the much-needed timely and accurate fire support to the maneuvering units under the 4SRB despite their vulnerability from the enemy retaliation which might hamper their continuous fire missions.

Notwithstanding the danger from the enemy sniper fires, the fire missions were personally supervised by then Captain Tamacay by which eventually contributed to the successful assault of the units under 4SRB thereby expending a total of 26 rounds HE for the period resulting to one M653 rifle, one AK47 rifle, 281 rounds of caliber 50 ammunition, four IEDs, one backpack full of 1-peso coins, five enemy body counts, and capture of buildings 580, 581, and 582 that served as the strongholds of the local terrorist group Maute.

Likewise, then Captain Tamacay responded to the request for a fire mission and provided indirect fire support with the 3SRC as Forward Observer against the clustered buildings 582 and I12. Imbued with technical, tactical, and professional competence, then Captain Tamacay led her 3<sup>rd</sup> howitzer platoon in providing close support fire missions on 13/10/38 August 2017 in support of the engaged troops of 10SRC and SRC CL 201-16 under 4SRB while 3SRC served as Forward Observer against the enemies who are consolidating at Buildings 582 and I12 believed to be the location of Isnilon Hapilon and other members of the Maute group.

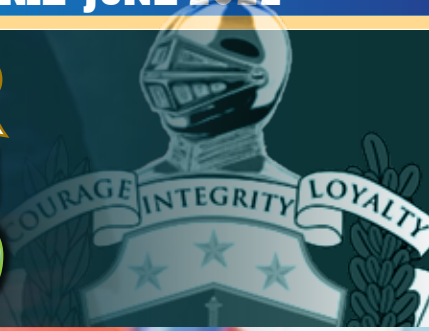
Five years had passed but the Marawi Siege is one historical account that would linger long in the hearts and minds of the Filipino people and Major Tamacay felt grateful to have been part of the military force that helped liberate the Islamic city from the hands of the terrorists.

As a piece of advice to all incoming female cavaliers: *“Internalize all the lessons you can get in school and in the field. You will never go wrong if you apply the things that you have learned. Lastly, wherever you go and whatever you do, always seek the guidance of our Lord God Almighty”*





# YOUNG CAVALIER HEROES



## 1LT MARIA CRISTINA MACASAET MOJECA PN(M)

### She Proved Her Worth as a Female Cavalier

**1** LT MARIA CRISTINA MACASAET MOJECA '17 PN(M) was born on 01 February 1996 in Lipa City, Batangas. She started her career in the military service on 26 March 2013 as a member of PMA "Salaknib" Class of 2017. Upon her graduation, she volunteered to join the few, the proud Philippine Marine Corps and took up the Marine Officer Basic Course in Ternate, Cavite.

"A woman doesn't belong in combat units," according to a Wall Street Journal op-ed (2019), but 1LT MOJECA PN(M) is evidently turning the tables. She got a Bronze Cross Medal as she spearheaded the Weapons Company, 53rd Marine Company of Marine Battalion Landing Team-3 during the Focused Military Operations at Sitio Lukbang, Brgy Pang, Kalingalan Caluang, Sulu on 10 May 2018 establishing fire base at the Command Group of said area, providing fire support to operating elements with one (1) 81MM Mortar that resulted to the apprehension of six members of Abu Syyaf Group and recovery of various war materiel. The same year, she participated in operational commitment of her unit in support of the Philippine Marine Corps' overall mission success, including medical operations, rescue operations and voluntary hand-over of loose and unlicensed assorted firearms in different municipalities of the 2nd District of Sulu province earning multiple awards such as Bronze Cross Medal, Military Merit Medal, both Spearhead and Anahaw, and Military Civic Action Medal. She has once again demonstrated that she is at the top of her class.

What appears to be excessive for her first year of deployment is that she did not cease striving to broaden her abilities and expertise by persistently attending several trainings such as Gun Safety and Reloading Training, Bomb Threat Awareness and IED Identification Training, Mobile Photography and Basic Photoshop Training. 1LT MOJECA PN(M) also took specialization course such as Public Procurement Course and Personnel Management Course. She is also flexible enough to take on extra responsibilities and is willing to take risks in order to attempt new things. She





is prepared to face any challenge and will to increase not only her leadership and competency, but also her coping skills and knowledge in order to better serve the people.

By the years 2019 and 2020, she displayed such outstanding success, being the Civil-Military Operation Officer of her unit successfully unearthed one of the longest running Communist Terrorist Group Affiliated Organizations, Samahang Inaasahan ng mga Katutubo sa Alimanguan, Palawan (SIKAP), with its Underground Mass Organization, Norunutan a Datay Botuanan (Mga Katutubong Walang Iwanan) in the province of Palawan. 1LT MOJECA PN(M) coordinated the launching of all Community Support Program to each Municipal Task Force – ELCAC in Northern Palawan; organized the signing of MOU among the composition of CSP Teams under the supervision of MTF-ELCAC; organized the conduct of “Ugnayan sa Barangay”; coordinated CSP/CMO related activities to concerned LGU/NGA/stakeholders; facilitated the activities like medical and dental mission, outreach program and gift giving in each barangay; managed social media posting and administered press release; organized presentation of surrenderees/withdrawal of support of CTG-organized/affiliated Mass Base personalities; and supervised the implementation of E-CLIP to Former Rebels (FRs) during the overall conduct of CSP in Brgys of Alimanguan, Kemdeng, and Sto. Nino of San Vicente; Brgys Abongan and Talog of Taytay; and Brgys Tagumpay, Magara, Abaroan, and Dumarao of Roxas, all of Palawan. With the sustained clearing efforts and said deployment of CSP Teams, her Unit effectively reached out, re-oriented and co-opted the withdrawal of support to CTG of 76 local leaders and members of CTG-organized/affiliated mass base organizations wherein 1LT MOJECA PN(M) organized, coordinated, and

facilitated their return to the fold of the law. With dedication and diligent support of 1LT MOJECA PN(M), the conduct of Community Support Program led to the overall success of dismantling the Komiteng Larangan sa Gerilya (KLG) – North of Communist Terrorist Group in Northern Palawan.

1LT MOJECA PN(M) holds various positions as she started her career in the PMC as Platoon Commander of 23rd Marine Company for three (3) years with different collateral duties as Battalion Staff for Logistics, Personnel and CMO. 1LT MOJECA PN(M) is now the Executive Officer of 53rd Marine Company, Marine Battalion Landing Team-3 performing her purpose with discipline and professionalism, as well as a persistent desire to grow and serve. Her constant service greatly contributes to the nation’s peace and security and will undoubtedly empower and inspire others to do the same.



# VISITOR'S ACCOUNTS

## The Man Behind the Defense Seal

• NIKKO JAKE C. ACAIN  
DND OSEC Speechwriters' Group



Since its foundation in 1898, the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) has been instructing, training and developing cadets to possess the character, the broad and basic military skills, and the education essential to the pursuit of a progressive military career. It boasts a long and illustrious history of preparing only the best Filipino men and women for military service and leadership.

Many of the cavaliers it has produced are decorated military officers, whose names are etched in the annals of the nation's history, known for the battles they have won, the medals they have received, and the influence that they hold in general.

Some of its alumni, however, are more known for their distinct character over the recognitions and influential positions they have held, thanks to the values of courage, integrity, and loyalty that the PMA has indoctrinated them. They are those who made quite a name for themselves for their innate character, understanding that honor

and respect do not come automatically from being PMA alumni or from being military officers, but rather earned through selfless service, humble leadership, and camaraderie with others.

No doubt that the incumbent Secretary of National Defense, Delfin Negrillo Lorenzana of the PMA Maagap Class of 1973, is one who is known for a low-profile demeanor and unassuming character. It may be attributed to his humble beginnings and upbringing from his parents who raised him and his siblings through farming in Parang, Maguindanao (now Cotabato).

### Highly Accomplished and Decorated Man

Make no mistake, however, as beneath the humble aura is a highly accomplished and decorated man. Aside from his successful stint in the military, he has been a certified newsmaker ever since he was appointed by President Rodrigo Roa Duterte to



*Secretary Lorenzana with OSEC staff*

the consequential post in 2016. In 2021, he was conferred with the PMAAAI Cavalier Award for Public Administration, citing his accomplishments as a retired military officer and incumbent defense secretary.

Ultimately, however, his distinctions and the positions he has held in the past have always paled in comparison with his character when one talks about him. Ask anyone who worked with him, and they will certainly talk about his distinct personality. The same can be said for his executive and personal staff in the Department of National Defense, who have nothing but appreciation and awe for the humble man that he is.

#### **Jersey No. 8 – Favorite Basketball Sportswear**

Hermio Cardinal has got to be one of the most reliable persons who can speak truth about Secretary Lorenzana's character as they share years of working together. Prior to joining the Department of National Defense, he retired from the Philippine Army in June 1996 with the rank of Master Sergeant.

Hermie, as what Secretary Lorenzana fondly calls him, once served in the Presidential Security Group (PSG). Years past their stint in the PSG, their paths crossed again in the Department of National Defense (DND), where Hermie had the chance to work as his personal driver for three years before he was assigned to do clerical work in Secretary Lorenzana's office.

*"Sobrang approachable at mabait,"* Hermie said when asked about his first impression of Secretary Lorenzana when he first met him in the PSG. *"Even with his influential position in the government, Secretary Lorenzana never changed,"* he added.

Asked about a random thing that reminds him of the Secretary, Hermie mentioned *"Jersey No. 8,"* the jersey Secretary Lorenzana wore when they used to play basketball in the PSG during their downtime. *"Disiplinado at maingat siya sa katawan at kalusugan nya,"* Hermie said, adding that Secretary Lorenzana is into playing golf, long distance running and rarely uses the DND elevator when he goes to work everyday. *"Mabibilang sa daliri kung ilang beses sya nag-elevator, kasama na yung time na pinakiusapan namin*

*yung mga aide na doon siya padaanin dahil naghanda kaming surprise birthday para sa kanya,"* Hermie recalls.

Character wise, he describes Secretary Lorenzana as one who had no air of pretension or superiority, always maintaining a brotherly relationship with his subordinates.

Likewise, Hermie has nothing but pure admiration for Secretary Lorenzana's brand of leadership. He describes the SND as a very hands-on leader but one who never micromanages his staff. Secretary Lorenzana always did the rounds by himself in Malacañang every time they were on red alert. If he can do the work by himself, he prefers not to delegate it. As Hermie said, *"lagi siyang nakikita."*

#### **Generous Benefactor**

Generosity is another thing about Lorenzana. Elizabeth A. De Mesa knows that by heart as Secretary Lorenzana is helping her finance her postgraduate studies. Beth, her nickname in their office, had the pleasure to work with SND during his stint as Head of the Office for Veterans Affairs at the Philippine Embassy in Washington, D.C. which is under the supervision of the Philippine Veterans Affairs Office (PVAO). At that time, Beth was a civilian employee in-charge of the financial and MOOE budget of the OVA. Now, Beth works in the Office of the Secretary of National Defense as a finance officer.

As a single mother of two, Beth said that she greatly appreciates the financial assistance she receives from the Secretary. Earning a postgraduate degree is not cheap to begin with.

Perhaps Secretary Lorenzana believes that Beth, as a single mother, needs to be empowered through postgraduate education so she could advance further in her career to support her children in the long run. After all, as someone who was born to a poor family, Secretary Lorenzana is a firm believer of education as a primary tool of empowerment.

*"It was his simplicity. He is not the typical boss-looking,"* Beth said when explaining what stood out to her the most about SND when they first met in 2015. That was probably the reason why Beth was so amused with how several of the personnel in PVAO reacted to his appointment as Secretary of National Defense in 2016. She narrated

that Secretary Lorenzana paid a visit to PVAO in May 2016, and that owing to his low profile and unassuming demeanor, the staff barely paid him attention, aside from a few who had a candid conversation with him. To their surprise, his appointment was announced just a few days after his visit to PVAO.

“As a leader, he is a man of integrity. He values honesty, trust and what is right, not personal gain,” Beth said. Talking about courage, Beth said that she feels proud to work for someone who stands his ground on issues, particularly against China, in the issue in the West Philippine Sea. According to her, Lorenzana has manifested time and time again that his loyalty is to the Filipino people.

**Man of Integrity with Faith in the Divine Creator**

“Nag-dilang anghel ka!” This is what Cav Lorenzana exclaimed when he met Maria Juanita Fajardo-Rivera, or Jet, as what she is called at home and at work, a few days after his appointment as Secretary of National Defense was announced.

Like Beth, Jet had the opportunity to work with Secretary Lorenzana during his tenure as Special Presidential Representative for Veterans Affairs in Washington, D.C in 2011. That time, Jet was the chief of the Strategic Communications Section at the Office of the PVAO Administrator. In their frequent exchange of email, Secretary Lorenzana never fails to express his appreciation and concern, especially that Jet’s line of work required constant burning of the midnight oil. “*Matulog na daw ako, gabi na. Or ingat daw kapag flu season na. Kapag may hinihingi akong updates from OVA, he would reply na basta ako daw, nanginginig pa,*” she recalls.

Jet became close to “Sir Del,” as she was his lifeline in PVAO when no other division chief was responding to his emails. In turn, Jet had to regularly ask for updates about the United States’ Filipino Veterans Equity Compensation Act of 2009, which Secretary Lorenzana and the Filipino veterans community states lobbied for, and about the digitization project for the records of Filipino World War II veterans from the US National Archive.

Whenever Secretary Lorenzana is in town, he would attend veterans assemblies and with Jet and her team. Equipped with his own point and shoot camera, Secretary Lorenzana even contributed photos for the agency magazine which Jet used to manage as editor in chief.

In February 2015, they attended the inauguration of a two-classroom building in Barangay Laoag, San Marcelino, Zambales donated by Remigio “Tata Rey” Cabacar of Maryland, USA, a Filipino WWII veteran, through his accumulated pensions from PVAO. Tata Rey’s claim had previously been denied if not for the intervention of Lorenzana.

It was also during that trip when Jet jokingly and unknowingly prophesied the rollercoaster ride that was awaiting Secretary Lorenzana. As they were lamenting to each other their concerns with how things are being done in the government, Jet lightheartedly said that things would certainly be better once Secretary Lorenzana becomes the SND. “*Tumawa lang siya, Sabi niya, malabo kasi mga presidential appointees ang mga SND,*” Jet recalls. Over a year after, his appointment as SND was announced.

For Jet, that travel was a gift that kept on giving. Passing through Subic, she had a front-row seat to marvel at the character of who was then the future defense secretary, listening to his insights on China’s aggressive action in the West Philippine Sea that began when the Philippines lost its security umbrella with the pulling out of the US military bases in Subic and Clark. “*Sabi niya, kailangan talagang palakasin ang AFP, at hindi tayo dapat umasa sa iba, lalo na for territorial defense,*” Jet added.

She witnessed his integrity and his aversion towards flexing one’s authority when their car was apprehended for overspeeding. Even if they were in a hurry, Secretary Lorenzana kept quiet and never intervened. Jet was waiting for him to introduce himself as a retired army general but it never happened. Jet apologized to the traffic enforcer and explained that they were in a hurry to attend an official function in San Marcelino, Zambales. When the enforcer saw the Letter Order and learned that the passenger was a retired Major General and the head of OVA, he even volunteered to lead them to the shortest route to Zambales.

**A Cut Above the Rest**

That travel reinforced everything Jet knew about SND from years of working with him. To Jet, Secretary Lorenzana is a cut above the rest not primarily because of how accomplished he is but because of who he is. Ordinary people, especially veterans and their families, gravitate towards him because of his genuine concern for them, thus, he acts quickly on concerns made known to him. One time, he had to personally accompany the family of a deceased Filipino veteran to the bank after they were repeatedly denied access to the bank deposits of the PVAO pension of the veteran. Clearly, he treats the Filipino veterans’ community as his extended family not only because of the nature of his work but because of his deep appreciation for them.

As a boss and a leader, “Secretary Lorenzana is thoughtful and never falls short in expressing his appreciation towards people,” said Jet. ‘This trait endears him to people who had the extraordinary opportunity to work with him. His mantra in life is very simple and that is to ‘Be kind.’”

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Judging from the words of these individuals who had the opportunity to work closely with Cavalier Lorenzana, it can be said that he is indeed a league of his own – a man of character and service. No doubt that come July 1, Secretary Lorenzana will leave the post of defense secretary with people cheering on him from all sides, content for all the excellent work he has done, leaving a safer and more secured country for all Filipinos.



SND with WW2 veteran Remigio Cabacar and wife, Carolina, during the inauguration of school rooms in Zambales.

# Shaping a Public Servant's Life: A Story of Courage, Integrity and Loyalty

• DHSUD-CDMRD

Throughout his journey from being a gallant Army officer to becoming the first-ever head of the country's primary housing agency, Secretary Eduardo D. Del Rosario '80 has proven himself as a man with a burning determination to serve his country and to lead selflessly - living up to the core values of the Philippine Military Academy: courage, integrity and loyalty.

A member of the PMA "Mapitagan" Class of 1980, Secretary Del Rosario served the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) for 37 years—leading vital positions in the military and retiring as a two-star general.

Upon his retirement in November 2012, Secretary Del Rosario was immediately called upon to serve in a civilian capacity—first by the previous Aquino administration as Administrator of the Office of Civil Defense and concurrent Executive Director of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC).

In July 2016, Secretary Del Rosario was initially named by President Rodrigo Roa Duterte as Undersecretary for Civil, Veterans and Retiree Affairs of the Department of National Defense and after a year, as Chairman of the Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council (HUDCC) until his appointment as Department of Human Settlement and Urban Development (DHSUD) chief in January 2020.

Indeed, in both civilian and military posts, Secretary Del Rosario upheld the PMA's principle of courage, integrity and loyalty. In fact, his fearless yet sensible approach always left peace and harmony in the wake of his leadership, no matter where he was assigned or what position he held—as military commander or as civilian executive.

The Secretary's unblemished record and firm integrity likewise earned him the support and admiration of not only his brothers in arms, but also of the people he wholeheartedly protected. An example is the Lumads in Davao City who have severed their ties with

communist terrorists after Secretary Del Rosario, then-Task Force Davao commander, conducted peace talks with the tribe's leaders under the Alsa Lumad counter-insurgency campaign in 2004. He was eventually adopted by the Lumads and named him "Datu Limbotong," which means "protector."

Fast-forward to more recent years and the same courage and integrity coupled with his unchanging love for the country and selfless leadership led Secretary Del Rosario to dive into another challenging journey as part of the civilian government service— as the country's housing czar.

As the first-ever chief of the DHSUD, he paved the way for significant developments in the Philippine housing sector. With him at the helm, the department and its key shelter agencies have been championing the drive to provide Filipino families with safe, resilient and affordable homes, meanwhile dignifying the underprivileged and marginalized.

Never forgetting the third core value of the PMA despite having reached colossal success, the housing czar has ceaselessly proven his loyalty to the Filipino people as he continues to play a pivotal role in aiding the national economy in its recovery from the bludgeoning effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. He has actively cemented close coordination with the housing agency's partners from both the public and private sectors, thereby keeping the housing sector afloat and triggering economic activities as multitudes of Filipinos working in the industry were able to continue their livelihood.

Perhaps one of the greatest challenges to how firmly he can uphold PMA's three core values is his designation as the chairman of Task Force Bangon Marawi in October 2017— overseeing the massive government-led rehabilitation of the once-besieged Marawi City.



*TFBM Chairman and DHSUD Secretary Eduardo Del Rosario joins President Rodrigo Roa Duterte in spearheading the reopening of the iconic Grand Mosque, which was among the Islamic places of worship that were either damaged or destroyed during the five-month battle between government troops and Daesh-inspired terrorist groups, during the commemoration of the fourth anniversary of Marawi's liberation in October 2021.*

The marching order, so to speak, is not without multiple tribulations, yet Secretary Del Rosario's courage, integrity and loyalty are all the more fortified. Needless to say, with him at the helm of the TFBM, the Islamic City's rebuilding as promised by President Duterte is now in the homestretch.

Aside from being a man of valor and service, Secretary Del Rosario is also known for his humility which endeared him to his colleagues and stakeholders in the housing and urban development sector.

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**Testimonials of Secretary Del Rosario's strong leadership from prominent and ordinary stakeholders in the housing sector:**

*"Kami pong mga katutubo ng Sitio Dupinga ng Brgy. Malinao, Gabaldon, Nueva Ecija na siyang benepisyaryo ng pabahay ng DHSUD sa pamumuno ni Secretary Eduardo Del Rosario ay lubos na nagpapasalamat sapagkat bilang mga katutubo ay mabibigyan ng maayos na tahanan na kung saan ay tanda ng kahit na katutubo ka man ay hindi ka maiiwan sapagkat mayroong isang gobyerno na siyang tumutugon sa pangangailangan ng kanyang mamamayan.*

*"Sa pamumuno ng ating Secretary Del Rosario, kaming mga katutubo sa bayan ng Gabaldon ay hindi nakalimutan sa kabila ng ang aming bayan ay nasa isang malayong lugar. Magiliw niya kaming hinarap at tinanong ng iba pa naming pangangailangan kung kaya't sa kanyang liderato bilang kalihim ng DHSUD ay tunay na walang maiiwang Pilipino.*

*"Kung kaya't umasa po kayo na kaming katutubong Dumagat dito sa aming bayan ay lubos na susuportahan at pahahalagahan ang inyo pong ipinagkaloob na mga tahanan sapagkat naniniwala po kami na ang isang tahanan ay pundasyon ng isang matatag pamilya. Ito po ay hinding hindi naming makakalimutan.*

*"Makmok asalamat Secretary Eduardo Del Rosario. Pagpalain kamu ni Makedyapat." – Mr. Ernest Santiago, Tribal Chieftain, Sitio Dupinga, Malinao, Gabaldon, Nueva Ecija*

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*"I would like to extend my warmest congratulations and sincerest gratitude to Secretary Del Rosario for his immense effort and unwavering support for the materialization of various housing and resettlement projects to the Province of Bataan.*

*"His dedication, commitment and leadership has been a significant factor to the housing initiatives of Provincial Government of Bataan that lead to the creation of 1Bataan Village—a resettlement program aimed at providing an affordable, safe and sustainable housing to our constituents.*

*"We have been actively working for the attainment of our vision of having the lowest poverty incidence resulting from quality growth, attaining top-level Human Development index in the Philippines.*

*"The collaboration between the province and the Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development is a testament of how good governance and political will can change the lives of the people through proactive and transformative leadership.*

*"The 1Bataan Village housing program will serve as premier exemplars for other local government units on how the housing strategies and processes should be implemented, considering the recent decentralization initiatives of the Mandanas-Garcia ruling, and how resettlement development should truly work for, and, with the people of Bataan." – Governor Albert S. Garcia, Province of Bataan*

=====oOo=====

*"I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to DHSUD Secretary Del Rosario as Task Force Bangon Marawi Chairman sa lahat ng mga naitulong mo sa amin dito sa Marawi.*

*"Your leadership and will to help has positively changed the lives of so many.*



DHSUD Secretary Eduardo Del Rosario joins Balingasag, Misamis Oriental Mayor Alexis Quina and Philippine Army Commanding General Lt. Gen. Romeo Brawner in inaugurating the National Housing Authority Pamalihi IP Housing Project for members of the Higaonon tribe in Barangay Samay, Balingasag town on March 4, 2022.

*"And I'm certain that you will help a lot of people in the years to come...your life is a blessing to us.*

*"Muli po, maraming maraming salamat sa mga ginawa at ginagawa Ninyo bilang isang tapat at magaling na public servant." – Mayor Majul U. Gandamra, Marawi City*

=====oOo=====

*"Malaking bahagi ng aking pamumuno simula nang ako ay maging isang Punong Bayan noong 2016 ay tingalain ang mga leader ng ating bansa. Sila ang nagsisilbing instrumento para mas mapabuti ko ang aking serbisyo publiko sa bawat Dingaleño.*



More Dumagat tribes people are set to benefit from another housing project launched by DHSUD Secretary Eduardo Del Rosario on February 28, 2022 in the province of Nueva Ecija, breaking ground for 95 housing units in Brgy. Malinao in the town of Gabaldon. The subdivision-like housing project, which features a drainage system, power and water facilities and road networks, is part of government efforts in relocating indigenous people living in disaster-prone areas.



DHSUD Secretary Eduardo Del Rosario, along with Social Housing Finance Corporation President Arnolfo Ricardo Cabling and local officials led by Quezon City 5<sup>th</sup> District Rep. Alfred Vargas, turns over a high-density housing project unit to a beneficiary in Brgy. San Agustin, Novaliches, QC, November 10, 2021. The SHFC-led project will benefit 92 informal settler families living along the Tullahan River.

*“Kaya naman nung makadaupang palad ko si Secretary Del Rosario noong Nobyembre 2021 ay talaga namang ako ay namangha sapagkat batid ko ang husay, dedikasyon at pagkalinga niya sa mga kapatid nating Dumagat dito sa aming bayan.*

*“Mas tumindi pa ang aming naging koneksyon noong dumating siya sa groundbreaking ng ating pabahay para sa mga Dumagat. Tunay nga namang ang oras na inilaan niya sa amin ay hinding hindi matatawaran at hinding hindi ko ito makakalimutan.*

*“Isang pinuno na buong pusong nagseserbisyo sa publiko ng walang bahid na alinlangan sapagkat alam niya ang tunay na kahulugan ng pagkalinga at pagmamahal.” – Mayor Shierwin Halili Taay, Dingalan, Aurora*

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*“Secretary Del Rosario, being so well-rounded and accomplished so many things in life, remains to be humble and easy to get along with.*

*“Anyone could have the confidence to lay down their concern with him for being so approachable and make people feel comfortable.*

*“A good friend, I have known Secretary Del Rosario as a man of few words but lots of action. The Municipality of Baler witnessed how the Secretary pushed us further in our vision of a housing project, he was there to support and guide us from the beginning.*

*“A man with diligence and integrity in every government office he served shows an untiring service to the Filipino people. May you be blessed with more strength sir and passionately pursue your purpose in life!” – Mayor Rhett Ronan T. Angara, Baler, Aurora*

=====oOo=====

*“Isang malugod at taos pusong pasasalamat ang pinahahatid ng Bayan ng Talavera. Sa ilalim po ng pamumuno ng ating butihing Kalihim ng DHSUD, ang aming bayan ay napagkalooban ng dalawang housing project na kung saan ay mahigit sa dalawang daang pamilya ang nabigyan ng bahay at bagong pag-asa.*

*“Bilang aming ipinagmamalaking kababayan, ako po ay nagbibigay ng pinakamataas na pagpupugay sa inyong paglilingkod. Isa kayong mahusay na dating sundalo, tapat na lingkod-bayan,*

*at maaasahang Kalihim na talagang interes ng taumbayan ang hinahangad at isinusulong. Pareho po tayong naninindigan na ang bawat bahay na naipagagawa ng ating pamahalaan ay sumasagisag ng kapanatagan, kaligtasan at pag-asa sa bawat pamilyang Talaveranon.*

*“Muli ay nag-uumpaw ang aming pasasalamat sa inyong mahusay na pamumuno sa kagawaran at sa ating bansang Pilipinas. Kayo po ay isang halimbawa ng mabuting lingkod bayan na handang laging tumulong lalo na sa maliliit nating kapwa Pilipino. Sana po ay marami pa kayong matulungan at maiangat sa kahirapan. Kasama ninyo sa layuning ito ang iyong mga kababayan dito sa Talavera na handang umalalay at makiisa upang maabot natin ang ating pangarap para sa ating bayan.*

*“Marami pong salamat, Kalihim, at pagpalain po kayo ng Panginoon.” – Mayor Nerivi S. Martinez, Talavera, Nueva Ecija*

=====oOo=====

*“Mahal naming Secretary Eduardo Del Rosario, ang buong bayan ng Sta. Teresita ay nagpapaabot ng pasasalamat sa inyong malaking tulong sa aming bayan. Maraming maraming salamat po!” – Mayor Jun Segunial, Sta. Teresita, Batangas*

=====oOo=====

*“To our dear Secretary Eduardo Del Rosario, thank you for touching our lives, for embracing us, for the great change you have brought to our town, Mataas na kahoy.*

*“Your contributions will never be forgotten and you will serve as an inspiration for us. You are part of our family, we are family. God bless you always. More power Secretary Eduardo Del Rosario!” – Mayor Janet Ilagan, Mataas na Kahoy, Batangas*

=====oOo=====

*“Secretary Eduardo Del Rosario, naway pagpalain kayo ng Diyos, bigyan ng malakas na pangangatwain nang makatulong ka sa ating mga kababayan. Sir, saludo po ako sa inyong husay at galing sa panunungkulan. Umasa po kayo na kaming mga taga-Balete ay hindi makakalimutan ang pagkalinga niyo sa amin. Maraming salamat at mabuhay po kayo!” – Mayor Wilson Maralit, Balete, Batangas*

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*“The NREA (National Real Estate Association Inc.) sees Secretary Del Rosario’s leadership as strategic. He performs his role, as housing czar, as an integral part of a bigger picture. He prioritizes the importance of a long-term plan, hence, his insistence for a 20-year housing plan to address the Philippine housing situation. Cognizant of available, albeit limited resources, he marshalled the housing agencies and entire shelter bureaucracy into a ship-safe infrastructure guided by a single vision and focused on a committed direction for utmost program efficiency and effectiveness.*

*“He has a clear blueprint of how to move the real estate industry from where he found it, to where he envisions it to be during his term of office.*

*“Perhaps this mindset being a long-time military career officer contributed to his style of strategic leadership.*

*We, in the private housing sector gratefully appreciate how he leverages the private housing stakeholders, as well as other housing-involved government agencies into maximizing their participation in housing by enabling private resources, expertise, and efforts to supplement and complement those of the government.*

*“Coupled with integrity and political will, Sec. Del Rosario’s brand of leadership revs up housing-on-a-budget into turbo mode. NREA*



will forever be truly grateful for pushing forward the vision of housing every Filipino.

*"The management style of Secretary Del Rosario is participative leadership where he invites stakeholders like housing developers and real estate practitioners and forms technical working group to tackle issues and through their inputs will make his final decision. He promotes collaboration and creative solutions. He is very passionate and committed to his work. He fully supports the activities of the National Real Estate Association (NREA), Inc.*

*"We salute you, Secretary Del Rosario. More Power. God bless."*  
**– Ms. Imelda C. Magtoto, NREA Board Vice Chairlady**  
**– Architect Ronie B. Biando, UAP, NREA National President**

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*"I am privileged and honored to share my thoughts about Secretary Del Rosario, the first-ever secretary of the Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development, created thru Republic Act No. 11201 by President Duterte on Feb. 14, 2019.*

*"In so doing, I cannot help but mention that during my terms as First Vice-President, National President and Chairperson of the Board of the Subdivision & Housing Developers Association Inc. (SHDA) from 2019 - 2021, my work experience with Sec. Del Rosario and DHSUD was truly extraordinary.*

*"Together with the SHDA Board of Governors, we witnessed and supported Secretary Del Rosario's transition from HUDCC Chairman to heading a full-fledged Department, where he faced challenges in overseeing the merging of the functions and organizations of HUDCC and HLURB, while juggling between the demand to increase housing production to bridge the housing gap and, as head of "Task Force Bangon Marawi", to oversee the rebuilding and rehabilitation of Marawi City.*

*"But the biggest challenge came in 2020 when the COVID global pandemic entered every single life on this planet. Secretary Del Rosario supported SHDA and other housing organizations to address the choke points plaguing the industry even before the pandemic, which were further aggravated due to the negative impact on the economy and quarantine restrictions.*

*"I remember how Secretary Del Rosario defended the housing industry to secure approval of the IATF for developers to resume operations during MECQ, after a 2-month total lock down. Thanks to Secretary Del Rosario, housing was one of the few industries allowed to operate. All these happened even prior to his official confirmation in November 2020.*

*"As a former military man, I expected Secretary Del Rosario to be highly disciplined, or maybe, even rigid. That was not the case at all. He is open-minded and listens to developers whom he openly and repeatedly affirmed as valuable partners of DHSUD.*

*"He makes himself available to meet on important issues, engaging the private sector with impeccable work ethics. He encourages SHDA to work directly with DHSUD officers in many Technical Working Group meetings, taking into consideration the position of private enterprises. His commitment to help the stakeholders is genuine, his motives honorable and not self-serving, his integrity is beyond reproach. He is honest, hard-working and conscientious.*

*"Being a military strategist, Secretary Del Rosario values the need for a plan to guide the housing sector. He spearheaded the Building Adequate, Livable, Affordable and Inclusive Filipino Communities (BALAI) program to enhance the synergy and commitment of stakeholders to address the needs of both the homeless and displaced Filipinos. He also initiated the crafting of the 2040 National Housing and Urban Development Sector Plan or Housing Roadmap. He welcomed the contribution of SHDA through its 2012 and 2016 Industry Roadmaps. I personally heard him affirm that the housing*

*roadmap will serve as guide for those who will take the helm of DHSUD in ensuing years, to continue to forge strong partnerships with the private developers.*

*"Leaders of SHDA and other housing organizations are blessed to have worked with Secretary Del Rosario in laying the groundwork for the DHSUD to provide decent housing in well-planned communities for every Filipino family. He is a true public servant, in heart and in deed.*

*"With heartfelt gratitude, I wish Secretary Del Rosario continuous rewarding endeavors throughout the years to come."* – **Ms. Rosie Tsai, Former SHDA Chairperson**

=====oOo=====

*"The good Secretary exhibited a transformational and participative style of leadership.*

*"Since his stint at the then HUDCC, Secretary Del Rosario has involved our Organization of Socialized and Economic Housing Developers of the Philippines (OSHDP) in technical working groups and Housing Policy Working Committees to provide inputs, feedback and comments on the formulation of policies and guidelines.*

*"In this way, private sector stakeholders of housing and real estate feel included, engaged and motivated to contribute in addressing the concerns and issues of the industry.*

*"As a transformational leader, Secretary Del Rosario has a clear vision of how to steer DHSUD to where it can do the greater good. He has inspired DHSUD bureaucracy, including private housing stakeholders.*

*"Truly a role model for DHSUD's vision, Secretary Del Rosario is a man who offers his selfless service for a better, greener and smarter human settlements and urban development in the country."* – **Mr. Paolo Giovanni V. Olivares, OSHDP National President**

From courageously leading some of the government's biggest anti-terrorism caravans, to virtuously providing homes for countless Filipinos, to faithfully committing to restore the beauty of a devastated city, Secretary Del Rosario's challenging yet always-triumphant career has truly served as a shining example not only for his fellow Cavaliers, but for every Filipino.



DHSUD Secretary Eduardo D. Del Rosario and Bataan Gov. Albert S. Garcia sign a memorandum of agreement for the One Bataan Village housing project in December 2020 intended for informal settler families in the province. A groundbreaking ceremony for the project was held in November last year.

# The Long Gray Line - A Lifetime Vocation

• CAV MANUEL MARIANO '62

President, PMAAAI, AY 1992-1993

Chairman, Ethics and Professionalism Committee, PMAAAI, AY 2021-2022

It has always been my firm belief that the Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association, Inc. (hereinafter known as the "PMAAAI") is not any ordinary alumni association.

As cavaliers, we are members of the Long Gray Line. Each cavalier carries a heavy burden of responsibilities and expectations. Membership is not a right, but an awesome privilege.

Since I was a cadet in the Philippine Military Academy, I was inspired in our faith in Divine Providence which was guided by the lofty ideals of the PMA, committed to promote the general welfare, prestige, and camaraderie of its members; and be the instrument of influencing the community with the expected standards of discipline, moral values, and norms of conduct.

Presently, some cavaliers have been making their opinions known regarding the rules and regulations of the PMAAAI as follows:

- 1) We should not terminate the membership of our fellow cavaliers when they are found guilty of the Courts because they are given the proper punishments already. They were already punished and again the PMAAAI will punish them by terminating their membership in the alumni association.
- 2) Cavaliers are alumni and they should not be removed from our alumni association.
- 3) PMAAAI should be a social organization only helping our alumni members in particular and the Filipino people in general.

- 4) Why should a Cavalier be investigated by PMAAAI when there are courts and other investigative agencies who are officially designated to do such investigation.
- 5) Let us abolish the Professionalism and Ethics Committee.
- 6) Let us separate the Honor Code and the management of the PMAAAI.

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**As cavaliers, we are members of the Long Gray Line. Each cavalier carries a heavy burden of responsibilities and expectations. Membership is not a right, but an awesome privilege.**

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Unfortunately, all of these suggestions will defeat the very reason why the PMAAAI sets itself apart from other alumni associations. The PMAAAI has standards and require each member to observe the highest of ideals and principles as officers and gentlemen.

From my perspective, given the present situation obtaining in our country of perceived rampant graft and corruption, pervasive dishonesty, public officials motivated by their own interests, the PMAAAI

should and must be the beacon of light, an inspiration and the vanguard of principles enshrined in the Academy's motto of Courage, Integrity and Loyalty. In these challenging times where there is a dire need of morals and values in leadership and in government and society, the PMAAAI, through its members, are duty bound to provide the moral direction and conviction in providing authentic service in whatsoever capacity that each and every cavalier finds himself in. For those of us who are unable to follow the motto of PMA, we should not insist in being a member of the Long Gray Line.



# Philippines Economic Outlook and Challenges in 2022-2023

• CAV WILFREDO G NUQUI '68  
Former Senior UN Policy Adviser

## I. Introduction and context

This narrative applies as starting base reference the outlook in the immediate and medium-term in developing Asian region by Asian Development Bank (ADB) as of April 2022. IMF and World Bank likewise shared assessments during their joint Spring Meeting on April 18-24, 2022. The views of these multilateral development banks (MDBs) are dated less than a month after Russia's invasion of Ukraine on Feb 24, 2022. The writer cites own and updated assessments from Philippine (PH) official and other authoritative sources (*as italicized*).

## II. ADB Development Outlook and Philippine actions

- Economic recovery continues in many countries amid global headwinds. The war in Ukraine has heightened geopolitical uncertainty. Financial and faster monetary tightening, especially in the United States, and changes in the composition of economic activity, as in China are additionally reshaping the external environment for East Asian countries. *Europe where about 120,000 OFWs (PSA, 2020) are deployed is the most negatively affected by the war. PH has minimal trade links and cross-border financial exposure with Russia, Ukraine and Belarus. PH has stronger economic fundamentals and a huge domestic market.*
- The pandemic persists, fueled by the Omicron and other emerging variants. Milder health impacts and vaccination progress have allowed economies to remain more open than in previous waves. *In PH, fully vaccinated coverage was 74.1% while booster coverage was a low 13.7% especially in BARMM as of Mar 13, 2022. The official vaccination target has been lowered to 77-80 million by the end of June 2022 due to public hesitancy and complacency (NVOG). A second booster is currently being administered to address waning protection. WHO recently reported the effectiveness of a new anti-COVID drug and the first pilot anti-malaria vaccination of more than a million children in three African countries. Both are needed in PH.*
- Gross domestic product (GDP) in the developing Asia region is projected to expand by 5.2% in 2022 and 5.3% in 2023, on continued recovery in domestic demand and solid exports. Led by exports, developing Asia saw uneven but strong recovery of 6.9% in 2021. *World Bank and ADB forecast PH GDP in 2022 and 2023 growing at 5.7-6% and 6.3%, respectively. PH comparative official growth targets are 7-9% and 6-7%. Note that in the GDP growth table on the right, 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2022 estimates*

*are (except for China) below full year 2022 projections. China's GDP is expected to slow down and U.S. faces a possible recession in Q2 after a lower GDP in Q1.*

Real GDP growth of selected countries, 2021-2023(in %). Sources: ADB, IMF, WB and gov't sources as of April 2022

Country	2021 Estimates	2022 Projections (1Q, 2022 Gov'ts Estimates)	2023 Projections
China	8.1	4.4 (4.8)	5.1
S. Korea	4.0	3.0 (0.7)	2.6
Taiwan	6.3	3.2-3.8 (3.1)	3.0
U n i t e d States	5.7	3.7 (-1.4)	3.2
Japan	1.6	2.4 (0.4, projection)	2.3
ASEAN 6	2.9	4.9	5.2
Indonesia	3.7	5-5.4	5.2
Malaysia	3.1	5.6-6.0	5.4
<i>PHIL (official target in 2022-23)</i>	<i>5.6 (7.7, Q4)</i>	<i>5.7-6.0 (7-9), 'respectable' in 1Q</i>	<i>6.3 (6-7)</i>
Singapore	7.6	4.3 (3.4)	3.2
Thailand	1.6	3-3.3 (-1.4)	4.5
Vietnam	2.6	6.4 (5.0)	6.7

- Major global economic risks include: (a) escalation and prolonged Russia's invasion of Ukraine, (b) financial instability triggered by the U.S. Federal Reserve's aggressive monetary tightening to arrest high inflation, (c) China's tough zero-COVID policy, and (d) emergence of more lethal COVID-19 variants. External shocks expose the peso and other overvalued regional currencies and could dent GDP for PH and other countries.

*PH peso overvaluation (relative to the US\$ and other currencies) penalizes exporters and cheapens imports. It is due to high trade protection and historically high foreign exchange reserves. Increased reserves arise from foreign borrowings, strong business outsourcing revenues and huge OFW cash remittances through banks. The latter grew by 5.1% and amounted to \$31.4 billion in 2021 (BSP). The*

simplified and unofficial Big Mac Index estimates the PH peso as overvalued by 42% as of Feb 28, 2022 (Economist). The peso/US\$ rate was quoted at 52.5 on May 4, 2022 (CNA).

5. Developing Asia must provide policy solutions consistent with economy-specific circumstances and priorities and mobilize taxes for development. Policy is still supportive, but the region is on the cusp of a tightening cycle. Budget balances will improve in 2022 and 2023 but fiscal deficits will remain large.

PH's foreign debt crisis in the early 1980s has very painful economic policy lessons. The next PH president, economic team and Congress must seriously learn from it and avoid the underlying causes. PH government had to accept a highly conditional and stringent IMF structural adjustment loan in May 1985. It pursued an extremely austere budget, minimal liquidity expansion, domestic credit rationing and a more flexible exchange rate policy. Inflation peaked to 50% in 1984. Central Bank's certificates of indebtedness (CBCIs often referred to as 'Jobo bills') carried as high as 40% interest rates. The exchange rate was devalued by 30% in 1983, 50% in 1984 and 11% in 1985. GNP in real terms dropped by 6.8% in 1984 and 3.8% in 1985 (Cororaton and Intal, PIDS). Per capita GNP stagnated for a decade.

In 2020, global public debt in advance economies was 174% of GDP (IMF Blog, Dec 2021). In 2021, the average public debt-to-GDP ratio in emerging market economies was 67% (IMF, April 2022). PH public debt stock amounted to P12.68 trillion in March 2022 to address the pandemic and re-build the economy. These raised the public debt-to-GDP ratio to 60.5% in 2021 from 54.6% in 2020. Official development assistance (ODA) loans of PH from MDBs and developed countries contain at least a 15% grant equivalent share. These shall be repaid within the next 40 years (DOF). The very recent anti-COVID ODA loan from Japan has a low .01% interest rate, a four-year grace period and 25 years repayment period (PDI, April 2022). The present value of future amortization payments is therefore, significantly lower than that of the loan. The difference is the equivalent grant.

Foreign investments reduce reliance on public and local private debt. They reached a historical level of \$10.5 billion in 2021 (BSP). But this is still well below those of other ASEAN peers such as Vietnam. PH has one of the most restrictive foreign investment policies out of 84 countries, only less restrictive than Libya and Palestine (OECD 2020). Protectionist economic laws and policies are the 'original sin' of PH economic policy (G. Sicat, UPSE).

The 85-year old Commonwealth Act No. 46 or the Public Service Act (PSA) liberally classifies all public utilities as natural monopolies, which are constitutionally required to be 60% Filipino-owned. PSA has been amended (RA 11659) to limit the definition of public utilities to services on telecommunications, railways, expressways, tollways, airports, airlines and domestic shipping. It is the third law in the economic liberalization program following the amended Foreign Investment Act and Retail Trade Liberalization Act.

The passage of the Build-Operate-Transfer Law resulted in many successful examples in the expansion of power, water, expressway, and airport infrastructures. Led by NEDA, public-private partnership guidelines are being enabled to support

new and at least 88 approved infrastructure flagship projects (e.g. on-going Metro Manila subway and proposed Panay-Guimaras-Negros Island Bridges in Region 12).

6. GDP growth in developing Asia will continue to be strong but inflation will rise. Elevated global inflationary pressures started during the COVID pandemic which disrupted global supply chains and compelled huge U.S. fiscal spending. *Global economic growth and inflation prospects are now less encouraging. The Ukraine war-generated energy, food and other commodity price shocks impact on roughly 20% of the PH import basket. PH inflation was 4.9% in April 2022, the highest level for more than three years (PSA). It is projected to rise to at least 4.3% in 2022 and 3.6% in 2023 (BSP).*

7. The U.S. Federal Reserve Bank interest rate is progressively being increased. Policy choices in many economies are becoming more complex given the trade-off between dampening high inflation and keeping an acceptable economic growth. *The U.S. consumer inflation rate peaked at 8.5% in March 2022, the highest in 40 years (Bloomberg). It is four times the Federal Reserve's 2% inflation target. Fed's tightening monetary policy to arrest high inflation shall result in a recession if U.S. GDP growth in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter shrinks further. BSP's decision to raise its 2% policy interest rate is likely soon to minimize demand-driven inflation and capital outflows.*

8. Learning losses from school closures have continued to accumulate in developing Asia. *PH has one of the longest school closure of more than 70 weeks. Even now many schools remain closed and some privately-owned permanently. Fifteen percent of Filipino children could not read simple texts (UNICEF). This worsens learning poverty and inequalities and long-term income potentials. Poor students and girls are disproportionately affected by school closures. The OECD Program for International Student Assessment in student reading, mathematics and science in 2018 showed PH has one of the poorest education outcomes especially at the elementary level. Relatedly, 28.8% of Filipino children below five years old were stunted; 19% were underweight; and 5.8% were underweight for their height (NEDA, 2021). Clearly malnutrition impedes learning. Hunger usually follows episodes of high inflation and disemployment. PH faces education and nutrition crises which demand more sustainable solutions.*

- 9a. Tax mobilization is required to fund vast spending needs. Developing Asia faces large spending needs to support inclusive and sustainable development. Private finance is critical but higher government spending is required. Improved spending efficiency can help increase fiscal space but taxes need to be further mobilized. Higher tax revenue supports greater development promoting spending. Tax revenue as a share of GDP in developing Asia rose before COVID-19 but remains comparatively low.

*Reduction of PH public debt-to-GDP ratio to below 60% requires greater fiscal discipline and adherence to the*

acceptable budget deficit rule of <3% of GDP. Effective tax and spending measures must lead PH fiscal consolidation and debt management efforts. The war in Ukraine has very applicable lessons on PH defense, development and spending plans and strategies notably on the latest cost-effective space, air, land and maritime equipment and technologies.

9b. ADB estimates suggest potential to increase tax revenue by 3-4% of GDP, on average. Reforms to mobilize tax revenues is difficult but feasible. Fundamental tax reform is hard but doable if supported by strong leadership and public buy-in. Stronger tax administration is essential, including by better harnessing of technology. Tax mobilization priorities depend on an economy's circumstances, guided by tax policy principles of efficiency, equity, and simplicity.

Fiscal policy principally consists of tax and non-tax revenue collection, public expenditures, social subsidies, deficit financing and debt management. It is the primary and joint responsibility of the national and local governments. Raising PH public revenues is very imperative and urgent to (a) raise the current tax revenue to GDP ratio from 16% to 20%, (b) support priority public spending, and (c) minimize debt financing. The Fiscal Risks Statement of the NEDA Board's Development Budget Coordination Committee (DBCC) ought to include a transparent, clear and annualized roadmap with projections for the entire six-year term of the President. This would alert Congress and civil society of any immediate danger of fiscal misery.

The Tax Reform for Acceleration and Inclusion (TRAIN) law and the proposed Valuation Reform Act and Passive Income Financial Intermediary Taxation Act shall address inequalities in the tax system. DOF and BLGF have long been urging local governments to collect more local taxes and update valuation of real estate assets. A one-off wealth tax option would involve additional administrative and enforcement efforts and relaxing the Bank Secrecy Law, which prohibits the disclosure of individual bank details, except in extreme cases (DOF). Congressional endorsement of the 12% VAT on digital services bill is urgently needed. Fiscal subsidies to deserving sectors and social groups such as to Pantawid families, rice farmers, public transport and small industries are targeted to minimize leakages arising from inclusion and exclusion errors.

PH's global scores in perceived levels of good governance (Chandler Institute of Governance, Singapore) and public corruption (Corruption Perceptions Index, Transparency International) in 2021 are very low. Spending leakages arising from persistent and serious corruption (e.g., 20% of the 2017 and 2018 budgets, PDI 2021) have been cited by the Ombudsman. The mandatory and transparent declaration of SALNs before and after the terms of office of public officials is extremely necessary. A significantly lower value of 'ill-gotten wealth' such as from P50 million to P5 million on the unbailable crime of plunder (RA 7080) should raise the deterrent effect of the law. BIR and BOC, despite on-going efficiency reforms such as increased digitization demand more effective oversight by an honest and transparent PH president. A former Supreme Court associate justice points to a provision in the Internal Revenue Code which says 'negligent' BIR officials can be held criminally liable (Rappler).

9c. Corrective health taxes can improve health and raise revenue. Cigarette taxes in developing Asia remain significantly lower than those in advanced economies (WHO, 2021). Alcohol, tobacco, and unhealthy foods are associated with high and rising non-communicable disease burden in the region. Corrective health tax revenue is often below the cost of unhealthy consumption. Health taxes can raise up to an additional 0.6% of GDP, including by increasing cigarette taxes.

PH tobacco, liquor and tobacco tax laws have been revised with revenue sharing with tobacco growers. The universal health reform law and its implementation however, requires revisions due to financial and operational shortfalls in coping with COVID and other major public health needs. Continuing and new budget claims e.g., amortization payments, free public education, universal health care, public pensions, disaster protection and relief, defense spending and Marawi victims' compensation (RA 11696) need continuing and increasing funding. Rising contingent fiscal liabilities of the national government, government corporations and from PPP contracts likewise posed additional fiscal risks.

The average PH household size was 4.1 persons in 2020. Filipinos delayed having children or forming families during the combined health and economic crises (PSA and POPCOM, 2021). The preliminary estimate of population growth for 2021 is a mere 0.3%. The population was about 109,991,095 at the end of 2021, lower by two million than earlier projections based on a 1.63% growth rate. The historically low population growth raises government's capability in providing quality services. PH needs to sustain the reduction of fertility to take advantages of small size families such as better health among the poor.

### III. Pathway forward

Social justice is one of the basic principles of the 1987 Constitution. It is created by more inclusive and results-based economic, social protection, climate safety and effective and honest public governance. Multi-dimensionally deprived Filipinos (in at least 4 out of 11 basic needs) and income poor families comprised 17.3% (2017) and 18% (1st semester, 2021) of the population, respectively (PSA). As of March 2022, 10.29 million of the labor force, mostly income poor were either unemployed (5.8%) or under-employed (15.8%).

The newly installed government faces increasingly large development challenges. It has the heavy duty of building on past gains amidst very unfavorable global conditions. It must continue economic, fiscal and other policy reforms, regain poverty reducing economic dynamism, raise climate safety, intensify sub-national development with peace especially in BARMM and deliver more positive results.

**Major references:** ADB, BSP, Bloomberg, CNA (Channel News Asia), DBCC, DOH, DOF, Economist, FAO, Guinigundo D., IMF, MB (Manila Bulletin), NEDA, NVOC, WHO, OECD, PDI (PH Daily Inquirer), PIDS, POPCOM, Project Syndicate, PSA, Sicat G., UNESCO, UNICEF and World Bank.



# Colonel Pastor C Martelino

## A WW II Veteran of Highest Order

• CAV CHRIS R FRANCISCO '68



### Sunset Ceremony for the Veterans

Great men, heroes and heroines are well remembered by their outstanding deeds, great sufferings and enduring sacrifice for their country and people. They were ordinary mortals with an indomitable spirit who offered their lives fighting for a noble cause. They must be well-remembered to serve as enduring examples to the coming generations so that the flame of patriotism keeps burning in the hearts and minds of the people. Indeed, even the greatest story ever told exemplifying our Lord Jesus Christ shall had been lost in the flowing stream of oblivion and forgetfulness unless properly documented in the bible. Records of their deeds above the level of common achievements are integral parts of human history. Their deeds are indelible footprints in the hands of time in a God-oriented nation.

Every second week of April, the Philippine Government, through the Department of National Defense (DND) and the Philippine Veterans Affairs Office (PVAO), celebrates the Sunset Ceremony at the 'Libingan ng Mga Bayani' in Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City to commemorate and render honors to our veterans. The solemn ceremony is attended by the widows, children and loved ones of the honored veterans who will receive the award of recognition.

### The Legend of Veteran Colonel Pastor C Martelino

Colonel Pastor Concepcion Martelino **has been considered among the greatest and most outstanding 'Kalibonhons and Aklanons.'** He was a World War II veteran well recognized and a highly decorated military officer of the Republic of the Philippines and the United States of America.

His name is well recorded and perpetuated in the following archives, books and publications:

- History of the Armed Forces of the Philippines,
- Philippine Scout Heritage Society - Col. Pastor C. Martelino,
- <http://apps.westpointaog/Memorials/A/6605/Article>,

- Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor and other USAFFE Fronts Philippine Heroism (The Ten Most Fearsome One-Man Armies in the Philippine History), 2/13/2018.
- Valor Awards for Pastor Martelino (ASN: 0-12670, US Army),
- US Military Academy (USMA) Registrar's Record of former Cadet Pastor C. Martelino, admitted as a cadet on 14 June 1918 and graduated number 22 out of 271 graduates in the USMA Class of 1920. Pastor C. Martelino cadet serial number was 6605.
- Narrative-Diary from a fellow Prisoner of War, on the torture and inhuman treatment suffered by Col. Martelino in the hands of his Japanese captors in December 1944 that resulted to his death on January 7, 1945 after 17 days of torture .
- Unveiling of historical markers of the heroes in honor of two Aklanon heroes of WWII namely, Camp Pastor C. Martelino in Barangay New Buswang, the headquarters of the Aklan Provincial Police Office (formerly Aklan PC Provincial Command), and the other Captain Gil M. Mijares at the Gil Mijares Building near Pastrana Park in Kalibo town plaza.  
The unveiling of two markers was done by the National Historical Institute (NHI) on May 22, 2011 led by NHI Director Almosara and Kalibo Mayor Reymer Rebaldo on the 435<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day of Kalibo town.
- "Obituary of Colonel Pastor Martelino, USMA 1920 " in

October 1946 issue of "Assembly", published monthly by the Association of Graduates of the USMA, West Point, New York.

- j) Book 'Town of a Thousand' by Roman A. Dela Cruz, published in 1993 featuring " A Heroic Choice: Pastor Martelino") page 104.

**Significant Events on the Life of Colonel Pastor Concepcion Martelino**

1. Born in Kalibo, Aklan (northern part of Capiz province) on August 8, 1896. Among the seven children of Segundo Martelino; a revolutionary leader of two wars, against Spain and then America.
2. Graduated no. 22 out of 271 at the USMA Class 1920. The only Filipino in the class.
3. Married to Miss Paz Lim and had two sons and three daughters. His eldest, Eduardo, served as a guerilla officer during the Japanese occupation of the country.
4. The first Superintendent of the Philippine Military Academy (PMA), 01 June 1936 to 11 May 1940 appointed by President Manuel Quezon and General Douglas MacArthur with a rank of Colonel in the Philippine Commonwealth Army. Decided to remain in the country during the Japanese attack of the Philippines on December 8, 1941 rather than to attend the US Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth , USA. Served as Chief of Staff of 31<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division, Philippine Army under General Clifford Bluemel.
5. Escaped from Bataan and joined the underground resistance movement against the Japanese; re-arrested by the Japanese on December 22, 1944.
6. Offered by his Japanese captors the rank of a General to serve the puppet government. His persistent refusal to cooperate and divulge the secrets of the US forces in the Far East led him to a 17-day barbaric and inhuman torture by his captors resulting to his death.
7. His last words to his fellow prisoner (Del Rio) in December 1944:


***" Tell my wife that I cannot be a traitor to America nor my country... Tell my wife to explain this to my children when they grow up and can understand it well. I will die with my thoughts in her, my sons, and uppermost, in my country and the United States where I did spend the best days of my life and where I have many good friends . . Don't forget it, Del Rio; don't forget it..."***

*" I have the greatest admiration for Colonel Martelino and feel certain he discharged the highest obligations of a soldier.... He died a hero, acknowledged by the two nations for whom he made the supreme sacrifice unhesitatingly in the face of cruel torture..." (by Del Rio, 1945)*

8. Died a heroic death in the hands of his captors on January 7, 1945 at the age of 48 years old. Hanged vertically unconscious.
9. Recognized by both the Philippines and the United State of America as among the great heroes of WW World War II. Awarded the Legion of Merit by the US government for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services to the Government of the United States in the Philippine Island during WW II. Recognized by the Philippine Scouts Heritage Society as among the great heroes and veterans.
10. Among the 'Great Sons of Kalibo, and Aklan Province.' The Pride of the Panayans.
11. An exemplar of the PMA motto, "Courage, Integrity, Loyalty" and that of his Alma Mater, USMA, "Duty, Honor, Country". *"The Long Grey Line has accepted another of whom it is very proud."* Pastor Martelino endeared himself to his entire class by his modest unassuming manner and his eager embodiment of the highest ideals and traditions of the Corps of Cadets. No American could have more sincerely live up to our cherished motto "Duty, Honor, Country" than he as cadet and throughout his entire service. His engaging personality, combined with unusual ability, won a host of true friends, Filipino and American.

**Die a Hero and Never Live as a Glamorous Traitor**

***" I can't endure two more tortures like this one, and I know that I am to die as I am sure that I will not speak... Tell my wife that I die for the Philippines and for the United States. Tell her that I cannot be a traitor to America nor to my country... I will die with my thoughts in her, my sons, and uppermost, in my country and the United States where I did spend the best days of my life and where I have many good friends. ..."***

**– Colonel Pastor C Martelino, 1945** 

# Class '57: Its Role and Contribution in the Preservation and Strengthening of our Democracy

(Speech delivered by former Executive Secretary LtGen Eduardo R Ermita '57 during 65th Graduation Anniversary of PMA Class of 1957)

*We are the PMA Class of 1957, a Class that started with 105 plebes on April 1953 and left the academy with 74 graduates. We, like all other PMA Classes, define ourselves in the rigors of our cadet training, in the dedication in active service, in our allegiance to flag and people, and in our devotion to an Almighty who protects us and determines our course and purpose of our lives.*

*Then as now, as all PMA alumni, we stand on the towers that banner courage, integrity, and loyalty; and we strive to let our lives be testaments of those virtues. We have sworn as our utmost duty to defend the constitution, more specifically our country and our people that it seeks to protect. And we do so with such fervor and dedication that offering our lives as sacrifice becomes a distinct honor.*

*But, at some point in our journey as PMA alumni, our roads diverge to other paths, leading us to terrains only known to the fates. And to borrow the words of the great American poet Robert Frost, our Class was brought by circumstances to "take a road less travelled by, and that has all made the difference." Indeed, history has a way of making what we swore to uphold and the sacrifices that we made a journey that can be grander and larger than life.*

*Class of 1957 is proud to have played a role so crucial in changing the course of our history, surely not by our own design, but simply being at the right place and at the right time.*

*By now, historians will have narrated the events surrounding the February 1986 people power, or the so-called EDSA Revolution, with hints of romanticism and subtle undertones of political and Class biases, but we have been privileged to tell the story as main actors in that political play.*

*We were the senior military officials that were at the country's various commands and camps at that time. We were brought to a verge of deciding the fates of one establishment over another, of institutional and political interests over others, and of a country at the brink of turmoil.*

*Our Class members were inspired to stand not only on solid ground where our people lived as families and communities, but on principles that required of a government, especially its armed forces and police, to protect the country and its people from harm and to remove all threats that may lead to a bloody civil strife. Thus, even if some of us remained fiercely loyal to the then status*



*quo, we eventually settled our differences in favor of unity and the shared abhorrence for bloodshed. And our resolve helped to bring about peace.*

*We took the same position of preserving unity while fighting for democracy not only on that fateful event of February 1986, but in subsequent political events that would later on be dubbed by history as post EDSA 1 (1986-1989) and post EDSA 2 (2001-2009).*

*These events were characterized by numerous and serious destabilization efforts steered by disgruntled elements against sitting administrations. In those events, members of Class 1957 in key positions of government, rose up as one to thwart all these threats, thus preserving our country's democracy and its democratic institutions. Yes, we often sadly found ourselves pitted against fellow PMA alumni who were part*

*of these threats, but in the end, Class of 1957 remained united to help stabilize, in great measure, those tumultuous situations.*

*Before our retirement in 1988, members of our Class were holding the reins of commands and staff positions of the Armed Forces and the Philippine Constabulary that were spread all over the country. We served with the same tenacity of purpose that brought us our posts, with 35 of us as general officers, which accounted for a total of 43 stars on all our shoulder marks. Indeed, we became the Class upon which the "stars fell on".*

*And in the years that saw us in retirement from active duty, quiet a number of us crossed the bridge to civil service. We became senior cabinet members of the executive department, members of the Philippine Congress, and administrators and senior officials in government and government-controlled corporations. Many of us also became active business, church, and community leaders.*

*It would be no different for those among us who left active service before retirement and went into various fields. They became part of engineering firms, with one becoming company president. Another stood at the forefront in the building of steel-hulled high-tonnage cargo and passenger ships in the country. A number flew with private airlines and eventually became international pilots. And there were those who answered the call of small-to-medium entrepreneurship and successfully went into farming, garments manufacturing, and food service, among others.*



*In the solitude of our quite lives now in retirement, we look back with fondness to these significant moments that made us who we are and which defined our purpose as graduates of the Academy. We look at what we have gone through with much pride as much, as our old shoulders, yet youthful hearts, can carry and narrate to our children and our grandchildren, our modest accomplishments. We only wish we have made a legacy of which they can be proud of.*

*But if there has to be one gift that we wish to leave behind, it is the gift of answered prayers; our petitions that lay at the core of our cadet's prayer while at the Academy which I take pride in sharing with you on this very memorable occasion.*

*"Grant us, oh God, that we may worship thee to the utmost of faith and the limits of truth and suffer us not to fail to see the light of our true religion.*

*"Guide us that we may live this life to the fullest in devotion to thee, in service to humanity and country and in the realization of our true self.*

*"Let the light of thy divine wisdom direct us to a firm resolve to live up at all times to the creeds of our institution and teach us never to fail to measure up to the ideals of the profession we have chosen through life to follow.*

*"Make us do or think or say of others that which we want done, or thought, or said of us.*

*"Help us to live each day in the passing years in useful efforts that our lives may be spent in accord with the pattern of our creeds - the true, the noble, and the high.*

*"Give us that honest purpose in life which seeks fair deal with everyone and spurns all forms of hypocrisy that will enkindle our fighting faith, and smother all seeds of cowardice and fear in our*

*hearts; the loyalty to our principles that places all issues above personal considerations, and shuns compromise with vice and injustice.*

*"Strengthen our hearts with fortitude that we may discipline our lives to trail the difficult paths rather than to stray on the easier ways.*

*"Teach us to aspire above the levels of common lives. Help us to see all things in their true light that we may guard against the frivolity in the sacred things of life even as we may enjoy in clear laughter its many delights.*

*"Teach us to make our play in every game, whether in mere sports or in life's mightier struggles, one where our desire to win is second only to our love of the game itself, where we triumph as considerate victors or lose with grace and a determined will to win.*

*"Endow our hearts with kindness that we may sympathize with those who sorrow and suffer; unite us in friendship, with all and help us share the merriment of those with cheerful countenance that we may partake of their joy.*

*"All of which we ask with faith to the everlastingness of thine fount of grace to all men. Amen."*

*And on the day that we shall all face our Almighty and He asks if we think or feel our prayers to Him were answered, surely we can confidently reply, "from a humble PMA Class upon which you have so blessed with stars, o Lord, indeed, you have answered our prayers and gave us a glimpse of a relatively good life." And we pray that the Lord will say, "Come in, my son; your mission has been accomplished!" Then we shall all dwell happily in his loving embrace.*

*God bless us all and our alma mater, the Philippine Military Academy.*

*Thank you.*



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

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

# CLASS CALL



## REMINISCENSES

After graduating from the Academy I was assigned Platoon Leader in Sitio Baño at the foot of Mount Arayat. Every month, I would patrol the mountain up to the North Peak in search of 200 Hukbalahap roaming in groups around Pampanga and Bulacan (PAMBUL Sector). In one such patrol, I came upon a venomous snake perched on a branch just above my forehead! I could have been bitten had I not noticed it when I was one meter away.

Sometimes, our patrol would remain

the mountain for a week so we brought food, mostly canned goods and some dried fish. After one week, worms would show up in the eyes of the fish. No problem, eat the fish and the worms. *Nguya nguya. Sarap sarap.*

My Battalion Commander wanted proof that I went up the North Peak. So I brought down ferns found only in high altitudes which I gave to him. Here, a Peemayer's INTEGRITY is put to test. I could have gathered dozens of ferns in one patrol, kept them, and gave one to the battalion commander without going up the peak.


In Sitio Baño, the commander of PAMBUL often left his tent scratching his breasts and back. We called him "Col Kamut."

The most dangerous area to patrol was the sugarcane fields where the Huks

often hid. They could see you approaching but you could not see them. In one such patrol, I found an ammunition belt abandoned by fleeing Huks.

In Zambales, I led a team down a stream. We came upon a waterfall. Fortunately, we brought a rope which we used to rap down the waterfall. One day, a young male and female Aeta approached me and asked me to bind them in marriage. I asked them to hold hands as I recited an improvised homily in Ilocano. I tore a blank page from my notebook and wrote an improvised certification of marital ties that I conducted.

**Factoid:** The atomic bomb that devastated Hiroshima was intended for Nagasaki in the North but that city was clouded over. The bomber was marked "Enola Gay." Read backward: "Yag Alone."

--- gopeng 



The following members of the class who can still make it attended Levy Malto's 90th birthday celebration at the very dainty Pages Cafe at the Shangri-la Mall last 21 February 2022: Ching Corachea, Mon Farolan, Romy David, Mel Goyena and Boy Paiso (when asked if he doesn't mind being called Boy at 87 years old, he interposed no objection and even suggested to be called Lolo Boy). Levy brought along his eldest daughter, Rowena, who is on vacation here from the USA, to act as the lunch host, including, according to Levy, footing the bill. Rowe just took on her dad's wish and pampered her guests with delicious dishes.


Lolo Boy Paiso, who has nothing to do except play golf at the PNGC, volunteered

to skip the line by hosting lunch at the Gloria Maris Restaurant in QC on 14 March 2022 including ladies. At lunch time, with an array of delicious dishes that he had personally selected, the group present (Mon and Penny Farolan, Mel and Pat Goyena, Cecil Ampig, Ben Lim and the host) queried several times on the whereabouts of Ching and Emma Corachea and Levy and Nora Malto to no avail. It was revealed later that the two couples reported too early at Kimpura Greenhills, ordered appetizers and eat their lunch there when they found out that the venue was changed. A typical SNAFU scenario.

Last February 2022, the Philippine Coast Guard leadership changed hands with VADM Leopoldo V. Laroya, CI 88, retiring. Leo is a third generation mammal that sprouted from his lolo, BG Nicanor Velarde, PCA Class 1929 (the class that produced two successive AFP Chiefs of Staff, Gens. Jesus Vargas and Alfonso Arellano in the late 1950s) and

his dad, BG Protacio A. Laroya, of our class.

Upon invitation of the PMAAAI, Mel Goyena attended the Ground Breaking Ceremony of the PMAAAI Building in Ft. Bonifacio. Not knowing the details of the affair due to his impaired hearing, he said okay on his attendance. At the ceremony, Mel was introduced by the EMCEE as the oldest alumni present at age 88 which was followed by the youngest, a lady 2nd Lt. At long last after the very long wait, we will all have a center that we will all be proud of. Congratulations to the young bloods that made this possible!

Mon Farolan bid goodbye to his weekly REVEILLE column at the Philippine Daily Inquirer and made his maiden issue of the THIRD EYE, his new column of the Philippine Star on 10 April 2022. Mon, feeling nostalgic and homesick having been the President of the Philippine Star for some years in the early 1990s, just made a happy return. 



**EDUARDO R ERMITA**  
President  
**TAGUMPAY R JARDINIANO**  
Secretary

After two years of lockdown brought about by the unprecedented scourge of the global corona virus pandemic, what would have been another online zoom video celebration of the 65th anniversary of the PMA Class of 1957 took a surprise turn for the best... an actual face to face gathering was now deemed safe enough to happen! And it couldn't have come at a better and more opportune time. Excitement was in the air as members of the Class '57 family, the origs, the spouses and the brats eagerly planned a much awaited reunion. This momentous year's theme is 65 years and beyond!

With safety protocols observed and in place, roughly 120 people gathered at the Ricarte Hall of the Philippine Army Officers' Club in Fort Bonifacio, Taguig on Easter Sunday, April 17, 2022. The significance of the day was not lost on the attendees, truly a rebirth! In attendance were 14 of the 25 surviving members of the class, originally numbering 72. A few members were online to join the day as well. Also, there were 20 spouses present, while the rest were the Brats/the children, the grandchildren and friends. Registration started at around 2:30 p.m. and shortly thereafter a Thanksgiving mass was celebrated. There were surprise numbers, games, an Easter egg hunt, and specially made videos highlighting the



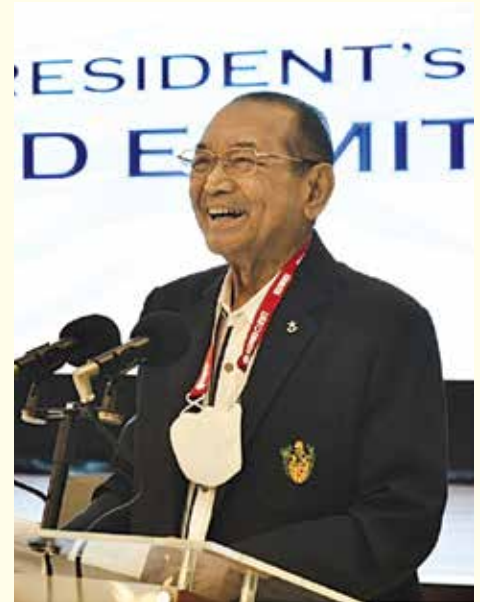
class' history were shown. All these while a sumptuous early dinner was enjoyed by all.

Of note, the Brats also came up with a video shot outdoors in the nearby parade grounds that saw them and soldiers dancing to Sarah Geronimo's hit song TALA. Brats president Dr. Gigi Ledesma Pereira explained its significance: *"We the PMA Class '57 Brats proudly stand here and uphold the legacy of our fathers. We say thank you to our parents for allowing us to dream and shine in our own unique, little way. Tala means star, which continues to shine in each one of us, and thus we continue to live our lives with this legacy in our hearts, the legacy of PMA Class of 1957. Again, we thank you and we*

*promise to protect the precious wisdom and heritage of the beloved class. May this tala, this star, shine and be a beacon of light for hope, peace, unity and love FOREVER."*

Current class secretary Admiral Tagumpay Jardiniiano followed up with a moving message as well. In his speech, he emphasized that the batch's success at the battlefield was due in large part to their wives' excellent handling of the homefront. The homefront, he explained, "is not just the physical places of residence, but also the hearts and minds of everyone as well. And that is what makes us family."

There were many weddings and births during the first years after graduation, expanding the ever growing Class '57





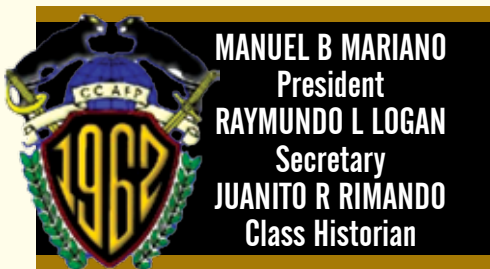
family that has remained solid to this day. The ensuing years saw many challenges, obstacles and successes in the line of service to the country and family, but the class persevered. But there is one thing that is inevitable. With the passage of time, we have lost many comrades, spouses and even a few of the children have gone ahead. They are terribly missed.

And sadly, the numbers will continue to be lessened. With this in mind, the formation of the Brats group came to be, to continue the storytelling, the legacy and the spirit.

Class '57 president Gen. Ed Ermita delivered a moving message as well. His speech is reprinted in full in this same issue of Cavalier to be shared with everyone, regardless of batch year or affiliation, with

the hope that it will enlighten, encourage and inspire.

And in closing, the PMA Class of 1957, celebrating its Sapphire year, is proud of its achievements in the last 65 years and is looking upward, forward and onward. Job well done! Dream fulfilled! *Natupad na pangarap! Mabuhay tayong lahat!*



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

We have gotten the diamond! Twenty six March, the year of our Lord was the date when 60 years ago, we graduated from the Philippine Military Academy. Seven-seven strong and then one from the United States Military Academy, incidentally also an original PMA '62 plebe, to make it 78 strong. Alas, all the hoopla

that usually marks these events was not forthcoming given our precautions against the COVID-19 pandemic. But celebrate we did. We missed the alumni parade and reunion in February where we were supposed to get our Diamond Anniversary medallions. Dinna Lumibao Cartujano, the daughter of Al and Ching Lumibao and wife of PMA Superintendent Ferdinand Cartujano, received the medallions in behalf of the class. Oh, but Maury Evangelista registered but stayed at the background during the parade, staying at Lungayban Hall. Nevertheless, he was recognized and received the oldest alumni present award. And now the details of how we celebrated Diamond Jubilee even as we prepare for our big "FIESTA ng PMA Class '62" on 5 June.

Saturday, 26 March 2022. It was exactly 60 years ago when we received our diplomas at Borromeo Field, got our commission as regular AFP officers, and tossed our caps into the air. From the 77 plus Roger Luis from West Point, there were now 33 who answered the roll call 60 years from that date. The class could not allow this date not to be observed. So president Nano organized a Diamond Jubilee Planning Committee to study and recommend appropriate activities to commemorate this occasion. The committee included Maury Evangelista, Glo'w Fernandez, Zonia Galvez, Joel Hinlo, Ray Logan, Budge Madamba, Mau Soriano, Charlie Tanega and me as the chairman. After extensive on-line discussions, the committee came up with an appropriate

and meaningful schedule of activities to celebrate the occasion and a souvenir diamond jubilee t-shirts to be worn during these occasions. As recommended, the March 26 diamond jubilee was observed and celebrated on line by Zoom. We started with a holy Mass presided over by Fr. Orbos. After the mass, Fr. Orbos gave a special blessing for all our departed regular and adopted classmates. This was followed by a video presentation, a roll call of all of our departed classmates with accompanying music. A fitting end to the ceremonies was the playing of "PMA O Hail to Thee." This video was prepared by Glo. The "kumustahan" that followed began with the welcome remarks from Class President Nano. During this virtual chat among classmates, it was so nice to see or hear from people we haven't heard of for a while. I have listed some who came from here and from far away – Lizzie Mendoza, Gerry Flores, Petit Tolentino, Aila de Ocampo, Felix Tong, Baby Villabroza, Lilia Avellanosa, Donna Daus-Wilson, Tessie Tigulo, Flor Reotutar, Hedy Lopez, Mara Enrile, and Magz Almagro. I cannot end this account of our March 26

affair without acknowledging the great efforts and sacrifices of Glo'w Fernandez, Maura and Leika Soriano, Zonia Galvez, Luz Alcudia, Budge Madamba, of course, with the guidance from Nano, who planned and managed the entire affair.

One of our classmates who answered the roll call for departed classmates and who we fondly remembered during the video presentation after the 26 March Mass is Lisandro "Boy" Abadia. He left us unexpectedly last 9 January. Boy has been our class president for several times. He had a brilliant military career and served as the Chief of Staff of the AFP. As class president or in whatever position he held in the Army or at GHQ, he cast a long shadow in our class. He lay in state at Camp Aguinaldo and then moved to Fort Bonifacio where necrological services were held in his memory. Classmates who delivered eulogies for him on the virtual platform were Joel Hinlo, Ray Logan, and Nano Mariano. Burial was the next day at the Libingan ng Mga Bayani at high noon. Paco Atayde and Nick Custodio accompanied Boy to his resting place. Boy

will understand why most of us gave him our last farewell and salute on the virtual channel. Boy is survived by her daughter Lovey Ann Torres and her family.

Alexander "Alex" Bacalla also answered the roll call for departed classmates during our virtual Diamond Jubilee celebration. Alex, who like Boy Abadia hails from Cebu, joined the Constabulary after graduation. He was the Deputy Chief of Staff for Civil-Military Operations, J7, at GHQ until he joined the Movement for Free Philippines. He stayed in the United States before settling down in Cebu. The news of his demise on 8 March was relayed to the class by Beth Salimbangon. He was interred on 12 March. The class joins his loved ones in grieving his passing.

A new normal is emerging in our country. People are now going out and restrictions are easing up. We look forward to the end of the pandemic and we anticipate our first live face-to-face get-together, part 2 of our Diamond Jubilee Celebration with our ladies, children, and grandchildren in the Class '62 FIESTA on 5 June. (JRRIMANDO)



**GUILLERMO R RUIZ**  
President  
**RENE LEANDRO P EBRO**  
Secretary

Warmest greetings from the Matindi 1963. Below are the entries from our Log Book:

**18-19 February 2022**

The PMA Alumni Homecoming celebration at Fort Gregorio del Pilar, Baguio City was simultaneously held via FB live this time. This hybrid event has been very successful and convenient for the world to witness. I am glad to participate in the homecoming weekend virtually. The class is looking forward to join the festivities next year (2023) as we will celebrate our Diamond Year.

**7 March**

We are sad to announce the passing of Luz Espejo. Prayers for the eternal repose of her soul.

**24 March**

After a little over two years, we have met face to face once again. The date marks 59 years after our graduation on 24

PMA Matindi Class '63  
59th Graduation Celebration  
at Philippine Navy Golf Club, Taguig City



March 1963. Our celebration was held at the Philippine Navy Golf Club, at the gold old Bonifacio Naval Station.

**Attendees are as follows:**

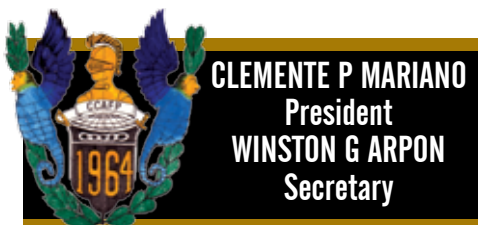
Ardy and Beth Abaya; Big Boy and Anabelle Adriano; Ella Andaya; Pert and Inday Andaya (many thanks for the balut); Gie Aquino (who sponsored the delectable lunch, thank you!); Beth Arevalo; Cire Cirera and Gilbert; Danny Delgado; Ebor, Flor Ebro and Mymel; Billy and Rose Enerio; Jimmy Iletto; Rudy Javier; Reggie and Marga Lacson; Naty Laput; Bob Manlongat; Boy Orevillo; Dan and Lou Pizarro; Bill and Norma Ruiz; Ching Saavedra; and Gaps Sabarre.

**Extending our warmest birthday greetings to our second quarter celebrators:**

**May:** 3 - Avelino Noble; 4 - Lino Medina; 17 - Angie Villamor; and 25 - Susie Sabarre.

**June:** 3 - Baby Domondon; 7 - Bob Manlongat; 7 - Gie Aquino; 8 - Maning Estrada; 10 - Marga Lacson ; 29 - Brenda Iletto; and 30 - Fred Pflieder.

There is no wrong with a few right words, I just write for EBOR. Process gives you peace and clarity. May we all choose consciously rather than choose out of compulsion. Until the next quarter. (18121605)



**• Previous Quarter**

On February 9, we lost, sadly as in previous Class Calls, another 64er: Ernesto Foronda, after a lingering illness in his California residence.

An excerpt of a recollection written on behalf of the class in response to a request from the Family, through the youngest daughter:

Ernesto Foronda was one out of thousands of high school graduates throughout the country who took the annual entrance examinations for PMA in December of 1959. He was one of the 90 who passed, to join the PMA Class of 1964.

Ernie was a model cadet, respected by his peers, seniors, and juniors. A native of

Baguio City, he was an excellent athlete. Humble to the core, he proved to be a born leader. During his firstclass/senior year, he had the rank of Captain, the highest in the Cadet Corps Armed Forces of the Philippines, designated Company Commander, a high position, just below that of the Baron/First Captain and the Battalion Commander.

An unfortunate incident in the summer of 1963 constrained Ernie to leave the Academy. But as expected, and, irrepensible as ever, he rose from this disappointment to pursue a satisfying career as an engineer, in his country and abroad.

A writer in his own right, he wrote a personal account of this in an article that



*With wife Flor and youngest daughter Erna, Oct 2019, on a cruise to Panama.*

was published in The Cavalier, official publication of the PMA Alumni Association.

In retrospect, it can be said that the military's loss was the gain of the civilian world.

**• This Quarter Birthday**

– Jim Vandevoort, April 9; Buddy Peran, April 21; Rolly Pabellano, June 20; Louie

Bareng, June 22; Rene Garcia, June 26.

**- A Milestone in May**

The class is indebted to **Rey Reyes** on this. Even after a couple of dives in Sombrero Island Twin Rocks in Anilao, Mabini, Batangas with son **Derrick**, he did not forget this milestone for Class 64, as the song says: **The First of May Our first at P-M-A.**

**First of May, 1960**

We felt so small  
 'midst pine trees oh so tall  
 The first of May  
 Our first at P-M-A.  
 Don't ask us now  
 But we survived somehow  
 Harassed and pressured  
 "Tackled" all the way.  
 The Baguio chill and the anxiety  
 Ninety-five boys to men transformed that day.

And thus was writ  
 May 1st, nineteen-sixty  
 A page engraved  
 in our history.

(chorus)  
 So we recall  
 each moment of that day  
 forever etched in our memory.  
 Class 64 still proudly standing tall  
 to celebrate that first of May.

We felt so small  
 'midst pine trees oh so tall  
 do do do do do do do do do do do do.  
 Don't ask us now  
 But we survived somehow  
 Harassed and pressured  
 "Tackled" all the way.....  
 Mmm...mmm...mmm...mmm...mmm

*(Can be sung to the tune of the Bee Gee's First of May)*

Ever the take-charge guy, he set up the get-together at PNGC to commemorate "a page engraved in our history". In attendance were four of those present on that day 62 years ago – "95 boys to men transformed that day": **Clem Mariano, Rey Reyes, Billy Villareal, Arfs Arpon**, incumbent Class President, VP, Treasurer and Secretary, respectively. Joining them were **Eric Sibayan** PMA '94; Rey's son **Derrick** and adopted 'son' of the class, **Jim Vandervoort**, USNA 2003.



**- A Special Day with a Super Senior Cavalier**

To be sure, a day to remember for six PMAers, from Classes 88 to 62: a round of golf and breaking bread with the highly respected and esteemed Cavalier: **Salvador M. "Buddy" Mison '55.**

And, looking forward to September 3, this year when **Cavalier Mison** reaches 90, a pentagonic year, by consensus forced upon the group. (At lunchtime, **Arfs** shared with the group, one of his views, a personal inanity, by his own admission: the better things in life come in 5s or multiples of 5.)

**- More**

From Feb 25 to Apr 23, **Rey** and **Sandy Reyes** were in the US to attend christening of first great granddaughter in Hawaii and to visit children residing there; a visit that brought them all over the US, with deliberate stops in their journey away from home to reconnect with 64ers residing abroad, In March, with **Rolly Pabellano** at his new house in Summerlin, Las Vegas, a dinner with a bottle of cognac.

A stopover in Tampa Florida culminated in a "pocket reunion" on April 11 with two mistuhs: **Jorge Agcaoili** and **Abe de Guzman**. Invoking the unwritten rule that two members in this depleted class constitute a quorum, **Rey** reports: Since we exceeded the required number by one, we decided to have a class meeting. On the Agenda: Initial brainstorming on the upcoming CI 64 Diamond Jubilee homecoming; attire; and, outline of the projected CI 64 Diamond yearbook. Allowed to kibitz, the ladies **Sandy, Emmet** and **Miriam** proposed ready-made attire, not tailored, as in previous jubilees. No objection from the three **Masunurins** (after several jubilees, Class 64 remains one, if not the only class, without a motto; **Masunurin**, as in **Obedient**, has yet to get the nod of the majority). As if on cue, **Rene Garcia** also found himself on ANA Airlines, on April 2, in a flight to LA. "My mission," he reports, 'was to be there to go to church on the 50th birthday of my third girl," an architect with whom he stayed in her new





home in Torrance. Within three weeks, having spent time with his other daughters and family friends, **Rene** he was on his way back to the Philippines on April 23rd, to rejoin wife Nida, who was understanding enough to allow him to travel alone. Is he lucky of what?

The US trip of **Arfs Arpon**, on the other hand, just a day after **Rey** and **Sandy** left for Hawaii was unscheduled. A trip to be in Burbank, California with **Vicky's** older brother, a doctor, who was seriously ill, and, who, sadly, passed away a few days after.

*(This is indeed serious stuff! Before submitting this as input, **Clem Mariano** indicated, that maybe, it is not suited for "light topics" that predominate and are the standard fare in Class Calls. Be that as it may - parroting a usual refrain from a professor we know from the PMA Corps of Professor – we proposed this challenge: break down present barriers as class calls go. Within some limits, there ought to be consideration allowance of space for the non-frivolous)*

### Quote, Unquote

Like some military retirees I assume, I am glued to TV news on Eastern Europe in the last two months with keen interest via CNN and You Tube, getting educated in asymmetric warfare our country may have to fight. I watch and wonder at weapon systems like NLAW, Stingers, Javelin, Cruise

missiles and armed drones we cannot afford to substantially acquire for defending against a well-equipped invading force should that dreaded moment become a reality. More than anything else, I see the role of inspiring and unselfish leadership, strong patriotism, and total commitment of the entire populace in achieving a credible defense posture. Our time in the service from day 1 after graduation from Loakan, had been too devoted to domestic security threats resulting mainly from poor governance, discontent due to uneven distribution of wealth and the evils of a colonial past. Worst still, it had been fanned by a bankrupt foreign ideology, our archipelagic nature and tribal loyalties undermining unity, and lately religious extremism inspired from abroad. In the Army especially, we had to discover, formulate and validate for ourselves at cost of lives and resources at times, workable and effective counterinsurgency tactics and strategy neither "History of Military Arts" nor the 4-year Tactics classes at the Academy inculcated in us could find relevance in many aspects. Only the classic Principles of War, (susomomes) if I correctly remember the acronym, valid universally and adaptable locally could guide us during those trying times. The buildup of our external defense capabilities had been too long at the back burner due to lack of funds, the momentum of over reliance on former colonial masters' "hand

me downs "and questionable allocation at the national level of meager government resources. So much was going to waste due to a variety of reasons with patronage politics and corruption not the least of concerns. The Ukrainian situation is an eye opener. Of course, the perennial questions of whether involving ourselves in the conflict between giants, pursuing our national interest by alliances with stronger countries of similar interests, or complete neutrality despite threats to our mineral-rich territory like the West Philippine Sea must not sacrifice our preparedness in case of any conflict. Yet developing strong capabilities to address domestic threats versus acquiring a credible external defense posture may be diametrically opposed in the light of limited resources. Long-range artillery, heavy armor, blue water naval assets and air dominance aircraft may be appropriate for external defense while counter insurgency operations may call for more boots on the ground, coastal/ riverine patrol vessels, heli lift capability and attack aircraft for ground support, complicating priorities in use of scarce resources. Then there is the dilemma of achieving peace and order to promote economic development. Both require substantial investments and are not mutually exclusive. They will compete for a fair share of the proverbial pie yet each one is necessary to achieve success in the other.







**PAMBUNGAD**

Paglabas ng siping ito ay tapos na ang halalan. Maaaring tapos na rin ang bilangan ng lahat ng boto dahil computerized na ang buong proseso. At alam na rin nating kung sino ang nanalong Presidente, Bise Presidente, at ang iba pang mga nahalal na lingkod bayan.

Kung ganoon, sana maghilom na ang mga hindi pagkakaisa ng damdamin na likha ng isang mainit na halalan. Tulad din ng mga nakaraang halalan sa bansa. At haharapin natin ang higit na mahahalagang bagay, nangunguna na ang pandemia.

**GOODBYE JOEY, RUDY, LEONOR**

The start of year 2022 for our Class brought sad notes. On 12 January, we received the news that Mistah Joey Escarcha passed away after a lingering illness, followed by another one on 23 January that US-based Mistah Rudy Clauterio also left this world, likewise due to some health problems. Add to these, Leonor, wife of Class President Noli Espejo also said goodbye to her loved ones on 21 January, at home, after spending some time in the hospital. And to recall, last year, we lost Mistahs Bay Galon and Mar Antonio.

But then, the reality is that all of us are in our late 70's, some in or going to early 80's. As a matter of consolation, we are perhaps luckier than many younger ones – younger



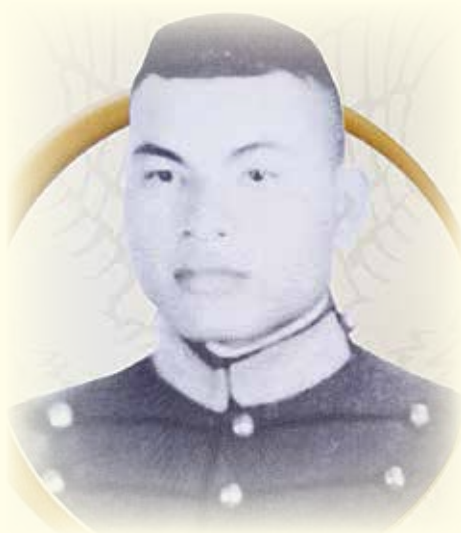
mistahs, other comrades, friends, relatives, mere acquaintances who left much earlier. If you have time, get hold of the greatest book of all times, the Bible, which says that the average span of mankind is 70-80 years. We are therefore spending our bonus years,

for which we should be thankful to the Lord (Bottom line: we should now be good guys to earn trophy points to qualify for entry into a more wonderful life). Before I sound holier than though, let me proceed to a more mundane topic – remembering significant events of the Class.

**REMEMBERING 20 MARCH 1966**

Surely, above date is firmly etched in our memories – our Graduation Day, 56 years or 20,440 hours ago as of this writing. By the way, is it true that one of us proceeded to the Post Chapel to swear I DO, the next day or not long afterward? If not one of us, then maybe from the other classes (Stories, along this are one of the never-ending numerous vignettes of cadet life. I am not prepared to attest, that if true, the groom could not be from '64.)

To commemorate our graduation day, the Class had a reunion of sorts at the AFPCOC, Camp Aguinaldo. Forty-two mistahs and their ladies and widows turned up for the occasion which was superbly planned and arranged by Louie Fernandez. The food was good, which included the favorite papaitan, with plenty for take home. Service was also



*Joey Escarcha, Rudy Clauterio*

good and the waiters were rewarded with generous tips.

Prior to the lunch at the AFPCOC, a Thanksgiving Mass was held at the St. Michael's Cathedral, officiated by former Military Vicar Bishop Tirso Dolina. Prayers were offered for departed classmates and spouses.

There was no prepared program during lunch. Most of the time was spent for sharing stories and taking pictures. Bishop Dolina who was guest during lunch turned out to

be a good story-teller by his tablemates. Some of his stories of interest pertained to actuations of cadets and cadettes when he was chaplain at PMA.

#### BIRTHDAY CELEBRATORS

We wish to acknowledge the following sixty-sixers and spouses who first saw the light of day on the dates indicated:

**April** – Mar Cordova (26), Gerry Cunanan (06), Rudy Eco (06), Noli Espejo (18), Luz Baylon (07), Edna Gopilan (10), Fe Sabularse

(13), and April Fernandez (21).

**May** – Ces Gopilan (29), Buddy Perez (26), Tony Romero (05), Raul Urgello (05), Sim Cruz (22), Rolly dela Cuesta (05), and Magda Atienza (25).

**June** – Andy Andres (01), Bert Sabularse (08), Rec Sarmiento (27), Oca Barrientos (16), Elsie Rivera (09), Edna Bello (12), Dee Cagurangan (13), Agie Bantolo (23), and Nene Reodica (14).

Maligayang araw ng pagsilang mga kapuwa ko (70/80) teenagers!



#### CLASS ACTIVITIES

A. With the COVID situation in Metro Manila downgraded to Level 1, we were hoping that in the early part of this year, we would be able to resume "normal programming." Had COVID allowed us, our schedule for January - April 2022 would have been as follows:

**January** – Dimasupil Monthly Forum (DMF) to be hosted by Jun and Agnes Avenido, Bobby and Penny Lastimoso, Edsel and Toto Salvana, and Joseph and Reina Young.

**18 February** – PMAAAI Annual Convention in PMA, Baguio City. (PMA Classes were allowed only limited numbers to attend the Convention in-person. Jun Ibay, who happened to be in Baguio on an official mission at the time, represented our Class.)

**19 February** – Annual PMA Alumni Homecoming Parade in Baguio City. (Our Class was represented by Jun Avenido, who was one of the awardees of the Lifetime Achievement Award; Jun Ibay, as Chairman of PMAFI; and Joy Casillan, who was in Baguio at that time.)

**19 March** – Celebration of our Emerald (55th) Graduation Anniversary to be hosted by Manny Dalipe, Jun and Ronnie Ibay, and Nic and Glo Parena.

**April** – DMF to be hosted by Alice Averilla, Ernie and Dinsay Dionisio, Rody and Graise Gaerlan, Mar and Mely Gatmaitan, and Bert and Ruby Torres.

B. If allowed by COVID, the following would be our schedule for May - June 2022, onwards:

**May** - DMF to be hosted by Joy Casillan and family.

**June** - DMF to be hosted by Abe and Cora Din, Hedy Duenas, and Ross and Mandie Sibal.



Jun Avenido receiving the PMAAAI Lifetime Achievement Award.

**July** - DMF to be hosted by Pol and Norma Aliac, Lettie Baula, and Jovy and Baby Sales.

**August** - DMF to be hosted by Sergs and Zeny Austria, Fred Encarnacion, Ed and Myrna Espinosa, Vir and Marina Odulio, and Mar and Beth Santiago.

#### UPDATES ON THE DIMASUPILS

On 12 March 2022, Vic Villacorta passed away in Quezon City due to lingering illness. He was cremated the following day. The inurnment was done on 23 March 2022 in the afternoon at Ascension Columbarium, QC after a Funeral Mass, Necrological Service, and Military Honors provided by the Philippine Navy. We pray for his eternal rest in the bosom of the Almighty. May God comfort Evelyn and family in this trying time of bereavement.

Rody Pajaro also passed away on 26 March 2022 in Quezon City due to heart attack. He was cremated the following day. The inurnment was done on 5 April 2022 in the Garden of the Divine Word, Christ the King, QC. May he rest in peace in God's loving embrace and may the Almighty comfort Judith and family in this time of sorrow.

Congratulations to Jun Ibay on his assumption as the new Chairman of John Hay Management Corporation. JHMC is a subsidiary of the BCDA and the estate manager of the entire Camp John Hay Reservation in Baguio City.

If you happen to meet Alex De Guzman somewhere and he does not recognize you, don't be surprised. It's merely part of his ageing process. Just bring him home to Lita.

During the Thunderbird National Gamefowl Expo in Cagayan De Oro City last March, Manny Dalipe took time to visit Edsel and Toto Salvana. He was happy to report that Edsel was well on the way to recovery.

Last February, Mar Santiago was rushed to the hospital due to a "feeling of tenderness and swollen wound-like pain at the left side of the solar plexus." He underwent all the necessary tests and everything was normal. Pneumonia, enlarged heart, and impending heart attack were ruled out. Conclusion: acid reflux! (Baka result ng over-eating!)

#### UPDATES ON OUR FAMILIES

We convey our heartfelt condolences to the family of Louie Sanchez on the death of his 101 year-old mother, Rosita De Guzman Sanchez, last February in Baguio City. May she rest in eternal peace in the kingdom of our Lord.

We are glad to announce that Josie Olivares, who suffered a major heart attack while in New York, USA, is now on her way to recovery. Vlady extends his thanks for our prayers.

Nora Ruelos also conveys her thanks for our prayers. She has been released from the hospital and is recuperating well. According to her, "it's just a case of bad asthma."

**BIRTHDAY CELEBRATORS**

Best wishes to the following Dimasupils and spouses who celebrate their birthdays in April, May and June: Alice Averilla (9 April), Nenie Abendan (12), Carol Rigor (12), Bert Torres (16), Eve Villacorta (17), Rudy Gaerlan (18), Mar Gatmaitan (26), Dinsay Dionisio (28), and Mila Pinto (29); Auring Garcia (6 May), Agnes Avenido (7), May Garcia (15), Jun Gabison (24), Ida Aquino (28), and Meds Reyes (30); Tante Torrechante (1 June), Joy Casillan (11), Abe Din (15), Ross Sibal (16), Walter Briones (17), Beth Santiago (19), Louie Sanchez (21), and Cora Din (30).

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

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Congratulations to the following Dimasupils who won in the PMAAAI raffle last 18 February: Joe Andaya (Smart Watch); Nic Parena (Deskjet Printer); and Bob Lastimoso (Deskjet Printer). Unfortunately, no Dimasupil won in the FILVETS raffle.

Those who ordered some copies of the new PMA Alumni Register may claim them at the PMAFI Office, PMA Alumni Center, Camp Aguinaldo, QC.

**CLASS TRIVIA**

*(This portion of our Class Call is contributed by Bernie "Uncle Bobo" Patino. The opinions expressed herein are solely his and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Class or this magazine. So, beware!)*

In the Navy/Marines, we do not talk in the Wardroom about three topics: Religion, Politics, and Women. Since we are all old already, we can exempt women as a topic, After all, we have already outlived our usefulness inside the bedroom. However, Pol Aliac disagreed, he advised me to speak for myself!

To quote Pol: *"As unto the bow the cord is, as unto man is woman, useless each without the other!"* In a biblical sense, Pol added: *"God created woman out of a man's rib, to be loved and cradled, to be adored and not trampled upon, and to be recipient of his pension na walang bawas!"* Ang galing ni Pol!

We have a classmate who has been

taking Viagra every day. Asked why, he replied: *"I don't want to wet my slippers when I take a leak in the morning when I wake up!"* Ganon ba yon, di ko alam yan, ah!

Bro Ed Espinosa texted me and bragged about his knowledge of human anatomy. Specifically, he wrote about Sarcopenia and Atrophy (which I perfectly understood). Atrophy is the process of a body part wilting away if not constantly used! His example was bastos, kaya hindi ko ma-expound dito. Suffice it to say, we advise our Mistahs to use "it" occasionally, para hindi ma-atrophy! Spine added he is just being helpful. And I agree.

Manny Dalipe has the biggest fishpond in Zambo. But he is more popular in the cock raising industry than in the aqua culture community. His cocks are always winners (kuno)! To be happy, his mantra is: *"Tinali, Tinalo, Tinola!"* He says he will remember us every time he wins.

Our conversation is not at all obnoxious. In fact they are innocuous! Just do not add color to it. We are just old dogs whose barks are more scary than our bites! Let us enjoy our fantasies!

May God be with us always!



**1. PMAAAI Life Achievement Award to Cav Melchor P Rosales, Class 1968.**

Mel was awarded the *Lifetime Achievement Award* for: (a) rendering at least fifty (50) years of distinguished,

outstanding, exemplary and unblemished service to the country and people, whether in government or NGOs, (b) serving for at least two (2) years as head of any such organization, and (c) having been a recipient of other Association awards. He is the President and CEO, Exec Protect Security Agency, Inc.

**2. Golfing and Other Fun.**

The Class held a golf fellowship at the Camp Aguinaldo Golf Club (CAGC) on Tuesday, 15 March 2022. The first flight was composed of Volts Gazmin, Patrick Madayag and Nonoy Carranza as guest, while the second

was made up of Diomeng Villanueva, Mel Rosales, Abe Abiol and Oca Cabaron. The idea was conceived during the breakfast meeting at the Kagitingan Golf Club hosted by Diomeng Villanueva and participated in by Abe Abiol, Bert Estrada, Art Juan, Rene Santos and Oca Cabaron.

The fellowship was a very fruitful one especially after having been 'confined to quarters' for over two (2) years. Norie Azcueta, Sonny Penilla and Bugsie Rabago joined for lunch held at the Board Room. As usual, it was fun to have the same jokes told all over again. Although the group refrained from talking about sex





and religion, it enjoyed discussing and comparing the 'presidentiables'. It was quite obvious that there were Pings, pinks and reds among them.

We hope we can have the same fellowship again even on a monthly basis. And also hope that there will be more who will join the game and the lunch after the game. It will certainly be more fun. There was even a suggestion to do the same with Class '69 members who also play regularly at CAGC.

**3. Class reunion on Mar 31, 2022.**

The reunion at CAGC was the first since the onset of the COVID pandemic in early March 2019. It was initiated by our dutiful and generous Class President Art Carrillo. It served as a joyful and thanksgiving celebration of our 54<sup>th</sup> PMA Class 1968 graduation event. The participants consisted of 12 CMs: Art C, Diomeng, Volts, Art J, Hector, Oca, Abe, Bobby, Patrick, Bugsie, Rene and Willy and ten ladies: PeeWee, Gigi, Puring, Arlene, Julie, Tess P, Shirley, Celia, Rhodie and Isay. Collective greetings were extended to ten CM and lady March birthday celebrants. Art C,

Willy, Bobby and Shirley led the singing accompanied by the *Los Bandidos*, who provided non-stop music vintage 1968 and before. We all enjoyed the 'load and load' lunch, drinks, desserts and fruits brought by Celia. The initial collection of family pictures of CMs was presented for launch during our 55<sup>th</sup> graduation anniversary on Mar 24, 2023.

**4. Penilla family event in U.S.**

The entire Penilla family had a reunion in Orlando, Florida's Marriott's Grand Vista Resort on April 18-22, 2022 with three generations of six siblings in attendance. Everything was awesome

and perfect. No complaints, no misstep. Everyone had fun and paid tribute to their dear Great grandparents who by now are 106 years old together in heaven. Each family took turns in hosting lunch and dinner. There was a free day for golfers, shoppers, beachgoers and Disneyland/ Universal Studios fans. The 3rd generation is looking forward to attending the next reunion. Sonny and Luth who are based in Philippines are doubly elated and happy being with the entire Penilla clan. Sonny made a power point presentation on the proposal to produce a family coffee table book to record a whole century of happy moments.





**JAIME S DE LOS SANTOS**  
 President  
**JESUS B DULLER**  
 Secretary



*"To all of my father Dennis Nagtalon's friends and fellow PMAers, together with my mom, we would like to extend our sincerest gratitude and appreciation for all of your invaluable time, effort, moral, financial and spiritual support that you have extended to us since the time my father fell ill, became bed-ridden until the time he passed on.*

*No words could really express our heartfelt thanks for your lending us a hand with all that you have, which helped us in more than a hundred ways to assist us with our struggles until the time we lost dad.*

*I lost my beloved father, mentor and friend and my mom lost a loving husband, protector and best friend. I am sure that all who came to know dad during his lifetime has touched their lives in various ways and we are all on the same spot of cherishing thoughts about him as he was laid to rest.*

*For being with me and my mom during the most trying times, for helping us through the difficulties, we offer our most sincere gratitude and respect for the various ways and means you consoled, bereaved and assisted us through. We will be forever grateful."*

Sincerely, Daryl and Kevin Nagtalon

**From Nonoy's posting in Suaviter Chat Group:**

I played golf with the PMA 68ers at CAGC today. During the fellowship the matter of our recent deaths in both classes

was discussed. I told them also about our classmates Tibo and Cris Villanueva whom we have not seen for a long time. Former CSAFP GEN DOMING VILLANUEVA informed me that CRIS VILLANUEVA, his relative, had already passed away. He did not say when but it must have been at least two years ago when he learned

of his passing. Coming from a relative and former CSAFP, the info is indeed very credible but there is still that ray of hope that he could be wrong. Maybe we should conduct a verification. If it is true, maybe his next kin may not have received due benefits?

**Class 1969's April 1965 Reception Anniversary and Jimmy delos Santos Birthday Combined Celebrations**





The ladies picture above include the daughters of our recently departed Mistahs, Mon Martinez and Boy Maligalig. They are Nikki, Mona and Joray Martinez, and Chelsea Maligalig.

**Happy Mother's Day: A Suaviter Tribute**

**To Every Beautiful Woman**

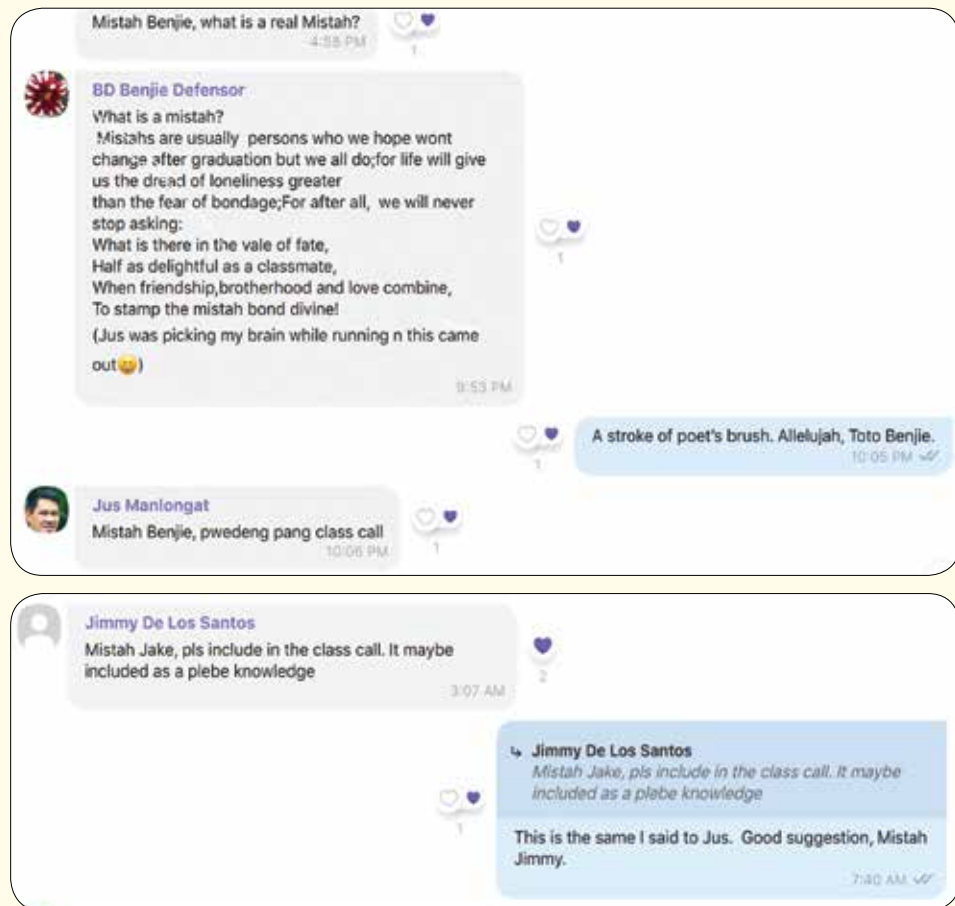
Fantastic Lines by Mother Teresa:  
 "If your Eyes are Positive, You will Love the World. But if Your Tongue is Positive, The World will Love you." A woman's love is in action. She looks with her heart and feels with her eyes. A woman is the bank where her family deposits all anger, worries and hurt. A woman is the cement that keeps her family together and her love lasts a lifetime.

**\*\*\* Post Election Suaviter Reminder\*\*\***

"When all the dust is settled and all the crowds are gone, the things that matter are faith, family, and friends."

—Barbara Bush

Here's an unexpurgated screenshot from The Suaviter's Chat Group



It's been suggested by Suaviters to nominate Benjie's above definition of "What is a Mistah" as a part of Plebe Knowledge. What do you think, folks? Maybe the PMA Superintendents of the class can represent? Nonoy? Jimmy?

**Note: All the materials herein are fully taken from our Viber chat group. Thank God for the internet and social media! And credits to Saint Maria Theresa and Barbara Bush. --- jbd.**





**EDGARDO M ISRAEL**  
President  
**GLENN J RABONZA**  
Secretary

**Going, going, gone.**

The second quarter of the year offered both windows of opportunities and closure for the Class. When the election dust settled Cong Romy Acop, 2nd district of Rizal running unopposed collected his prize credited to his performance in previous congressional terms and bolstered by wife Cong Cion's performance windfall in the same post.

In another front, Zambales gifted Gov Jun Ebdane with another term as Governor with a landslide win and two children, Omar and Randy enthroned as Mayor and representative, respectively, of their bailiwicks.

These developments say tons about the management caliber of Magitings in public office. Baka nga totoo yung sinasabi nilang "Ahead of its Time" saka "The Thinking Class" yung klase natin.

Again in another realm, Ed Calvo and family finally had their closure. Necrological service was at the PAF Mortuary, Pasay City with a phalanx of PAF classmates offering tributes like Bang Adriano, Bay Suemith, Bob Nuqui, Class Prez Ed Israel and Company mate Glenn Rabonza who was most visibly affected having shared common experiences with Ed.

Ed was legend, a "master tinkerer" who would experiment and repair machines

and their parts. A "million dollar" man having tinkered with helicopters and other aircrafts, Ed redeemed himself as Nesty credited him for actually tilting the balance in favour of the service on equipment recovery and rehab works.

In attendance were Rufo de Veyra, Danny Sta Clara, Dionet Santiago, Egay Galvante, Eloy Garcia, Vic Signey, Rudy Garcia, Nesty Carolina, Willy Parayno, Clyde Fernandez and Mel Madrid. A fitting eulogy from Ernie Del Rosario of Canada was ably read by former PAF Chief Nestor Santillan who along with others deserved credit for the whole event.

Ed was laid to rest in Everlasting Gardens, San Pedro, Laguna where his family resides. Ed's sibling Cora, wife Josie, children Teresa and Cecille and their families were on hand attending to visitors. The flawless proceedings led some in the Class to think loudly that they don't mind going this way when their times come; even suggesting setting up a funeral queue for the purpose - to which I wholeheartedly concurred - as long as I'm reserved at the end! After you, gentlemen!

The Mas-Magitings are back in force with their monthly 1st Wednesday prayer meetings and lunch get-togethers usually timed with birthday celebrants pooled for the month thus opening up fellowship opportunities. Cheers!

**BREAKING NEWS:**

Doray Delarmente, daughter of our Cav Teddy, recently won a council seat in QC. She had been in public service following her equally politically active mom, Beth.



**Acop**



**Ebdane**

Also seen recently in Manila was Cesar Alvarez on a respite from his real estate business in California to attend to some admin matters. Back-to-back fellowships by the north and south Magitings more than made up for his long absence.



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

**THE DIE HAS BEEN CAST.** The people had spoken. So be it. Let us move on. All we can do now is pray that the new administration come July will be true to their promises and stated platforms in their governance and let us support them for the sake of our country and people. Let us not be divisive. Let us learn to be magnanimous in victory and gracious in defeat, as the saying goes. To the victors, our congratulations. To those who have tried their best but lose, let not the heart fall. You can serve our country still with

your best intentions. There is always the next time.

**Fellowships in Golf and "Me" times of the Matatag Ladies**

Truly, this COVID-19 pandemic has affected our lives particularly in attendance to class gatherings and fellowship. Much as the class wanted a joint Matatag and Mas-Matatag celebrations for birthday celebrants or face-to-face meetings, this was limited as dictated by the health protocol of social distancing and wearing of masks, etcetera. Additionally, since all of us are seniors, there is the danger of being easily infected particularly for those with comorbidities. This is the very reason why many of us refrained from going out or attending large gatherings. There is always that RISK. Although almost all of us had their first and second shots plus boosters,

still not all are comfortable and favor the face-to-face encounters with people. Thus, the braver ones among us, the Hampas Lupa's '71 or golfers, continued their golf plays but observing the minimum health protocol as required by the government. Never mind if we were talking in loud voices, almost akin to shouting, during fellowships to the consternation of some people. The more important was the fun and laughter we had after the game. The sunshine and the little exercise did a lot, maybe, which bolstered our immunity. Our Hampas Lupa's '71 Team played in many a golf course; citing some, Villamor, Aguinaldo, Navy, Canlubang, Beverly, Luisita, Baguio Country Club, Pine Woods, Pradera, John Hay, Southwoods, Northwoods when mistah Obet Pagdanganan hosted, Ayala Greenfields, and South Forbes. Just recently, the golfers tendered a despedida-

golf plays for Doy Francisco, Teody Viduya, and Jun Paynor who went abroad. We also had a welcome-golf games for Bing Alano, Jun Fabros, and Doy Francisco. As mistah Rex Piad puts it, the camaraderie, laughter, “kayahizing”, the retelling of the same old plebe and active services stories during the golf fellowships : “Hindi mababayaran ang enjoyment natin dito”. The brave ones are Tex Balmaceda, our Hampas Lupa ’71 Prexy, Egay Aglipay, Rey Acop, our “hot darn” supplier, Twiggy Zubia, Doy Francisco, Obet Pagdanganan, Bing Alano, Jun Paynor, Jerry Albano, Teody “Barok” Viduya, our source of laughter due to his joke repartees, Totoy Rivera, Rey Alcasid, Rey Velasco of PRAI, Ed Matillano, EQ Fernandez, Dong Tabamo, Dan Belonia, Oca Martinez, Joey Lalisán, and our champion golfer, Rex Piad. During the latest golf game in Beverly Golf Course for the despedida of Barok Viduya, the 17 players were witnesses to the giving of the golden medallion and the two books of Our Brothers to Cora Dallo, the widow of the late mistah Nonito. Cora was accompanied by her son and apos.

Meanwhile, the braver ones among the Mas Matatags also had their own version of fellowships which they term as “me time”, meaning their time to relax and enjoy. Last 11 April 2022, the ladies went to Tagaytay to host the second quarter birthday celebrants. Those who were present were Mawie Aglipay, Celia Lalisán, Aleli Belonia, Lita Gil, Jinggoy Martinez, Jennie Domingo, Jane Honasan, Benjie Rivera, Tetet Chioco, Beth Ramos, Verna Albano, Puring Cruz, Malou Garcia, Fim Velasco, Beng Ibo, Evelyn Ocampo, and Tess Paynor. During the first quarter, the “me time” was held in a BGC mall hosting a welcome lunch for visiting mistah Moises Millena and wifey, Ching. However, Ching was not able to make it due to an emergency dental appointment. Mistah Miles enjoyed the Chinese menu to the max and as usual, he was “loading it up” including Ching’s share. Wow!

**Class Zoom Meeting and Novena/Rosary Prayer Warriors**

Last 10 May 202. there was a joint Board and Class Zoom Meeting held. Five resolutions were ratified namely: Designation of the Class and Board Officers, Creation of Standing and Ad Hoc Committees, Designation of Check Signatories, Budget of Estimated Income and Expenses for 2022, and approving the “Study on the Long-Term Viability of the Class Fund” as basis for Fund Generation



from 2022 to 2026 and Investment Plan for 2022. The other forthcoming resolutions, but still under further study, are the R-I-S-E Medium-Term Strategy, and the Designated Persons authorized to submit to SEC reportorial requirements. It was

emphasized also during the meeting that the focus of the class officers is geared more towards supporting the class members, the mas-Matatags, and their respective families while at the same time being relevant in supporting our country





and people. As explained, while we are conscious of our social environment, Charity will always start at home. Also, for information, VP Bing Alano was appointed as acting Treasurer while Rey Rivera was designated as assistant Secretary to assist Secretary Tex in transcribing the minutes of our meetings.

Meanwhile, as initiated by our Mas Matatags, several zoom novena and rosary prayers were held for our mistahs and dependents who have health challenges and also for those involved in politics namely Sen Ping, Sec Greg, Michael Aglipay of DIWA Party List, and Rey Velasco of PRAI Party List and also for a peaceful and clean elections. The prayer warriors are led by Mawie, Aleli, Jinggoy, and Celia. There is also the nightly Zoom novena prayers at 9 p.m. jibing with the 3 p.m. mass at Lourdes, France.



**Quote for this Issue:**

*Be so busy improving yourself that you will have no time to criticize others.*

*Don't give up. The beginning is always the HARDEST.*

*Failure will never overtake you if determination to succeed is strong enough.*

*You only fail if you stop trying. Quotes from FB/ JCL/10 May 2022//*



Hello all.

Let me give you a brief account of what transpired during the celebration of our 50th Anniversary last 19-20 February 2022 Alumni Homecoming. This is for the information and benefit of those who were unable to attend for various personal reasons. The threat of COVID-19 did not dampen the spirit, excitement and enthusiasm of those who trekked to Baguio to attend the much awaited and significant event in our life. A total of 70 Masigasis and Mas (41/29) graced the grand celebration including two US-based Mistah (Vic Carag and Willy Mejia)

in attendance. To everybody's surprise Mistah Tony Simangan who has been in limbo for a long time appeared at the grandstand to share with us the once in a life celebration.

To ensure compliance to health protocol, those who attended the homecoming (drivers and dependents included) were required to undergo the anti-gen tests before departure for Baguio. A second test was also conducted at the hotel 24 hours before entering Fort del Pilar as mandated by PMA leadership. We thanked the Lord, everybody were tested negative from the virus. The Masigasis, in full force attended the Annual Membership Meeting at Fort del Pilar last 18 Feb presided by Mistah Espines, the Chairman and CEO of PMAAAI. After the meeting, they proceeded to Bahay Masigasis where they shared the packed dinner, courtesy of PMAAAI, while the ladies

had their fellowship dinner at Microtel Hotel. On D Day, 19 Feb the Masigasis and Ladies wearing their splendid uniforms proceeded to PMA for the main event. As Golden Jubilarians, they were accorded the privilege of occupying the reserved seats at the grandstand getting the focus of attention from the audience. The great moment of the event was the distribution of Golden Medallions to Masigasis during the parade with special participation of the respective spouses, of course. The Masigasis proudly marched and trooped the Long Gray Line amid the cheers and applause of the appreciative crowd. Mistah Roger Quevedo took his oath as Honorary Member of PMAAAI. Congratulations Mistah Roger. What a nostalgic feeling for all of us. After the parade, we retreated to Bahay Masigasis and partook the snappy and sumptuous packed lunch prepared by our long time caterer. After more time for



fellowship, the traditional Class Meeting was held affirming the official assumption of Mistah Orly Buenaventura as Class Prexy for CY 2022-2023. Likewise, Mistah Art Alabanza was elected as incoming Prexy for CY 2023-2024. In his remarks, Prez Espines expressed his thanks to Masigasig family for the all-out support extended to him during his tenure and as Chairman of PMAAAI at the same time. As a gesture of thanks, the Class presented a Plaque of Recognition to Prez Espines in grateful recognition of his invaluable support rendered to the Class. The Plaque was presented by the new Prez, Orly Buenaventura.

At this point, we reiterate again our profound gratitude and thanks to Mistahs Espines and Mely for all the support extended to the Class, past and present, particularly during his incumbency as Prexy for three years. We also congratulate him for his achievements as Chairman/CEO of PMAAAI, a source of pride for our Class. Thanks to all for the cooperation and efforts that contributed to the success of our Golden Anniversary. We also thank Gov Pogi Espino for the never ending logistical support to us during Homecomings. We would like to acknowledge also the kindness of LtGen CJ Cartujano, Supe, PMA for donating anti-gen test kits and to 14 members of abled medical staff who conducted the tests efficiently. Mabuhay kayong lahat.

**News Updates:**

- We are saddened to what happened to our Mistah Gil Batestil who

had a mild stroke last April. He was taken to St Lukes Medical Center at BGC for immediate treatment and later transferred to VMVC for continuous treatment and rehabilitation. All are in prayers for his fast recovery and at the rate of his on-going rehabilitation he will be okay and be back at the fairways very soon. Thank you Neriz and Pat for your unconditional care to our dear Mistah. Rest assured of our collective prayers for his immediate recovery.

- Prez Orly Buenaventura called a first Class Officers meeting as President last 24 March at PNGC. Bing Valencia rendered the financial updates specifically the expenditures during the last homecoming. It was suggestive that a simple financial

statement be adopted for full appreciation and understanding of the attendees. The target for anti-pneumonia vaccinations will be on July and Prez Orly thru the kindness of Melba to determine the costs of five years and life time vaccines. It was agreed that each Masigasig will be given options as regard to type of vaccines preferences. Details to be decided by the Board at the next meeting. It was unanimously approved to present a Plaque of Appreciation to Gov Pogi Espino III for his invaluable assistance and support to our Class.

- On the status of Golden Sword, the Board advised the Editor in Chief, Mistah Manny T to facilitate the publication. A separate meeting of the Editorial Staff was held last week of April to discuss some glitches impending the publication. It was agreed that a proto-type Golden Sword be printed for final scrutiny of the Board.





Other matters like distributions, printing, cover design were also discussed. Target date of publication is July of this year.

- With Board's approval, the Class will remit to PMAAAI the amount of

Ph147,000 as payment for the additional copies of Cav Mag Special Edition. Those who ordered extra copies are enjoined to pay their obligations immediately to replenish the Class Fund the amount that was remitted to PMAAAI.

These are all for now. Have an enjoyable reading. It is still pandemic time so we are kindly reminded to observe maximum health protocol.

Till next Class call. Stay healthy and safe all the times....OSLEC.



**VIDAL E QUEROL**  
President

ONE of the best Navy Instructor Pilots passed away in his sleep, Mistah RAdm Constancio "Tanciong" Jardiniario, 71 years old. He is survived by wife Carmencita, children and grandchildren. He was a cadet member of the Soccer Corps Squad as expected of cadets from Iloilo. I used to play tennis with him in our senior years in the service when human strength could no longer match the rigors of more demanding sports. My brother Cavalier Alexander Querol '86 fondly remembered Mistah Tanciong as his uncompromising rotary Instructor Pilot of the Navy Aviation Group who mentored him to be capable Aviator who later in the 90's made several

dicey sorties to the Mischief Reefs with Navy demolition team as Navy's effort to reinforce our claim and in opposition to other nation's claim to the said reef.

As we move away from the clutches of the pandemic, our attention and that of the nation veers towards the national elections. Like any other classes, the Maagaps felt the passion and divisiveness of the latest national elections 2022. Friends could be painfully cold because of the elections. Children and grandchildren could be cancelled out or bullied by schoolmates in highly and publicly politicized schools. Even eminent professors were cancelled out for choosing different candidates than their own choices. The national candidates represent two heavy opposing forces of the country since several decades back. The cycle of events since 2016 posed grave danger to the present day holders of power, and elections 2022 may pound the "nail to the political and economic coffin." As it turned out, the one political force which was dislodged 36 years ago in 1986

came back, dislodged its political nemesis with vengeance garnering 60% of the total votes cast, a record of sorts in multi-party system. Why it turned out this way needs personal choice to engage in deep research and understanding of facts and truths of the past 36 years. As we say, what an election it was. The Maagap is fortunate to witness both the national events of 1986 and 2022. As retirees and thus no longer restrained by the rules of active duty officers, we had different choices and discernment. So it was but after elections we move forward. There is no other way but to move together as ONE NATION; the global and local horizons portend serious signs of economic challenges billowing in the aftermath of the pandemic. And to top it all, the Russia-NATO war in Ukraine. Skyrocketing prices of commodities and oil coupled by the challenges of the global supply chain, which has not fully recovered from the pandemic, as the result of the war-driven sanctions put pressure on our pockets. The Maagap prepares for a long



*PMAAAI and MAAGAP Class abuloy to widow Carmencita Jardiniano.*

*At the wake of RAdm Jardiniano.*

drawn-out war in Ukraine as both Russia and US dig in trenches in Ukraine. At the same time, we hope such ruins and rubbles in Ukraine do not happen in our country in the rivalry of superpowers in the SCS. So far the SCS is peaceful and quiet as the US busies itself in Ukraine and China waits for the end-game and feathers itself in the process as responsible global leader in search for peace in Ukraine.

On 23 March 2022, Mistah VQ as Chairman and CEO, PMAAAI led the Groundbreaking Ceremony of the PMAAAI building, The Center of Excellence and Leadership with past PMAAAI chairmen, Espino, Aglipay, De los Santos and Rosales in attendance. Mistah SND was the GOHS as he unveiled the perspective of the building along Lawton Avenue, Fort

Bonifacio. Medal of Valor Awardee Cav Ariel Querubin '79, the most senior Cav Goyena '56 and the most junior Cav Jatco '18 graced the occasion. As we all yearned for, the construction of 300M peso 6-storey building is every Cavalier's dream soon to come true with great thanks to Megaworld which donated the building, SND Cav Lorenzana, the military top brass and the Army which provided the lot in USUFRUCT AGREEMENT with PMAAAI.

On 15 May during PMA Graduation, Mistah VQ administered to the fresh graduates the Oath of Membership of the PMAAAI.

As we got out of the pandemic woods, MAAGAP found time to fellowship via the usual golf and luncheon-meeting, with our forthcoming Golden Anniversary 2023

just around the corner. F2F meetings and work on-site, not the work from home during the pandemic, have become the trend in human endeavors and thus the pre-pandemic traffic situation is continuously revealing itself ominously in EDSA. Pollution from gas emissions is at hand not only in EDSA but elsewhere where there is a lot of human activities. Very soon all classes will open F2F and surely will compound the traffic situation and pollution. Maagap grandparents are prepared to send their grandchildren to school when needed.

As a matter of procedure, Maagap SND Lorenzana and Tesda Sec Gen Sid Lapeña will bow out together with President Duterte on 30 June 2023. The two MAAGAPs are the MAAGAPs' pride.



Specially for Maagap SND, he served the full tenure of six years as Defense Chief, as respectable Martial Law Administrator for Mindanao for two years following the Marawi attack to establish an ISIS caliphate

and Chairman of National Task Force which addressed early on the national threats of the pandemic. As SND, he saw the AFP procured brand new frigates, a

first in the history of the Republic, and modern armaments for the AFP. He is respected both by the government and the opposition.



With SND during PMA Graduation, 15 May



During the Golf Fellowship to celebrate the Navy Anniversary and pay tribute to SND.



Maagap Lunch at Cafe Lugang Megamall, 26 May



Maagap Ladies displaying the fabric they will wear on Golden Anniversary 2023 Alumni Homecoming



April visit to Baguio City to pursue coordinations on hotel, foods etc. for MAAGAP Golden Anniversary 2023



And round of golf at Pinewoods Baguio

### The Ants Crawled Upon the Rulers

By Cav Vidal E Querol '73

The dinosaurs are now gone.  
 They were heavy in their weight,  
 And more in their feet.  
 So tall in their gaze  
 All the ants unseen.  
 Others trembled by their roar.  
 They were rulers of the world.  
 In their dizzying heights,  
 They all fell,  
 And the ants crawled upon them.





**AVELINO I RAZON, JR**  
President  
**WILFREDO V GARCIA**  
Secretary

For this period, with the downgrading of pandemic alert level and easing of pandemic restrictions we were able to conduct a lot more class activities such as face to face meetings, birthday celebrations and golf for bonding, wellness and active lifestyle.

**A. Class Meeting**

- On 20 April 2022 officers of the class and editors of Golden Sword 1974 led by President Sonny Razon met at Villamor Golf Club Board Room to discuss the status of the Golden Sword Yearbook.

- Editor-in-Chief Danny Abinoja briefed on matters pertaining to the finalization of different chapters of the yearbook prior to printing. Chapter editors will have to finish their task as per schedule.

- The Class History submitted by Willy Garcia was reviewed and was unanimously approved for printing.

**B. Birthday Celebration at AGFO Building on 14 May 2022**

- The class will have a fellowship get-together party with 2nd Qtr birthday celebrators as sponsors on 14 May 2022 at AGFO. Measurements for the class blazer and distribution of class gold t-shirt will be made during the get-together.

- So far, the following have signified to attend: Sonny Razon with wife, Pons Crucero with wife, Ricky dela Paz with wife, Willy Garcia with wife, Danny Abinoja with wife, Rogie Calunsag with wife, Boy Bernal with wife, Gene Cedo with wife, Ace Tolentino with wife, Lito Gamit with wife, Nick Radovan with wife, Aji Gutierrez with wife, Romy Tolentino, Joe Ongchangco with wife, Rene Rieza with wife, Manny Carta, Jun Esperon, Jun Lopez, Bobby Bayona, Errol Pan, Pete Ramboanga and Nap Garcia with wife.

- The birthday celebrators are:

**April:** 1 - Rudy, 2 - Ding Zabab, 3 - Pards Espejo, 3 - Ricky Dela Paz, 4 - Albert Mabaquiao, 6 - Tony Enteria, 7 - Dante Rillorta, 8 - Romy Buenaflor, 12 - Nap Garcia, 13 - Migs Zubiri, 14 - Rudy Monte, and 17 - Joenard Junio.

**May:** 2 - Tato Salud, 9 - Sonny Tolentino, 11 - Pat Escudero, 17 - Raffy Alunan, 18 - Julian Elevado, 20 - Oca Mariñas, - 21 - Bobby Delfin, 22 - Ariel Abriam, 25 - Rudy Obaniana, and 28 - Buddy Esguerra.

**June:** 1 - Danny Abinoja, 1 - Mike Lopez, 13 - Tony Ramos, and 26 - Amy Tolentino.

**C. Golf**

Besides our regular MWF golf schedules at CAGC, VGC, PNGC and other golf courses, we were able to organize golf tournaments as follows:

1. **Corps of 74567 (Class 74,75,76,77) Inter Class and Inter Cadet Company Golf Fellowship on 9 March 2022 at CAGC hosted by Class 74.**

- A class may register as many players (associate, honorary members included).

- Scoring: Stableford System, the best 8 scores to count.

- Prizes:  
Class Champion- 4,000  
Cadet Company Champion-4,000  
Lowest Gross-1,000  
Hole in One- 5,000
- The host class raffled off 42"TV and many more raffle prizes.
- Players of Corps 74567 and flight assignment:

Flt 1 Crucero - A Magno - B Maligalig - A Lapinid - C	Flt 2 Noble - B Blanco - D Alarcio - A Padilla - B	Flt 3 Esperon - B Manuel - B Salvacion - B Ochoa - B
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Flt 4 Razon - C Gonzales - B Fojas - D Melliza - A	Flt 5 Garcia - D Doria - A Cachuela I - A Mancenido - A	Flt 6 So - A Sodusta - D Versoza - C Cortez - C
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Flt 7 Cedo - C Palugod - D Ramirez - A Pequiras - D	Flt 8 Tolentino - B Wong - B Dela Paz - A David - B	Flt 9 Gutierrez - B Rieza - C Cachuela Nap - D Cabalquinto - B Pabustan - D
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Flt 10 Bayona - C Arugay - C Cabalquinto - B Agdamag - A	Flt 11 Pan - C Carlos - C Heterosa - D Boco - A	Flt 12 Doromal - B Lopez - D Caringal - D Espera - D
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Flt 13  
Abinoja - D  
Dela Paz R - D  
Golez - D  
Morales - A

- Results: Class 74 emerged as the winner of the Inter Class competition.

- The next host for the Corps of 74567 tournament in June 2022 is Class 1975. It is up to them to designate the specific date and time, venue, format of play, scoring system, awards and prizes and rules.

2. **All Marangal Inter Battalion Golf Fellowship on 9 April 2022 at Villamor GC sponsored by NSA Sec Jun Esperon with raffles, prizes and lunch.**

**Attire:**

- 1st Bn (A and B) - Red and Gold Class 74 T-shirt and Class 74 khaki golf pants

- 2nd Bn (C and D)- Red and Gray Class 74 T-shirt and Dark Blue pin striped golf pants.

- Lunch, awarding uniform: Class 74 Maroon T-shirt.





**Competing Teams:**

\* Team 1st Bn players: Jun Esperon, Jun Noble, Damian Carlos, Lito Gutierrez, Ed Doromal, Hanson So, Jess Bartolome, Pons Crucero, Romy Buenaflor.

• Team 2nd Bn players: Sonny Razon, Willy Garcia, Ricky dela Paz, Danny Abinoja, Bobby Bayona, Errol Pan, Benny Cabrieto, Jun Lopez, Rene Riez, Pete Ramboanga.

**Results:**

• 1st Battalion emerged as the Champion of the Inter Battalion competition with 2nd Battalion as the strong runner-up.

• Ricky dela Paz was the Low Gross Champion while Jun Noble and Errol Pan garnered the Class A and Class B Awards, respectively.

But the undisputed winner of all was of course PMA Class of 1974 and the gracious host Jun Esperon for having been able to organize such an incredibly lovely event...Everyone was a winner, nobody lost in terms of bonding, fun and camaraderie!

**D. 2022 Boss Ironman Motorcycle Challenge XVI**

We wish to sincerely congratulate our Sports Class Coordinator Ricky dela Paz and Mr. Erastus Pan, son of Mistah Errol Pan, for successfully completing the 2022 Boss Ironman Motorcycle Challenge XVI held in San Fernando, Pampanga on 27 March 2022. You both proudly raised the Class banner in that prestigious sports event. Cheers!

**E. Holy Week Activities**

We would also like to convey our appreciation to Pons Crucero for hosting

once again the yearly Station of the Cross in commemoration of the Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ at his farm in Tanay, Rizal this Holy Week. May God bless us always especially in these challenging and difficult times.

**F. Marangal Ladies Club Activities**

On 28-29 April 2022, the still lovely Marangal Ladies led by their President Cecille Razon will have their own version of Class bonding by having an out of town trip in Batangas and will visit some churches and beautiful sights and sceneries in



the province. After which, they will stay overnight at Razon's Sunny Farm in Lipa City for more bonding activities.





**RAUL S GONZALES**  
President  
**DANTE T FERRER**  
Secretary

Summer has just arrived, and everyone just seems to be excited on how to spend this long-lost opportunity. We have all the reasons to feel this way because for the past two years, the Class held in abeyance the holding of summer activities due to the pandemic. It wrought displeasure among the mistahs and their respective families.

Of late however, the de-escalation of the alert levels in various localities in the country ushered in a respite from the long drought of celebrations. Quick to seize the opportunity was Baby Doria who hosted an archetypal lunch among the Makabayan 75 Ladies at the Palacio de Memoria along Roxas Boulevard, Parañaque City on March 2, 2022. The venue offers an *al fresco* atmosphere with a slice of culture and history. The Makabayan ladies who graced the occasion were: Ollie Gonzales, Lilly Ferrer, Len Wong, Joyce Luna, Angie Cadungog, Inday Palugod, Karina Barias, Lollie Alejandrino, Dinah Brizuela, Benny Pabalan, Emma Regis, Alma Arugay, Ana Samuya and Tess Logronio.

**Golf Affair** - Not long after, Nap Cachuela invited the Makabayan Golf team for a round of golf at the Calatagan Golf Course followed by a lunch at Nap Cachuela's place in Matabungkay, Batangas. Golf team members namely: Raul Gonzales, Noe Wong, Willie Palugod, Gerry Doria,



*Makabayan Ladies with host Baby Doria at the rustic Palacio de Memoria, Roxas Blvd., Paranaque City.*

Arsenio Arugay and Jeff Sodusta took part in this practice cum fellowship. This is actually a part of an on-going routine rounds in preparation for the various golf tournaments like the PMAAAI Cavaliers Cup and the Corps of 70s Cup.

Non-golfers like Reuben Crisologo and Nap Malana made their way with the group to enjoy the cool and refreshing air in Tagaytay City. What was so gratifying in this getaway was the gracious invitation of mistahs who have the resources in Tagaytay City, Pete Cadungog and Jeff Sodusta offered their sprawling places and even hosted the group for lunch and dinner, respectively. From improving their golf skills, the group embarked upon

infusing more romance by tagging along the wives during the overnight stay in Tagaytay City.

#### **Back-to-Back Birthday Celebration**

– Jeffrey and Nitz Sodusta treated the members of PMA Class 1975 to a sumptuous buffet lunch on April 19, 2022 at the Mayfair, Midas Hotel, Paranaque City. Eighteen Makabayans and 19 ladies shared the celebration with some other friends of the couple.

**Class Meeting** - After the birthday celebration, the Class President, Raul Gonzales, took advantage of the presence of 18 mistahs to disseminate some class matters; thus, an impromptu class meeting ensued. Among the topics discussed was the re-submission of Walter Villagonzalo's nomination to the PMAAAI Cavaliers Award for 2023. We recall that Walter did not make it in the 2022 awards but with his national award, **Pamana ng Pilipino Award**, which he acquired as an overseas Filipino who brought honor and recognition to the country, his chances of garnering the award is high. Another subject matter reviewed was the preparation for the homecoming in 2025 where he asked Noe Wong, treasurer, to present the status of the fund-raising pursuit of the Class.

#### **Walter S. Villagonzalo – Awardee Pamana ng Pilipino Award**

Another inexorable Makabayan 75 brought pride and fame to the Class by having been selected as one of the fifty-six (56) outstanding recipients of the 2021 Presidential Awards for Filipino Individuals



*Makabayan golfers relaxing at Nap Cachuela's place after a round of golf game at the Calatagan Golf Course*





*Makabayans attending the birthday bash of Jeff and Nitz Sodusta, Midas Hotel.*

*Makabayan Ladies who participated in the birthday celebrations.*

and Organizations Overseas. These overseas Filipinos and foreign-based organizations will be honored by President Rodrigo R. Duterte in a ceremony which will be announced at a later time owing to the fluidity of circumstances in the ongoing pandemic.

The awardees were thoroughly screened, following a four-stage evaluation process, from a total of 117 nominations received by the Commission on Filipinos Overseas (CFO) and the Presidential Awards for Filipinos

Individuals and Organizations Overseas (PAFIOO) from 31 countries and were endorsed by 39 Philippine Foreign Service Posts.

Walter S. Villagonzalo is conferred the Pamana Ng Pilipino Award. This award is bestowed on Filipino overseas who

exemplifies the talent and industry of the Filipino, and have brought the country honor and recognition through excellence and distinction in the pursuit of their work or profession. Among the advocacies of Walter S. Villagonzalo which earned him top honors is helping the migrants settle



*Walter S. Villagonzalo - Awardee Pamana ng Pilipino Award*



*The Mayor of the City of Wyndham read a citation from the Council recognizing the initiatives and projects Walter S Villagonzalo started and implemented when he was the Deputy Mayor and Councilor. (Photo credit – Wyndham News)*



*USec. Cardoso Luna, Undersecretary of National Defense delivering a speech during the opening ceremonies of the Balikatan 2022.*

in the community. He was named Citizen of the Year in the City of Wyndham where he urged the migrants to be effective members of the community, to integrate themselves, contribute and build a better place for the future generation. His outstanding contribution in the community was recognized by the local executives and this includes providing accommodation and support to asylum seekers and motivating new migrants to use their skills to start small business thereby creating more local jobs.

Keep it up mistah Walter, you've got the right mix of dedication and enthusiasm in your blood!

**Balikatan 2022 - Opening Ceremonies**

Mistah Cardoso Luna, Undersecretary of National Defense, rendered a keynote speech during the opening ceremony of the Philippines-United States Exercise Balikatan 2022 at the AFP Headquarters in Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City, last March 28, 2022. Around 9,000 members of the AFP and U.S. military personnel trained on maritime security, amphibious operations, live-fire training, urban operations, aviation operations, counter terrorism, and humanitarian assistance and disaster relief. During Balikatan, the U.S. military and AFP train together to expand and advance shared tactics, techniques, and procedures that strengthen response capabilities and readiness for real-world challenges.

**Makabayan Class President is PMARAI President** – Raul S. Gonzales is the PMARAI president vice Van D. Luspo, who requested to be substituted in order to accord him the much needed focus in his campaign sorties this coming national and local elections. Van is a nominee of the PNP Retirees Association Incorporated (PRAI), a partylist group seeking a seat in the House of Representatives.

The other PMARAI Officers are: Danilo Abinoja '74, chairman; Luizo Ticman '76, vice-president; Alejandro Camagay Jr '77, corporate secretary; Felipe Buena Jr '78, treasurer; and, Ramon Liwag '79, auditor.

**Condolence for a Makabayan** -The Makabayans were stirred again by the untimely demise of mistah Benjamin D. Tesoro on February 2, 2022 in San Manuel, Tarlac. At the time of his death, he was the



*Benjamin Diza Tesoro (August 4, 1953 - February 2, 2022)*



*Raul S Gonzales, PMA Class 75 president, delivering his eulogy for Benjie D. Tesoro.*

incumbent vice-mayor of the municipality. The Class president Raul Gonzales led the Makabayans in consoling the bereaved family. Among the Makabayans who were present during the interment at the hometown cemetery were: Raul Gonzales, German Doria, Noe Wong, Pete Cadungog, Mandy Cunanan, Willie Palugod, Ernie Boac, Ding Luna. Makabayan ladies who consoled with Cresencia and the children were Ollie Gonzales, Len Wong, Inday Palugod.

During the interment, a eulogy was delivered by no less than the president of PMA Class 75, Raul S. Gonzales, the full length of which is hereby reprinted:

**A Tribute to Mistah Benjie**

*The members of PMA Makabayan Class of 1975 thank you all for being with us to celebrate our Mistah Benjie or Bening's life and share with you our grief on his untimely demise. We also express our sincere condolences and sympathies to Bening's lovely wife and her family.*

*It was in the early afternoon of April 1, 1971, at the holy parade grounds of the Philippine Military Academy in Baguio City when 120 very idealistic, ambitious young men were unloaded by six buses from Manila and other parts of Luzon. At a thundering voice of an upper classman, we were commanded to find our heights and to fall in line. This is the very first time Benjie and I were at the same location and will start a happy relationship that will last for a lifetime. Little did I know that a young very unassuming boyish looking guy would be loved to be a squad mate, roommate, tablemate and company mate of many of our mistahs for most of the four years of our stay at the Philippine Military Academy.*

*Mistah Benjamin Diza Tesoro was a timid, soft-spoken but poetic when*

engaging in casual conversation. A son of a farmer from this historic town of San Manuel, Tarlac, his four years of academic pursuit in the Academy was no easy for him specially in the technical subjects where he once admitted that that was not his forte. He would burn late lights for most of his engineering subjects and still found himself taking removal exams in the end. But his dedication, hard work and determination to graduate from the Academy paid him well because results of his removal exams would even surprise our professors. Sometimes the professors would even ask "How did you do that?" referring to the almost perfect scores he got from said exams.

While Benjie found the technical subjects his Waterloo, on the other hand, he excelled a lot in the literary and humanities fields. This talent brought him esteemed honors as he became the editor-in-chief of the Cadet Corps Magazine. For this feat, he was bestowed the PMA's Journalism Award during our graduation.

When we graduated on February 17, 1975, Benjie was among the 31 members of the Makabayan Class of 1975 who joined the Philippine Army and was immediately deployed in the field. As a newly commissioned officer he started his career as platoon leader of the Army's Infantry Battalion. Benjie reported to his first assignment to the 34<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion of the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division stationed in the province of Basilan. This was at the height of the AFP's pacification campaign against the Moro National Liberation Front, a group advocating for the cessation of Mindanao from the Philippines. Among his many exploits against the insurgent forces, a significant one is a particular engagement he had in Mount Siningcapan, Basilan where he led his platoon against 50 encamped and heavily armed enemy forces on July 4, 1975. His leadership and the courage he displayed during the intense armed confrontation earned him the Gold Cross Medal, the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest award of the Armed Forces of the Philippines for bravery. He was really a brave man according to his subordinate officers and soldiers that he would risk his own life just to ensure the safety of his men while attaining at the same time his mission objective.

While still in Mindanao, he was met by one of our classmates when they were both tasked to escort the remains of a classmate who got killed in Sulu to his hometown in Calatrava, Negros Occidental. At that time, Benjie was still recuperating from his wounds at his left arm incurred in a firefight with the MNLF rebels in Basilan.

While they were in Calatrava during the wake of our classmate, Benjie confided to our classmate about the senseless loss of human lives, about Filipinos killing each other in the secessionist war between the government and the MNLF and his desire to fulfill his dream without resorting to bloodshed. This could be the underlying reason why Benjie left the Service at a very early stage of our military career.

We lost track of him for years after he left the Service. However, from nowhere he resurfaced to tell what he was doing as a civilian. Once he appeared in my office telling me that he was engaged in wood carving business. As proof, he presented to me as wood carving of our Class Crest which was professionally done. Up to this day I still have that Class Crest with me. Several years later, he dropped again by my office in Camp Crame where he presented a book entitled "My First War and Other Related Memories" authored by him about his life as a soldier. He related to me that he is engaged in farming in San Manuel. The difficulties of being a farmer could have awakened his desire to help his farmer townmates, but he could find a way on his own having no means to do it. Then he realized politics is one way to be able to help. So, he aspired to be a mayor of San Manuel but lost the first time because his constituents have not recognized his pure desire to help and serve. This did not discourage him to try again the second time. And when he won to become mayor of this town and started serving his constituents, there would be no stopping for as long as the people wanted him to serve, he completed nine years as a mayor.

Serving his people was his calling and he was very happy about it. His love for his people must be the reason why Benjie continued to serve even at the expense of his health.

But just do not be mistaken, his first love is still Cresencia, his wife and his family. Together with Cresencia, they molded four kids to be successful in life. With his influence or if I am not mistaken, he was their idol, two of his children, a son and a daughter followed his footsteps in entering and graduated in the Philippine Military Academy, they are now serving as officers of the AFP. His other son is now a lawyer, but his best gift to the people of San Manuel is their daughter Dona Cresencia, your present mayor whom I learned she is trying to outdo his father in serving you.

Mistah Benjie, the Lord has called you. Time for you to rest in peace and for you to return to your Creator. After all, you have fulfilled your dream for your people, for your constituents and for your countrymen. And there will be continuity of your service through your children: a daughter Mayor Dona Cresencia who will continue your service in your town; a daughter, Madham Cresencia and a son, Judge Benjamin who have followed your footsteps in the military; and another son, Sir Benjamin whose life is dedicated on the rule of law. And to your loving and caring wife Cresencia, she will always be here to guide your children and represent you in the PMA Makabayan Class of 1975.

Benjie, I and we the PMA Makabayan Class of 1975 salute you. Goodbye my friend, my precious mistah. Till we meet again.



Makabayans pose with Dr. Purita Danga after the memorial service of Pip Danga on April 20, 2022 at the Libingan ng mga Bayani.

**Final Resting Place** – Exactly two years after the death of our mistah Tirso R. Danga, a celebration of life in his honor was held on April 20-21, 2022 at the Libingan Ng Mga Bayani, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City. It was a two-day affair with the first day as the vigil and memorial service attended by the family and friends. Seven Makabayans were present during the service. Pete Magno, the vice-president for the Navy group, delivered a eulogy in which he extolled Pip “in a way that would not diminish our remembrance of him when he was still with us...” Pete Magno delivered eloquently and with humor making the event upbeat rather than sober.

Pete Magno concluded his eulogy saying, “I would say that our mistah Admiral Tirso Danga had fulfilled his dreams as he had lived up to his sworn duty, just like anyone of us.” He added, “He risked his life for our country in order that our people live safely in freedom.” Full-military honors deserving the rank of vice-admiral was tendered during the inurnment ceremonies. A fairly large group of Makabayans numbering 15 led by the president, Raul Gonzales, were by the graveside. Others were Pete Cadungog, Pete Magno, Noe Wong, Dante Ferrer, Willie Palugod, Nap Cachuela, Nap Malana, Gerry Doria, Mandy Cunanan, Ernie Boac, Ding

Luna, Nito Samuya, Arsenio Arugay, and Reuben Crisologo. We recall that Pip Danga succumbed to a lingering illness on April 21, 2020 at the St. Luke’s Medical Center in Bonifacio Global City, Taguig City. He is survived by his loving wife, Dr. Purita “Puring” Danga from Basilan and two daughters, Mary Elizabeth and Mary Pauline and a grandchild Ruthie.

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*(We encourage the class members to submit articles for publication to the Class Call by sending write-up and photos to the class secretary at [ferrerdt@msn.com](mailto:ferrerdt@msn.com)) - Ed.*



**Changing of Guards**

For the first time in our class history, election of new officers to serve for a 2-year term was done online via the Google election platform in early February. This was immediately followed by an online general assembly meeting supposed to have been held face-to-face in December 2021, but government restrictions on mass gathering were still in full force.

Outgoing class president Epoy Marayag delivered his last President’s Report summarizing in a nutshell completed and on going projects and activities of the class

during his 3-year presidency (2019-2021). Worth mentioning of these activities are: (1) granting financial assistance to sick or hospitalized mistahs or their immediate family member; (2) granting class member bereavement assistance; (3) granting immediate family member bereavement assistance. Due to insufficient class funds resulting from the absence of fund-raising activities, support for the above activities is voluntary given by well-off members of the class who formed themselves into a group called Magilas Benevolent Givers; (4) participation of and support to the Magilas golfers in tournaments whether such are class-initiated or on invitation of other PMA classes; and (5) management of investments to beef up the dwindling resources as a result of the covid pandemic.

Two days after the election, the list of new class officers was posted in the Magilas Viber Group as follows:

**Class Officers**

President	Tanggol Gatdula
Vice President	Boying Alarcio
Secretary	Louie Ticman
Treasurer	Carly Divinagracia
Auditor	Wilson Young
Trustee (A Coy)	Ely de la Paz
Trustee (B Coy)	Abner Cabalquinto
Trustee (C Coy)	Vic Boco
Trustee (D Coy)	Efren Daquil
Trustee (Membership)	Sammy Narcise
Trustee	Bong Ibrado
Trustee	Epoy Marayag
Trustee	Nelson Allaga

**Induction to Office**

On 18 February, the new set of Magilas officers and trustees were inducted to office by former Pangasinan congressman and incumbent mayor of Lingayen, Pol Bataoil at Green Meadows Clubhouse in Quezon City. Hosting the activity was Ed Lacanienta.





Outgoing president Epoy Marayag, in his remarks, thanked the class, most especially those who greatly contributed to the realization of the plans and projects he envisioned during his incumbency. He ended his brief speech by congratulating the newly inducted class officers. Incidentally, Epoy is the new President of AGFO.

Incoming president Tanggol Gatdula on the other hand thanked Epoy Marayag for steering the Magilas class into a more cohesive, united, and result-oriented brotherhood organization. He likewise pledged to continue any unfinished project of his predecessor while pursuing his own plans and programs as follows: (1) monthly face-to-face conference of BOT members; (2) encourage several less active Magilas members to participate in class activities and on-line discussions; (3) more fellowship activities including class tours and company-initiated team building meetings; (4) new and more rewarding investments to boost fund resources; (5) sustain efforts of the Magilas Benevolent Givers; (6) more participation of Magilas golfers in tournaments; and (7) continue to support PMAAA activities. Guest speaker Mayor Pol Bataoil (then running for another term in office) did not talk about politics but simply advised the new set

of officers to do their duties with greater zeal and enthusiasm and with high level of excellence.

A sumptuous meal followed, and the activity ended with the inducted officers showing appreciation and gratitude to the host, Ed Lacanienta, for a job well done in single handedly making all arrangements and preparations to make the activity an outstanding success.

#### **New Magilas Board of Trustees (BOT) Office**

The termination of our lease contract to use a room inside the PNP Training Center in Camp Crame prompted President Tanggol to accept the offer of Mistah Wilson Young to use a vacant space in a family-owned commercial building as a BOT office. Additional improvements in the facilities were immediately made by Wilson including the construction of a restroom, and lending of tables and chairs. Another Magilas Mistah Tyrone Ong donated a 65-in smart TV and a laptop which shall facilitate the holding of regular board meetings.

On April 25, a simple ribbon cutting ceremony led by President Tanggol and the subsequent blessing of the new office by PNP chaplain P/LTC Alejo Despacio, was held. The blessing was well attended not

only by the Magilas officers and trustee but also by other mistahs including, Epoy Lagdamen, Mon Punzalan, Tyrone Ong, and other friends of the Magilas. A sumptuous lunch prepared by the Young brothers followed, during which President Tanggol surprised Wilson with a Plaque of Appreciation and a decorative memento. Having a new office, the BOT held its second monthly conference after lunch, wearing the new BOT uniform specially tailored for them. The conference lasted an hour but concentrated on the compliance updates of things agreed upon during the first monthly conference at AGFO.

#### **Congratulatory Messages**

Congratulations to the following Magilas golfers for their exceptional feats in playing:

- 1) Jess Versoza who made a "hole-in-one" hole #8 at the Philippine Navy Golf Course.
- 2) Sonny Cachuela, who made an Albatross at Camp Aguinaldo Golf Course.

Congratulations to the following Magilas political candidates who won in the 2022 poll:

- 1) Pol Bataoil as Mayor of Lingayen, Pangasinan

- 2) Sandy Javier as Vice Governor of Leyte
- 3) Karen Javier (wife of Mistah Sandy Javier) as Congresswoman (Leyte)
- 4) Tutti Caringal (son of Mistah Jimmy Caringal) as Provincial Board

Member (Laguna)  
 5) Michael Javier (son of Mistah Sandy Javier) - Mayor of Javier, Leyte

“Congratulations to Mistah Alex Resngit for having been appointed as

Senior Manager by US-based Cephed’s Company engaged in automated molecular diagnostics including test kits for Covid 19. The Magilas Class is truly proud of you. More power!”



**‘Twas 1 March 1977.**  
 PFM gave our diplomas.  
 Bachelor of Science.  
 Commissioned “vicks”.

**Tsikenklab lunch.**  
 Kampo Agui Golf Club  
 Sapphire (45 yrs) celebration of class graduation.  
 Young ones then.  
 Young once now.

**19 jolly sexagenarians present 🙏:**

1. Vixi Abat
2. Manny Andaya
3. Rey Bangit
4. Jaypee Bondoc
5. Roy Camagay
6. Dan Cortez
7. Manny Dahan
8. Ric David
9. Bobby Estioko
10. Ding Ferrer
11. Rene Heredia
12. Eric Javier
13. Lino Lapinid
14. Art Mancenido
15. Jun Manga
16. Dick Morales
17. Nes Ochoa
18. Orly Pestaño
19. Benhail Sevilla

- copies of Alumni Registration 2021 given to those who ordered.
- tsikenklab key rings distributed. 🗝️

**•OBIT 📄**

Condolence to Divina family on the passing of mistah Ed Divina (PNP)  
 Condolence to Art Mancenido on the passing of his mother.

**•In this period of LENT,**  
 we respond to God’s chasening hands and renew our spiritual vitality.

**“You are dust and to dust you shall return”**

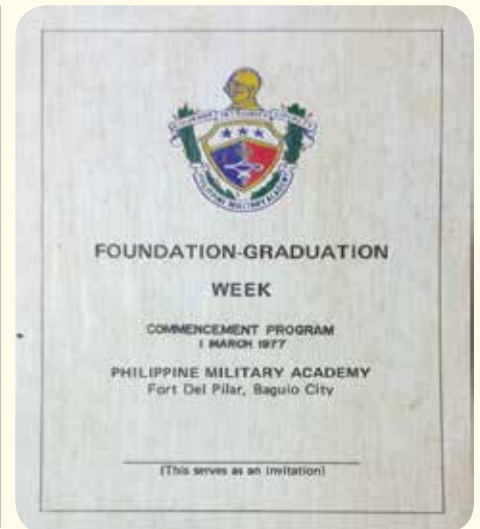
~genesis 3:19

**•PANDEMIC**

Alert level 1.  
 We continue to be on-guard against contagion in our social and sports activities.  
 We pray for healing of kalihim Vixi Abat and wish him recovery of physical strength after his surgery following a bad fall.

**•ELECTIONS**

Campaign rallies gain traction.  
 We rally behind our Mistahs who are running for local positions and partylist representatives. Good luck! 🗳️





**'Tis the merry month of May indeed!**

Though we swelter under the oppressive humidity and heat, brief bursts of rain herald the start of the wet season. And scientists warn that rainfall could come in torrents. Rain, please?

For the Mapitagans, there are just so many reasons to laugh about, and for some, jump for joy.

**Mapitagans have a new President!**

Let me be clear with this. I do not call attention to the outcome of the May 9 exercise. Setting aside emotions that were somehow stirred up by partisanship during the countdown, let us, with a sigh of relief that it is over, live with the fact that the majority has spoken. We heal as one – as a nation, as Peemayers, and as Mistahs.

**The Mapitagans have a new Class President!**

He is Cavalier Lauro Catalino Dela Cruz, who ably served as Commanding General of the Philippine Air Force from 09 January 2012 to 30 April 2014. With overflowing pride, we pat our backs at the same time nod our heads and tell anyone that Boss Larry did an outstanding job during his stint as CG, PAF. And this time, we are very confident that he will perform the same, if not betterer, as our Class President.

Last 30 March, with Covid-19 restrictions loosened up, Mapitagan birthday celebrants for the month of March headed by Boss Nick Bartolome hosted a fellowship and birthday luncheon at The Pavilion of Villamor Air Base Golf Club. The venue and food catering were arranged by Boss Larry.

Thirty-four Mapitagans were in attendance, plus a familiar guest of Danny Saberon. They came to greet the another-year-added celebrant-hosts Nick Bartolome, Ted Torralba, George Regis, Bert Yambing, and Onell Lleno. Balikbayans Alex “Guzzie Boy” De Guzman and Steve Ojeda joined the celebration, as well as Pol Palacio. We are just glad and thankful that circumstances allowed us to have this face-to-face lunch and fellowship. Imagine doing that in Zoom. Whoa!

With a heavy heart, Boss Nick relinquished his post as Class President

after five years at the helm. We could have wished Boss Nick to be president for life, but we acceded to his desire. In the impromptu election that followed, Boss Larry was elected as Class President for a term of one year starting that day. Congrats Boss Larry and may the force be with you!

In a message to Mapitagans in our Viber group, Boss Nick said: *“Dear Mapitagans. This is to thank you for all the support you have extended to me during my tenure as class president. Because of the pandemic we didn’t notice that we’ve grown another five years together as classmates. As always it’s my pleasure to be of service to the class. Congratulations to Boss Larry and to the new set of class officers. Ahooo! Ahooo! Ahooo!”*

He also thanked the following Class Officers for their services to the class who were with him for those five years: VP for PA - Jess Lomeda; VP for PAF- Greg Macapagal; VP for PN- Bogs Abogado; and VP for PNP - Gil Meneses. As Class Secretaries - Onell Lleno, Nolet Ojeda, Jeff Tupas and Edmund Tan. As Class Treasurers - Tony Baraquiel and Jun Sanchez. Maraming salamat sa kanilang lahat!

Boss Nick, we Mapitagans are forever grateful to the outstanding and amazing selfless service you rendered to us. You put



*Lunch Fellowship for March 2022 Birthday Celebrants attended by 34 Mapitagans with one Lady Guest of Danny Saberon, held at the Pavilion, Villamor Air Base Golf Club (VABGC) on 30 March 2022.*

in order the affairs of the Class, and ably steered it to where it is now. Our snappiest salute!

Diamonds do not hold the monopoly to this saying, for, as Boss Nick often say, *“Classmates are forever.”* Yes, Boss Nick, we are lucky, and proud.

In turn, Boss Larry graciously accepted his election, posting in our Viber group: *“Maraming salamat mga Mistah. Proud to be of service to the Best Class PMA has produced. God bless us all.”*

Not wasting time, Boss Larry and the new set of Class Officers had an informal dinner on 19 April at the Tamarind A Taste of Thai resto in SM Aura. Over excellent and exotic Thai cuisine, discussed were plans and activities for the year. We thank Boss Larry and Boss Emil Sarmiento for introducing Thailand to our palate and tummy.

Our Class Officers are as follows: President – Boss Larry; VP for Army – Onell Lleno; VP for Navy – Bogs Abogado; VP for Air Force – Greg Macapagal; VP for Police – Emil Sarmiento; and VP At-Large for Abroad Mapitagans – Jess Lomeda. Other officers are: Class Secretary – Edmund Tan; Treasurer – Jun Sanchez; Legal Counsel – Gil Meneses; Chair, Committee on the Utilization of Class Funds – Ces Ordoyo; and Ex-Officio – Nick Bartolome, as past president. We thank them for accepting the challenges of leading our class and wish them all well in their undertakings for the class.

Although we feel sad that four of our mistahs did not make it in the last

May election, we beam with pride that Mistah Joey Salceda was reelected as representative of Albay’s 2<sup>nd</sup> District. Kudos goes as well to the bunkmate of Mistah Ricky Sandoval, Jeannie, who is the new Mayor of Malabon. To our four mistahs, keep the dream, today is the best day of preparation as any for the next fight. Three years is just a blink. Remember King Bruce.

Another Mapitagan added more luster to the shining achievements of our class. Boss Ed Del Rosario, the first Secretary of the Department of Human Settlements

and Urban Development, received the Outstanding Achievement Award for Meritorious Service given during the 2022 Homecoming in Fort del Pilar. Boss Sayong has rendered exemplary service in various capacities in government service since 2016.

Speaking of Mapitagan sterling service, our Class Sec Boss Edmund was elected as Board of Trustee of AGFO Foundation, Inc. in an election held last 29 April. Meanwhile, two other Mapitagans were elected to the PETFI Board, Atty. Gil Meneses and Mike



*Dinner cum Meeting of new Class 80 officers at the Tamarind Thai Resto, SM Aura on 19 April 2022. Present were: (L-R): Emil Sarmiento (VP for PNP), Edmund Tan (Secretary), Jess Lomeda (VP for At-Large Mistahs), Greg Macapagal (VP for PAF), Bogs Abogado (VP for PN), Ces Ordoyo (Committee Chair on the Utilization of Class Funds), Jun Sanchez (Treasurer), Larry Dela Cruz (President), and Nick Bartolome (Ex-Officio Member being the Past President). /EC TAN*



“Ige” Rodriguez. Nominated strongly by past Prez Boss Nick, Atty Gil was a shoo-in. But another seat was open to Class 1980. Ige was nominated as he was boarding his plane in Puerto Princesa. He had no idea he was considered. When the plane landed in NAIA, he was now, to his surprise, a PETFI director. Kayang kaya mo yan Igs. Gil too. Sec Ed din.

**Improved version?**

We are proud to welcome two new “brat” lawyers who passed the recent Bar Exams. They are Atty Aira Kathrina Perez, daughter of Arnold and Ellen, and Atty. Lawrence Jesse Mendoza, son of Mie and Tess. They are the new additions to the growing roster of Mapitagan “brats” who have chosen the legal profession, namely:

- 1) Cpt Alexa M. Andaya, US Army (JAG), daughter of Andy and Marivic;
- 2) Atty. Czar Augustus C. Colina, son of Hermie and Grace;
- 3) Atty. Neil Owen B. Deona, son of Nestor and Flor;
- 4) Atty. Arman Joseph M. Guzman, son of Manding and Cynthia;
- 5) Atty. Gemma Lynne P. Layug, daughter of Gerry and Emma;
- 6) Atty. Paola Kathlynn Q. Llano-Armada, daughter of Onell;
- 7) Atty. Christian Gil P. Meneses, son of Gil and Cristy;
- 8) Atty. Kristine Grace P. Meneses, daughter also of Gil and Cristy;
- 9) Atty. Justin Adriel E. Ordoyo, son of Ces and Cheryl;
- 10) Atty. John Dominnee A. Reyes, son of King and Ada;

- 11) Atty. Mark Lester A. Reyes, the other son of King and Ada;
- 12) Atty. Glenda A. Yano, daughter of Cesar and Celie;
- 13) Cpt. Julius A. Yano, Reservist (JAG), son also of Cesar and Celie;
- 14) Atty. Alloysius R. Yebra, son of Efren and Irene; and
- 15) DOTr USec. Reinier Paul R. Yebra (Top#1 in 2010 Bar Exam), another son of Efren and Irene.

- 4) Atty Eduardo U. Escueta
- 5) Atty. Washington M. Javier
- 6) Atty. Gil C. Meneses
- 7) Justice Nancy R. Palmones
- 8) Atty. Quirino P. Revilla, Jr
- 9) Atty. Judito Angelo C. Tadeo
- 10) Usec. Nabil A. Tan
- 11) Atty. Herold G. Ubalde(+)

Of course, we are more proud with our “nothing beats the original.”

- 1) Atty. Francisco M. Ancheta, Jr
- 2) Judge Miguel S. Asuncion
- 3) Atty. Jesus Isidoro C. Atoc

The pandemic is just about over; man beat the virus, as always. Better days lay ahead. Birthdays we welcome and celebrate. Grandchildren we welcome too with alacrity. Our drives off the tee are ten yards less. There’s a new tenant in the palace by the river. Life goes on.



Two New Brat Lawyers of PMA Class 80



Aira Kathrina C. Perez



Lawrence Jesse S. Mendoza

**ALAN R LUGA**  
President  
**OSCAR P LOPEZ**  
Secretary

We are in the middle of summer, and the heat is sweltering not because of rising temperatures but because of the Election fever. By the time this article is published, we shall have elected a new set of government leaders, from the President, Vice President, Senators and local representatives. We may have supported different candidates and were passionate about our choices but this should not be at the expense of our relationship with classmates, friends and even family members. Despite our diverse



choices, we were one as Dimalupigs in our desire for a better Philippines in the years to come. Let us all hope and pray that the new set of leaders of our country will bring us to a better future.

Last March 19, our first quarter birthday celebrants and recent awardees of the PMAAAI sponsored a Golf Fellowship and Lunch at the CGEA Golf Course and NICA NCR Office in LOGCOM Area, Camp Aguinaldo, respectively. Quite a number of mistahs were in attendance to include CAV Levi Cleofe, who just arrived from the USA. Also present were seven Manlulupigs led by the Mrs Pres, Beth Luga. The venue was thru the courtesy of the brother of CAV Dong Gammad, who is a member of PMA Class 90 and the Regional Director of NICA NCR. Since we are already in the lowest COVID Alert level, we might as well

take advantage of this period to have more fellowships and be updated on each other. We hope to make this a regular event in our calendar.

Also recently, two mistahs from the US of A came for a visit, CAV Gabby Dizon and CAV Kid Quinsay and Aura Quinsay. While they stayed in the country very briefly, they were treated with a few golf games. CAV Kid even provided raffle prizes in one of the golf fellowships. We wish to thank him for his and Aura's generosity.

And speaking of generosity, we would like to express our heartfelt appreciation to all those who provided financial and moral support to classmates who are unwell and who need our care and attention. Just recently, a Dimalupig group went to see CAV Sonny David in his residence in Pampanga to

bring good tidings. He was so excited to see mistahs and even went out with the group to Clark Air Base for a short tour. We would also like to pray for the immediate healing of another mistah, CAV Butch Cabanban. We all know you are a fighter, and you will overcome this challenge. Another Dimalupig group also visited CAV Frank Bucayu in Camp Crame. He was in high spirits despite being in solitary for quite a while now. We also pray that he will be among us, soon!

Well, this is all for now. The pandemic is still not over. Everyone is still reminded of the health protocols. Let us all keep ourselves healthy, busy and productive. God bless us all. Mabuhay ang Dimalupig.





The year 2022 is another milestone for PMA Sandigan Class of 1982. The PMA Superintendent approved the class request to celebrate its 40th Graduation Anniversary (Ruby) at Fort del Pilar. It was a well-attended celebration by Sandigan members and dependents.

Part of this year's celebration was a Golf Tournament at Pinewoods by Sandigan golfers last April 1. Nick Vivar conquered Pinewoods and emerged as the Tournament Champion with Mayor Elmer Soria as the runner – up garnering the Lowest Net award. For Class A, Gordon “d destroyer” Dezcanso as Champion and Jon Abalos as the runner-up, Class B, Chito Trinidad as Champion and Alex Sembrano as the runner-up and Class C, Cris Acosta as Champion and Gammy Cruz as the runner-up. For the Ladies division, Pinay Mabilin as the Champion and Marie Campanilla as the Runner-up. Two Special awards, longest drive and most accurate drive, were won by Mel Mabilin and Mayor Benjie Magalong, respectively. All the winners were awarded trophies during the class dinner. Congratulations to the winners and to the other participants who “lost with grace but with the will and determination to win”, may the Golfing Gods be with you next tournament.

The traditional Branch of Service dinners were held at City Light Hotel for the PNP, Crown Legacy Hotel for the PA, FOIC's quarters at Navy base for PN and Station Hill Restaurant for the PAF. Time for boodling, bolahizing, updating and drinking.

The following day the celebration started with a Wreath Laying Ceremony at the Alumni Memorial in honor of the Cavaliers who have gone ahead of us. Sandigan have lost 22 gentlemen from our ranks. May they all Rest in Peace with the Lord. The Cadet Host for this very solemn activity was Cdt 2CI Bob Gongona, the corrected copy of our very own mistah USEC Ed Gongona.

Foyer Honors was accorded to the Class President and was followed by an informal introduction of class officers and members at Longayban Hall to the members of Team PMA. The Foyer Commander is another proud Sandigan brat, the improved version of the Class President, Cdt 2CI Titus Laurel.



Our favorite Boodles composed of bucayo, hopia and fruits were served, reminiscent of our memorable experiences during our fourthclass days at the Academy.

The highlight of the celebration was of course the parade and review rendered by the Snappy Cadet Corps in honor of the Sandigan Ruby celebrators. We were given the privilege to show off to the Corps that we can still march, keep in- step and align ourselves during the trooping of the line.

The lunch with the cadets at Yap Hall was something special for our dependents. They were able to have a glimpse on cadet's etiquette and social graces while eating. It was also on this occasion that the ceremonial check worth 500k was turned over to the PMA Superintendent as a gesture of our gratitude to PMA. This money will be spent for the renovation of the Sandigan Lounge at Melchor Hall.



At about 4 p.m., the Class offered a thanksgiving mass at the Convent of the Blessed Sacrament at Brentwood (Pink Sisters). This is to express our gratitude to the Almighty God for the FORTY YEARS of abundance, FRIENDSHIP and CAMARADERIE. Big thanks to Chong Yap for the instant coordination.

Finally, the affair was capped by a dinner and a fellowship. It was a very lively and happy occasion courtesy of our superb "host for life" mistah Chris Laxa. The exchanges were lively over lechon cow/pig (all with heads) and washed with overflowing hot darn. Dancing and raffles of some prizes added to the excitement with Sam Gayongorsa winning the 1st prize. The new set of Class Officers took their oath and was presided by USEC Ed. It was also during this time that some members who brought Honors to the class were recognized. Our Cavalier awardees for the year- mistah Mayor Benjie Magalong for Public Administration, mistah Cris Acosta for Private Enterprise and mistah Erwin Luga for Special Fields. Plaques of Recognition were also awarded to three mistahs, Bobby Yap, Bitoy Cabanig and John Bonafos, who spearheaded the conduct of relief operations and other humanitarian activities in areas struck by calamities. Such selfless acts



have undoubtedly earned, not only for themselves but also for the Sandigan Class as a whole, the respect and admiration of our fellow Cavaliers and the public at large. A Plaque of Appreciation was also given to mistah Chito Trinidad for his dedicated

service as the outgoing Class President. This Ruby Anniversary celebration was indeed worth remembering and something to be cherished by every member of the Sandigan Class of 1982. God Bless Sandigan and Mabuhay!



As the number of cases due to the pandemic whittled to a paltry number, the country gets reanimated, our class included. While still exercising all the due precautionary measures as advised by the authorities, we proceeded on with all the activities deemed necessary to make our class life akin to normal again.

This call staves off the 39th Celebration of the most hallowed occasion of our class: The Matikas Day. This is a day for all the members of the class to remember... on that fateful day of March 11, 1983, when we were all conferred with our first triangle insignia. All 198 of us were given our commissions as 2nd Lieutenants, young and eager to share to the world what the Academy has equipped us for our brand of nationhood.



By tradition for more than 20 years now, the members of the class see each other and together lapse in memories distinct only to us. Our way of celebrating Matikas Day has evolved overtime but we usually divide the day into three parts: First, a bonding session is done through sports which now features our Golf Fellowship (it used to be those that require so much cardio until we gave accord to the more

mental, sedate and classy rhythm of golf); This is followed by our second event which is the huddle in the Libingan ng Mga Bayani to pay tribute to those of us who have passed on through our Memorial Service (this features the traditional ecumenical service and the rendering of honors to our fallen classmates which has gathered emulation and is now fast becoming celebration among other classes); and, the



third part which is Matikas Night Dinner that caps the event. This time, we loaded the dinner with two other activities: The raffle of the Fortuner; and, the turnover of the class leadership.

The attendance of the golf fellowship was a collection of the best players from the different companies. With the ability in the sport almost uniformly distributed among members from the different companies, the fellowship started with the usual fierce competition that characterizes most, if not all, of our golf games where a foot distance for putt cannot hope for a “give”. Why ask for tolerances when handicapping has been settled right before the start of the game. Caddies have been briefed of this strict adherence to the rules and those caught with unreasonable leniency are marked for disavowal of patronage. The best players are mixed with the “turf diggers” to infuse aspirations in their game and for the good players to gain the spirit of mentorship and the sacrament of patience. This culture makes the class golf team a standout in most Cavalier tournaments and caused it to be regarded as the most feared players of the Association for a long time now...even transcending the generational divide. But this time, in this particular game we turned millennial: we gave each of those who attended a trophy, not for the mettle and precision they showed during the game but merely for just being there, for being alive and kicking.

While our past Memorial Services have always been lionized by the formal ceremonies fitting for heroes, (except during the years of Pandemic when we pared down the rituals to the essential) this one ushered in a brew of tentative feelings. While we were there almost festive for huddling together once again as a class together with the relatives of those mistahs who have fallen, after the taming Covid protocols, we felt especially mournful for the passing of six of our

classmates just within the short two-year period. And as we whispered our prayers and we also saw the lengthened row of wreathed pictures and names that were still so close and familiar we were one with them again... consoled with the thought that we care for each other in distinct

solidarity of brothers that extends even at the gates of death.

The Dinner Night that followed was held at the Philippine Navy Officer’s Club in the Philippine Marine Naval Station in Fort Bonifacio. Added to the usual dinner were the turnover/oathtaking of the new





class officers and the Fortuner Raffle that was postponed from December last year.

The turnover of leadership is done against the backdrop of a newly contrived scheme meant to steer the future of the class under the varying method of management learned and curated by the elected representatives from the different branches of service. To make this happen, simply put, the members of the different branches of service will select from among them a predetermined number of representatives to compose the class "parliament" (for lack of any other term). From among this collection of representatives, they will select the class president and other officers of the class while keeping in mind that the presidency shall be routed among the different branches of service. In one go, this method has addressed the problem of the "PowerPoint" (whereby mere kantiawan an unwilling classmate becomes the president of the class unceremoniously), and the dominance of any branch of service as the source of leadership. This will also deepen the experience of the class



as it is slated to experience the wealth of the different management styles espoused and polished by the different branches of service of the AFP. This time, our former president representing the PNP, Bernie Florece, gave way to the new President Henry Sabarre representing the PA.

The Fortuner Raffle Draw was no small feat of the event. Generating seven

figures in revenue for the class. Like all games of chances, the law of probability took the rule for the day, and the mistah who bought the greatest number of tickets went home with the most coveted SUV. In deference to the winner, he chose to be anonymous. As soon as the most awaited part was revealed, the party ensued led and made colorful by our ladies...





**RIZALDO B LIMOSO**  
President  
**GAUDENCIO C COLLADO JR**  
Secretary

The Sinagtala Class continues to be a committed member of society more so in their service years, the cavaliers have proven their and serve our country. one of the best ways to look at those years is through a book

**Launching of the Class Coffee Table Book**

The Sinagtala Cavaliers launched its long-awaited Coffee Table Book (CTB) last 24 March 2022, at Camp Emilio Aguinaldo Quezon City. The CTB showcases the milestones and achievements of the class in their military career. Copies were already distributed to and received by the Mistahs, present during the launching are the officers and members of the class. It was a day a great day to catch up with fellow cavaliers and reminisce about their precious moment in the Philippine Military Academy.

**Class Fellowship**

The Class still continues its Thursday regular fellowship facilitated by the Core Group headed by Cavalier Sam Felix. And last 21 April 2022 fellowship on the Joy of Marriage with Bishop Jonel Millan and Mrs. Tess Millan, as guest speakers.

The couple inspire the Mistahs and their spouses to put God first in the center of their relationship. In the end they quote a verse from Roman 12: 10 “ Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.”

The Class officers had their regular monthly meetings and four special meeting to discuss the various matters and activities of the class.


Other matters that the class officers are currently working on are the following:



- Annual renewal of the life insurance.
  - Renaming of the Sinagtala Pavillion at CAGC to Ramos Hall
  - Preparations for the Elections of Class officers for 4th Quarter 2022.
  - Distribution of the CTB books
- In addition to the coffee table book project, the officers of Sinagtala Class also turned over the Sinagtala Pavillion built

**CLASS SONG**

Spectrum of colors opposite the sun  
Gallant young men are formed to be as one  
We are here to be brave and strong  
'Coz we're the future leaders of the land.



Sinagtala as we are called  
For thy symbol of honor stands so tall  
For freedom is our exquisite goal  
And those arrays depend us all.

Armored with soldiers' unwavering gallantry  
Loyal sons of pride and dignity  
Our spirits raise for the victory  
'86'ers with pride this song's for thee.



at Villamor Air Base Golf Course in Pasay City last 7 May 2022. The Hand Over of the Pavillion was presented by Lt Gen Rozzano D Bringuez PAF (RET) and was graced and accepted by Lt Gen Connor Anthony D Canlas, PAF, Commanding General of the Philippine Airforce.

Indeed, the Sinagtala Class of '86 has again made a mark of its existence and continuous excellence and service. With Cavalier Rizaldo B Limoso as the current Class President and the loosening of the community restrictions, the Sinagtala Class will have more projects and activities in the coming months.

*“Moving forward the Class Officers of the Sinagtala will work as much as we had for our remaining months so we can say that we have done our part as we have fought our battles in the field. Kudos! To my fellow officers, word of appreciation for your support and hard work for making my task easy.”*







The class, with its majority having few months in the active service and to a few, with a year and few months left, is striving our best effort to always update the members and the PMAAAI our activities and contributions to the PNP, AFP, Coastguard and to the entire nation as well. And for this period, here is the updates for the PMA MAKATAO Class of 1989:

**ARMY GROUP By Jun Torres:** As the Makatao Army Group march forward to the third quarter of this year, fifteen (15) are still in the active service, with four of them getting new designations. Wibo Mamawag was designated as the Commander, 4th Infantry Division; Ariel Felicidadario as the new Commander of AFP Special Operations Command; William Gonzales as The Inspector General, AFP; and George Lalaquil as the Commander, Installation Management Command, Philippine Army. Also, since our last class call, more mistahs joined the Pensioner's Club such as Lincoln Tagle, Joey Narciso, Lowell Tan, Juvymax Uy and Rod Batang. It is indeed this year that quite a number of mistahs could be seen retiring. This coming semester, three more are expected to retire, namely Manny Sequitin (19 Aug), Ariel Felicidadario (17 Nov) and Alex Luna (28 Nov).

More and more mistahs are now able to attend retirement activities as witnessed during Joey Narciso's retirement and birthday bash at Malarayat Golf and Country Club on 16 April 2022. It was a fun-filled Makatao whole day affair with the boys playing golf during the day followed by a free-for-all fellowship in the afternoon which showcased the varied Makatao talents, providing entertainment to everyone until late in the evening. It was indeed a day to remember. Our gratitude to Team Narciso for bringing the Makatao family together to that wonderful event.

Another memorable event was the Testimonial Honors and Parade last 23 April rendered by our alma mater to our retiring mistahs. Juvymax Uy, Manny Sequitin, Dorvin Legaspi, Bart Bustamante, together with Renz Ortila, stood proud among the honorees as the Corps of Cadets rendered their snappy salute as they pass the grandstand. Congratulations and thank you very much mistahs for your outstanding service to God, Country and People. We proudly salute!

**PNP GROUP By Jun Azurin:** For the Police updates are the following -

1. PMGen Joseph Ulysses Cubar Gohel retired last May 2, 2022 as Acting Director, CSG.
2. PMGen Jesus D Cambay Jr took over as the comebacking Director of CSG. He is now in Israel with Bart Bustamante for the PDI of the Basic Assault Rifles (BAR) procured by the PNP for our CEP 2022.
3. PMGen Bartolome R Bustamante - currently the Director for Plans but busy preparing for his retirement this June 4, 2022.
4. PMGen Valeriano T De Leon - congratulations to our TDO for an excellent performance as the Asst Task Group on

SAFE National and Local Elections 2022. You did ensure that everything will be implemented and executed according to your plan.

5. PMGen Omega Jireh D Fidel - currently our Director, DIDM is busy with the implementation of the National Police Clearance nationwide.

6. PLtGen Manuel Manalo Abu - very fresh news as of this writing. Congratulations mistah for your very well deserved designation as our new TCDS. Parang puro Hawk Company na lang ang nasa Command Group ah!

7. PLtGen Jose Chiquito Miparanum Malayo - the very smart and hardworking Commander of Area Police Command -Western Mindanao is now doing his job with his Chopper.

8. PLtGeneral Rodolfo S Azurin Jr - currently the Commander of Area Police Command - Northern Luzon after serving as Commander for APC-Southern Luzon for 52 day, he was transferred to his current post in time for the SAFE NLE 2022.

9. PLtGen Rhodel O Sermonia - currently the TDCA and the No. 2 man in the PNP Hierarchy. With a new administration coming in, he is one of the top contenders of our class for CPNP.

10. USec Albert Ignatius D Ferro - as Undersecretary working in Malacanang, Bert is busy and very rarely seen after he retired last March.

Erwin Robles, Uly Caton, Bert Solomon are on call for any class activities.

Rex "Jordan Spieth" Dela Rosa of the Class and Kuya Ed "Frankie Minoza" Paras are busy with their golfing careers too!

**NAVY GROUP By Ariel Caculitan:** The group have come up of maturity in the service after serving more than 30 years in the Navy, Coastguard, and Marines.





Seasoned and experienced, only two major movements have been achieved since the last update, and it's either moving up in the chain of command or going on retirement. Navy 89ers are now blessed with three Vice Admirals. Abet Carlos is now Commander of the Western Command, AFP and busy defending the West Philippine Sea, El Nido, Coron.. :) Chappy Reyes is the new "The Deputy Chief of Staff" TDCS, AFP, who makes sure the GHQ J Staffs and other units of the AFP are always on their toes in their journey to excellence. Ed Fabricante is the Vice Commander of the Philippine Coastguard ensuring our coastline's safety and preservation of our rich maritime resource. Recent movement in the Navy opened up opportunity for our James Bond Nick Driz to Command the Philippine Fleet and spearhead its strategic development to the future. Dorvin Legaspi remains as the Commander, Naval Reserve Command ensuring recruitment and readiness of our Reservists. He is "oftentimes seen patrolling intramuros golf course to prevent soldados del Espana from retaking it :) " Jun Adaci "the Panero" is still at Naval Forces Western Mindanao Command and busy securing the southern front. Charles Gaerlan is the new AFP Training and Doctrine Command, who is always working double time to sharpen the professional competence of our rising senior officers of the AFP and rides his 750cc GS BMW bike while contemplating on matters of strategic importance. Raul Caldez remains the busy man of PMC as the alter ego of the Commandant Philippine Marine Corps. He is also the fastest gun alive of the 89er

Marines to date, ikaw ba naman ang may sariling reloader :) Also, he rides his 650cc Vstrom Suzuki bike whenever he feels like communing with nature oorah :) Candel is still the Commander Combat and Service Support of the Marines, always making sure the combat assets and support units are on excellent condition, but who also spends time doing his creative art and playing his soothing music through his saxophone. John Garana remains in GHQ as AJ10 working hard in the management of AFP resources. He has now regained his status as a top caliber golfer. All in all, we have six in the active service in the Navy, three in the Marine Corps, and one in the Coastguard.

Those who have recently retired and joined the relaxing, peaceful, and wisdomful world are Enyong Hernandez who retired as J9 in December last year and quickly joined the San Miguel group of companies, as if working 36 years is not enough :). He is currently settled in Cavite. Ariel Caculitan retired in February of this year as the 33rd Commandant of the Philippine Marine Corps and now enjoys a peaceful life in Bulacan, busy doing improvements in his house and backyard. He also rides his 883cc Harley Davidson to see and feel our nature's beauty. Rei Picar retired last April as Commander of the Coastguard Aviation Group and now enjoying his tranquil life with his family in Greenwoods Pasig. Techi as always, he not only lurks the cyberspace but also enjoy flying his drone and integrated it as part of his peripheral security :). He rides his 400cc Honda Super Boldr to see places,

meet people, and join Makatao and Bugo Bugo Riders in the laughter. Ferds Velasco is still in Bacoor Cavite with his family and quite pre-occupied with his business, golf, and riding his bike. He rides his 1250cc GS BMW alongside Makatao and Bugo Bugo Riders. Nestor "Mars" Marcelino is still in San Jose del Monte Bulacan with his family, spending most of his time in church activities and his new found meaningful org, the Eagles. Francis Gabudao still enjoying his retirement in Cavite near Tagaytay with his flourishing business.

Some of the retired and honorary members here and abroad whom we haven't heard from recently are: Timmy Aurelio, William Isaga, Butch Lobaton, Bong Abellera in the UK, Rey Baraca in the US, Maeng Climaco in the US, Nonon Suniga in the US, Orbille Piol in Australia, Ronaldo Mendoza in Italy, Randyll Fernandez in the US, Jong Marcelo in the US. John Lumicao is in the US, Floro Lozano (PNP but always with Navy) is in the US. In remembrance, we pray for the souls of Teody and Jun Jun who have joined our Creator ahead of us.

We have a new nominee for adoption, Atty Raul Cortez, a classmate of Chappy Reyes and a resident of Quezon City currently working at his own law firm. He was introduced to the Class last February during the visit to our fallen mistahs at the Libingan ng mga Bayani, Taguig city.

**PAF GROUP By Toto Dela Pena:** led by no less than the 38th CG, PAF, Connor Canlas delivered the goods in ensuring a safe, honest and peaceful National Elections 2022. Strategically supporting

the CG in Southern Luzon is Nesty Rayos in Command of the Air Education, Training and Doctrine Command and Lito Villanueva, leading the Air Force in the Visayas-based, Tactical Operations Wing Central. With the able leadership of Makataos, the Air Force now looks forward to celebrating its 75th Founding Anniversary this coming July 1, flying high with LIPAD PAF in Performing, Advancing and Fostering towards national security and development. We are anticipating a strong dash to the finish line for Makatao's this year with LITO D's upcoming retirement this 04 Oct. Welcome the newest Makatao millionaire!

Meanwhile, in the Land of the Kings where everyone can do what he wishes, Toto D is busy with his home projects but always available for regular fellowship games with Hampas Lupa 89ers with Larry T who is in full swing beautifying the "Home of the Philippine Masters" and reducing his handicap. Fellow retirees are also pre-occupied part-timing as DBMs (driver/bodyguard ni misis) with LEO P, continuing with his advocacy financial literacy and enjoying their freedom like



Cris Mar-Q and Aldrick DT. Meanwhile, die hard Makatao flyboys tirelessly contribute to the post-pandemic national economic recovery with Caloy C flying with the General Aviation. Meanwhile, we caught a glimpse of JERRY BOY during his break from Doha, Qatar. Hopefully HK relaxes its travel restrictions so we can also have coffee and a round of golf or two with Paul M by middle of this year. Finally, our mistah Doc Joey A, who is busy with his various business interests, but always present in our viber group, looks forward

to joining the regular Hampas Lupa 89er golf fellowships. See you around mistahs!

Lastly, congratulations to all Makatao's for a job well done for the SAFE NLE 2022. Every Makatao really performed their respective roles in this election 2022. Cheers to everyone! And to all our (22) retired and retiring mistahs this year, in behalf of the PMA Makatao Class of 1989, thank you for the great services you rendered to this great nation.

Mabuhay kayo mga mistah at lahat ng MAKATAOS



The proudest Class of today is the **MAALAB CLASS of 1993** as it made a history to its Alma Mater, the Philippine Military Academy by producing the **first ever Brat** to graduate **No. 1** of her own 'BAGSIK Diwa' Class of 2022 in the person of **Navy Ens Krystleen Ivany G Quemado**. The "Proudest among the Prouds" Maalab who produced the good gene is the great **Niq Quemado Jr.** What made him more proud are the honors and awards that Maalab Brat Krystleen had received being a Cum Laude and a recipient of numerous awards and recognition such as: Presidential Saber, FOIC Saber, JUSMAG Saber, Spanish Armed Forces Saber, AGFO Award, Navy Professional Award, Academic Group Award, Humanities Plaque, Management Plaque, Social Sciences Plaque, and Department of Leadership Plaque. Equally proud Maalab father is **Macky Macalintal Sr** (in heaven) whose brat Army **2Lt Macalintal de Second** also graduated with the same Class of 2022. Surely, Maalab **Tupe Leron** (in heaven) is also proud of his brat PNP **P2Lt Pat** who graduated in the Philippine National Police Academy, the first ever produced by the Maalab Class 1993.

What made the **MAALAB CLASS of 1993** more proud today are the recognitions that its **Brats** have ever achieved, as follows:

- 2Lt Joanne Maureen A **Lachica** – AFP Nurse Corps (Cum Laude BS Nursing, St. Louis University)
- 2Lt Arjel Jairus M **Fernandez** – Philippine Air Force
- Dr. Justine Mae M. **Gervero** – Registered Nurse (Top 9); Licensed Medical Doctor (Top 4), St. Louis University School of Medicine
- Atty. Larah Angela F. **Regis** – Ateneo de Manila University Law School
- Atty. Ma. Samira C. **Tacandong** – University of the Philippines Law School
- Frances Ruvy **Babac** – Licensed Pharmacist, University of the Philippines Manila
- Paula Louise **Pasamonte** – Registered

Nurse, Adventist University of the Philippines

- Albert Marianne **Pasamonte** - Registered Nurse, University of Canberra, Australia
- Krishna Lounilenn G. **Quemado** - Licensed Therapist (Top 2) – University of the Philippines Manila
- Lorenzo Enrique C. **Moreno** – AB Economics, Ateneo de Manila University
- Nicole **Diego** – Master of Science in Occupational Therapy, University of Alberta
- Cyrus **Diego** – BS Computer Engineering (First Class Standing), University of Alberta
- Johanna Renee G. Bunayog – Licensed Psychometrician, Centro Escolar University
- Louise Jeanelle R. Angeles – Licensed Therapist
- Bianca Ysabelle G. Icaro – BS Psychology, Polytechnic University of the Philippines





**TOP RANK**



**PAULA LOUISE E. PASAMONTE, RN**  
Adventist University of the Philippines

July 2021 Philippine Nurse Licensure Examination

*Congratulations!*

FOR TOPPING THE FEB 2016 PT-OT LICENSURE EXAM

**TOP 2**

#SRCPTOTFAMILY  
#HEARTSTRONG  
#ORIGINALandBEST

WE ARE VERY PROUD OF YOU!

**KRISHNA LOUNILENN QUEMADO, OTRP**

University of the Philippines Manila

SRC // CERTIFIED OTRP




**CONGRATULATIONS!**



**CONGRATULATIONS!**




**Joanne Maureen A. Lachica**  
Cum Laude, BS Nursing  
20 June 2018



**Maalab 29th Graduation Year Commemoration**

The Maalab '93 commemorates its 29th Graduation year from PMA with our fallen Mistahs at the Libingan Ng Mga Bayani on 21



March 2022. Said memorable occasion were attended by no other than our El Presidente Chevong Echeverria, Navy Rep and PMAAAI President Gucciboy De Guzman, Army Rep Rey Ga, Bitoy Llapitan, Niq Quemado, Wally Icaro, Randy Remonte, and Mars Gayat.

**1st Maalab Invitational Golf Fellowship**

As the Covid-19 pandemic situation loosen in Metro Manila, the Maalab '93 held its 1st Invitational Golf Fellowship on 19 April 2022 at the Philippine Navy Golf Course, Bonifacio Naval Station, Taguig City. After more than two years of home isolation, an overwhelming number of golf enthusiasts rushed to respond to our invitation. It also became a good venue for a nice fellowship among the long missed Mistahs.



**TED C CEREZO JR**  
President  
**MARISSA LIBRANDO MANGAHAS**  
Secretary

Above all, the Kaakibats have a solid foundation, that is our faith in God. "Let us, therefore, make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification" - (Romans 14:19). It is an honor and opportunity to be servant-leaders (positive leadership) and to serve our vast maritime nation as we do our tasks as a ONE-Team. Kaakibats remain to be apolitical as we all exercise our right to suffrage. The class is united to shape an organization that thrives on equality, justice, and equity in our society.

Class call current updates:

**Navy Group:**

Most of our Skippers, Pilots, and Marine BatComs are now undergoing CGSC CL71. Still united though not much socialization is being undertaken, the Navy group remains steadfast in being cohesive as one: Hooyah, Huraah!

**Frontliners of the Seas** - Jess PILAR – CO, BRP Ang Pangulo (ACS25); Jinggoy RUIZ – CO, Manobo (LC297); Marco SANDALO – CO, BRP LS551-Dagupan City; Romeo MOSUELA – CO, BRP Subanon (LC291); Jewel DE VERA



– Acting CS, LCF; CAPT PHILIP Plaza – CO, (PS36); Paul HECHANOVA - Ex-O, BRP Jose Rizal (FF150); Raymund UMBAC - GSC71; Joy TAÑAG - D, NAVMETOC; Ariel TORRES - CGSC71; Warren LOPEZ - D, F1,PF; Ted CEREZO - CGSC71; Manny PANTALEON - CO, HSU-LCF; and Rowene COLITA - CGSC71. The **NAW** soaring above the skies - Ariel COLOMA - GSC71; Keith MARQUEZ - Group Commander, NASEG; Mickey SIMEON – CO, MARPATCON32; and Dennis RESUELLO - NAW, Inspector General, CO, LUPS31. Cyber-Security – Henry MABBAGU - IG, ADep Nav ICT, Center. For the **MARINES**: Rowan RIMAS – AC of MCS for Operations MC3; Prisco TABO - MC1, PMC; AI POLA - MC7; Tino MASLAN

- MC8, PMC; Wowie OLASO - CGSC71; and Cliff BASCO - CGSC71. While the rest: Alfred CAYABYAB – C4, NLC; HPN and GHQ dudes - Kris ILARDE, ExO, N2; GHQ - Marissa LIBRANDO-MANGAHAS (DC, AFPIMAC), Joe MARCELO - Chief PBDB-N10; Bryan VALDEZ (J8); Jomel Panes - PSG; Flor MURITO – UN Peacekeeping; Antonio BOSCH – CGSC, WDC-USA; **PCG** – Nelson TIMBANG - CG3, ELUMBA - Co, **Private and public quasi group**: Imee BUTAC-MARIÑAS – Relaxing like anything; TAMBA - CPG Property Mngt SM PHI; PEREZ - Country Sec Manager of Multinational SC Co; FAJARDO PRETILA - Australia; ROSOS - US; while BABANG, PONTEJOS, DAQUILANEA, LABORTE are on their respective companies.

### Air Force Group:

Congratulations, to all who have finished their Command and General Staff Course. Updates Kaakibat PAF Group: DE LEON - ACSC USA; MEDROSO - C, PPPD, AGUHOB - JSOG; GAVILAN - C, AFPIMAC; CASTRO - AFPETDC, JC6; BALICO - GM, AFPPF; SOMERA - C, RDD and C, ESOD, OJ3; EUGENIO - OJ3; TOLENTINO - OJ6; Ty- C, JCTD, OJ8; DAUZ-CADUNGAN - OSS, HPAF; PIQUERO - JC4, AFPETDC; LACBAIN - U4, WESCOM; CABALQUINTO - DO, 420SW (Clark); QUIMING - CO, PAF ALEN (Lipa); OLAVE - Cndt, NCOS (Lipa); TABUTOL - GC, TOG2 (Cauayan); GADOR - GC, 540ABG, 5th Fighter Wing; PARUGRUG - GC, 430AMG, 5th Fighter Wing; CHAN - GC, 590ABG (Sangley); BENITEZ - GC, 450th MSG (Mactan); SEVILLA - GC, 550ABG (Lipa); BUAN - CO, 3rd ARCCN (Lipa); HALLARA - CO, 6th ARCCN (Zamboanga); BAQUIRAN - CO, 4th ARCCN (Palawan); ISLA - Blackhawk Pilot, 205th THW; **PDEA** - ALVARINO and PLAZA; GRANDE - DD, TESDA; **PAL** - VERGARA, MARINAS, MAGLUYAN; **PAF reserves in civilian/business sectors:** HUSSEIN, DE GUZMAN, PENAFLOIDA, CARONONGAN, VASQUEZ, CARANDANG, MACARUBBO, FABIC, ASIS, ANONAT-DANIELS, MATIAS, ARIOLA, BAJESTA and ROSETE.

### Army Group:

Our army classmates are all over the archipelago: NCR: PSG boys are NINI SOLAMO, FRANK GARCIA and GLADIUS CALILAN, the lone Army-PCG, ANTERO PRADO; J-staff and HPA staffs are BATBOY BATINGA in J3 and JOE PERLAS with G6. ROMIL CALERO is just in ASR and JESS JUMAWAN is at HHS; NANTE OCCIANO and RON TORCELINO are with ISAFP, while MAYEE RAMOS is our contact in GHQ PROFUND, and in AFPCEs is JASON PANALIGAN. To complete the NCR boys are: JOSEPH ARRIOLA; PAULO BUSOG; ALEX CABALES; JULIUS ESPIRITU; MEL ESTACIO; RITHCIE MABALOD; JEMER PAMPLONA; BRY PUNCIA; and WARJAM TAYABAN, who are either in the corporate or security sector. **Central and Northern Luzon:** Contact STEPHEN ENCARNACION, ARBERN ABIVA, RONNIE VENTO, GOMER DELA ROCA and maybe, REGIE COLOMA. In Fort Magsaysay, RINO GUDA, GEN IGNACIO and GLEN APRESTO are your men; The Tarlac boys are - HENRY GUILLERMO; RYAN VILLAR, WILLIAM SABADO, IAN HAMLAG and DON FRIVALDO, all in Camp O'Donnel; Isabela/CAR, MANNY DIASEN and LEMUEL BADUYA; PMA, FARA ASKALANI CANDELARIA and GIE MARCELINO ESPANOLA. **Southern Luzon:** PERCI ALCANAR, ROMAN SASING, and JV PULMANO; Bicol region, RIC AGOJO, ORLY RAMOS, JEROME CABIGON, and NELSON MICO will welcome you. **Visayas area:** MAR BAUTISTA, TJ DALANGIN, MANNY



DEGAY and SID VICENTE are in Samar; Western and Central Visayas regions are EARL PANGANIBAN; CONS CAHAYON; ODI BARRIENTOS, ERAP ESTRADA; ALI DEPAYSO, ERWIN CARINO, OLICK SALAYO, LESTER CABUNOC and MARIO HIDALGO. **Mindanao:** ALDRIN BALDONADO and RON MALCON, in the security sector; In North and Central Mindanao - CHRIS MUGOT, JEROLD JALE and ARIS ANTONIO in Cagayan de Oro City and VIC VILLANUEVA, JELSON BUYUCCAN, HARVEY GERNALE, AND RIC DAYATA ARE COMMANDERS IN THE FIELD; DAVAO REGION, MONG DESINGANO, JULIUS MUNAR and ROWEL TABAS; Cotabato and Maguindanao are BENJIE CADIENTE, JP BALDOMAR and JASON DOMINGO; Zamboanga and Sulu - FILVEN NOCHE; REY TAQUEBAN, BOYSEN GAWIDEN, PAENG CAIDO, BENITO RAMOS and JOEL DEL MENDO. **CGSC students:** From CL 70 - ROMAR MARVIDA NAZ Arojo, Jaco Cordero, Mike Rayman, Pewee Solosa, Angel

Valenzuela and Magno Mapalad; From CL 71 - HOMER ESTOLAS, FRANCIS RUGAYAN, EVELIO ILANGA; LAMCEL CARANGUIAN. REY DE LIMA and CHENG REANO. They are busy and at the same time relaxing Lieutenant Colonels. **Outside Philippines:** UN MILOBS, FRED SAN AGUSTIN, LAZARO QUIGAO in Secondment Post in Australia, MONGKOL KHOM-ARWUT, who is with Thailand Army, and ANGEL ARANETA in the US with family.

*"Finally, all of you, have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind." (1 Peter 3:8)*. The class is united in projecting a "phronetic leader" in our respective field, so that future generations can see how Kaakibat leaders are leading the organization to a place of integrity, where self-interest is valued less than devotion to God, country, and people. KAAKIBATS, let us keep moving forward. We will rise as ONE.





**REYNALD JV BALANAY**  
President  
**NOEL SM MARZAN**  
Secretary

**CLASS UPDATE:**

The members of the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) Class of 2003 have for years been anchored to their class name – “Mandirigmang may Karangalan.” For 19 years after graduation, the Mandarangans strived to maneuver their path affixed to what PMA has instilled in their hearts and minds: Courage, Integrity, and Loyalty. The service credibility and individual capacity built

on by the Mandarangans from the years of dedicated service are now their benchmarks in accomplishing their recent achievements.

In the Philippine Army, much has been achieved by the Mandarangans, who are mainly holding positions at HPA and GHQ. Mistahs as Battalion Commander are some of the things that are worth mentioning.

The Mandarangans in the Philippine Navy have also been smooth sailing as the majority of the members are Commanding Officers aboard ship and holding key positions in the Navy.

Members of the Philippine Air Force class have also done great things as Unit Commanders in the PAF and in their GHQ assignments.

Kudos to the Class Officers led by Forever President LTC JAY BALANAY PAF and

newly installed VP LTC RONALD MAMANGON PA. Likewise to the Service Marchers – CDR REY MA-AO PN, LTC NOY RIVA PA, AND LTC THON AMORA PAF for the prompt support, initiatives, and sustained efforts that contributed to the Class’ success in the AFP and on the golf course.

Time passes so swiftly. As the Mandarangans reach for their aspirations, it is heartwarming that their offsprings follow in their footsteps. In this regard, the Class would like to congratulate LCDR LEX TEJONES PN for the successful inclusion of his daughter, the first Brat of the Class, in the Recognition Rites of the Fourth Class Cadets in PMA.

As the class prepares for their 20 years as commissioned officers, they are now geared to be present physically come 2023 Alumni Homecoming.



**OWEN MONATO-AVENIDO**  
President  
**EDWARD R ESTONINA**  
Secretary

**SALAMAT PRRD!**

Let me take this chance to thank the outgoing President of the Republic of the Philippines for everything he has done during his term, especially for his trust and confidence to some of our very brilliant mistahs who have served him closely. Our PSG mistahs have done very good jobs in securing the President for six years! That is such a great accomplishment, considering the hate and threats from different groups. Kudos mistahs! PRRD definitely loves O4!

**BBM: Bonggang Bonggang Maliyab!**

Maliyab today has the most number of members assigned in the Philippine Military Academy, one can say “PMA is under BBM control!” Twelve of our mistahs are holding key positions in the



academy: STO - Dave Bonifacio, MA1 - Ronald Juan (kaya MA-juan), MA3 - Jonel Martinez, MA4 - Leo Villamor, MA5 - Allan Oabel, MA7 - Mark Ruelos, MA8 - Rod Batinay, DGW- Rod Babaran, DAW - Joel Gabino, Ex-O, HAG - Manny Kalang-ad, Deputy HSG - Tamayo, CSSO,PMAHA - Geoff Fabros. Twelve mistahs, twelve possible billeting areas in Baguio!

Recently, another beautiful mistah joined the flock of our retirees, the ever gorgeous CAPTAIN LILY BETH JAMORALIN-CUNTAPAY PN (Ret). Last April 17, 2022, no less than the Secretary of National Defense graced the surprise party to celebrate her 22



years in the service, last six years of which was spent as the Chief, Protocol, DND.

Speaking of beautiful and gorgeous, our female mistahs are regularly having their “wine nights” where they take turns in hosting. It is their bonding moments to talk about work, family, career plans, and a venue for “maritessing” haha.



Last March 12, the Class celebrated our 18 years of graduation from John Hay. We were the first (and so far the only) Class whose graduation ceremony was held outside the portals of Camp Gregorio del Pilar. No hurt feelings whatsoever by the way, as all of us believed “it is not the venue, it’s the value”. We are as valuable and amazing as all other PMAers who come before and after us. The pictures below were taken from different areas in the country where Yabers gathered together to celebrate life, friendship and the bright future ahead of us all.







**STEVEN G TALI**  
President  
**JANCEL SUNSHINE L**  
BERNARDEZ-VILLANUEVA  
Secretary

**Dos Mil Kinse: The New Brand of Hope**

Who would have thought that the pandemic has brought so many helping hands together to bring hope to the hopeless? Fueled with the desire to help and spread positivity, the PMA Sinaglahi Class of 2015 and the PNP Lakandula Class of 2015 joined forces in organizing their first-ever “We Serve, We Care Program: *Ang Nagkakaisang Lahi Ngayong Kapaskuhan.*”

They chose Concordia Children’s Services, Inc. - a non-government organization that gives abandoned or neglected children a temporary home and shelter. Some of the children in the shelter were rescued from their abusive parents, some were abandoned in the hospitals, and some were even found in trash cans.

Both classes did not only donate grocery supplies for the children here in Concordia, but they also spend precious time that left a great impact to the children.

That act of generosity is only the start of a more profound activity that will foster camaraderie and unity among the Dos Mil Kinse members of PMA and PNP. Their efforts and sacrifices to give the children what they need were greatly appreciated by the management.

As they brawled to create an impact, they only show that they are worthy of their accolades and recognitions in their service in general because of the vast populace that they help along the way.

**The Soon to be Captains**

The first three years of the members of PMA Sinaglahi Class of 2015 have been



truly challenging because they only have “Too Little Talents” as their rank suggests- 2LT. Too Little because their capacity as an officer is still limited. However, as junior officers, they have proven that their “too little talents” are not a hindrance but a strength, because they are given the opportunity to learn and achieve more.

As they moved to the next higher rank, their years of experience, training, and exposure earned them One Little Talent (1LT) because they are now more knowledgeable and learned in their fields of specialization.

Now that they have an appreciation of Comprehensive Principles and Tactics (CPT), they are ready to be promoted. The soon-to-be Captains have proven their worth over the duration of their seven years in the service. In this connection, the Army, Navy, and Air Force Groups have undergone Special Physical Fitness Tests (PFT) and interviews for their probable promotion to Captain.

The promotion for this year has been modified, following the rules of the COVID-19 protocols. Since its suspension in 2020, the PFT resumed with special consideration to the health protocols. Aside from the delay instigated by the resumption of the PFT, the election also caused the promotion to be put on hold.

Those challenges did not hamper the advancement of the Sinaglahi officers to the next rank because their individual achievements for their years in service earned them merit and recognition.

**The First Female Fighter Pilot is a Member of PMA Sinaglahi 2015**

In a historic moment, the Philippine Air Force has announced its own first-ever Female Fighter Pilot last, March 31, 2022. 1Lt Jul Laia Mae Camposano-Beran PAF is now the first female AS-211 combat-ready pilot and wingman. 1LT CAMPOSANO-BERAN made a historic event in the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) as the first Philippine Air Force (PAF) female to become a combat-ready pilot of the AS-211 “Warrior” combat jet aircraft under the 5th Fighter Wing. 1Lt Jul Laiza Mae Camposano-Beran was the first to check out after undergoing fighter fundamentals and combat crew training. She was checked out as the first female pilot and wingman ready on the AS-211 Warrior. 1Lt Camposano-Beran hails from Tulunan, Cotabato, she is a member of Philippine Military Academy (PMA) “SINAGLAHI” Class of 2015 and a member Philippine Air Force Flying School (PAFFS) Class of 2017. The class is very proud indeed of the success of LT Camposano-Beran.



*“Be strong and courageous,  
for the Lord will be with you  
wherever you go.”*

# LAST CALL

## **COL ALEXANDER I BACALLA '62**

06 July 1938 - 08 March 2022

Cav Bacalla died on 08 March and was interred on 12 March 2022. He joined the Philippine Constabulary after the PMA graduation. He was the Deputy Chief of Staff for Civil-Military Operations, J7, at GHQ until he joined the Movement for Free Philippines. He stayed in the United States before settling down in Cebu.



## **LTJG MARKEVIN M ADAN '17**

02 Sept 1991 - 10 March 2022

Cav Adan died on 10 March 2022 of gunshot wound at San Pedro, Albuera, Leyte. He was assigned at PC374, Littoral Combat Force, Philippine Fleet at the time of his passing. Cav Adan just passed the training with flying colors from the International Combat Information Center Watch Officer Course at the International Surface Warfare Officers School in Naval Station Newport, Rhode Island.



He is survived by his wife Mary Rose and children, Aris Brentt and Caerus Emmanuel. The wake was held at Soledad Chapel in San Pablo from 13-19 March and interred on 19 March at Pines Memorial Park, San Pablo City.

## **PN CAPT VICTOR S VILLACORTA '67**

23 Nov 1941 - 12 March 2022

On 12 March 2022, Cav Villacorta passed away peacefully in Quezon City due to lingering illness. He was cremated the following day. In 1990, he was named Commanding Officer, AFP Supply Center at the AFP Logistics Command and a year later, he moved up to be the command's Chief of Staff. In 1994, he served as Superintendent of the Naval Command



and Staff College. He retired from the service in 1997.

The inurnment was done on 23 March 2022 in the afternoon at Ascension Columbarry, Q.C. after a funeral mass. Necrological service and military honors were provided by the Philippine Navy. He is survived by his wife Evelyn and only child, Elaine.

## **RADM CONSTANCIO L JARDINIANO JR '73**

18 July 1951 - 17 April 2022

Cav Jardiniano passed away peacefully on 17 April 2022 in Bacoor City, Cavite. Inurnment was held on 23 April 2022 1200H at Santuario de San Martin de Porres Parish, Bacoor City, Cavite with high military honors given by the Philippine Navy-Marines.



In the course of his naval career, he served in different positions of varying significance in the Philippine Navy and the AFP. His previous units and staff assignments were: Commander, Naval NETC; Commander, Naval Forces West; Commander, Naval Forces Central; Commander, Ready Force; Commander, Assault Craft Force; Commander, Patrol Force; AC of NS for Opns; AC of NS for Plans; Chief, Combat Research Division; Director, Naval Operations Center; Supt, Naval Command and General Staff College, NETC; Commander, Naval Task Force 21; Commander, Naval Task Force 11; and Commander Naval Air Group.

Cav Jardiniano is survived by his loving wife, Carmencita and children, Constancio III and Clarissa and six grandchildren.

## **BGEN EDGAR M CALVO '70**

12 Oct 1948 - 21 April 2022

Cav Calvo, a member of PMA Class of 1970 passed away on 21 April due to pneumonia at the Veterans Memorial Hospital. Necrological service was held at the PAF Mortuary,



Pasay City. He was interred on 27 April in Everlasting Gardens, San Pedro, Laguna where his family resides. He is survived by his wife, Josefina Capistrano Calvo; Eduardo Francisco Calvo 44 (deceased); Edgar Calvo Jr, 43 (deceased); Maria Cecilia Calvo 41; and Maria Teresa Calvo 36. His last assignment held in AFP was as Wing Commander 410th Maintenance Wing PAF.

## **2LT KEVIN A BABARAN '21**

July 11, 1997 - 05 May 2022

Cav Babaran died on 05 May in the line of duty as an Army Officer protecting the Filipino People. A consistent Dean's lister and Commandant's lister, Cav Babaran was a recipient of Aguinaldo Saber Award of PMA "Masaligan" Class of 2021.



Cav Babaran was born in San Roque Centro Enrile, Cagayan, the youngest child in a brood of ten of Mr. Victorino G Babaran and Mrs. Tital A Babaran. He was laid to rest in his hometown in Cagayan.

## **BGEN LEVY M MALTO '56**

22 Feb 1932 - 06 May 2022

Cav Malto joined our Creator on 06 May 2022. He died peacefully with loved ones beside him. He graduated within the top ten of his PMA Class. After serving seven years with the Philippine Army, he was transferred to the Phil. Constabulary. He was assigned in various provinces in Southern Luzon as well as in Camp Crame. He spent two years at the University of the Philippines where he completed his Master's Degree in Business Administration. In his various assignments, Cav Malto received various awards, decorations and commendations, including the Distinguished Star with Fourth Bronze Anahaw Leaf. He was happily married to Nora E Nava of Lucena City with whom he had four children: Rowena, Renato, Roy and Rebecca.



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