

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

OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2021



ABOUT THE COVER



In response to the 4th Quarter theme of the Cavalier Magazine, Aligned and in Cadence Assessing the Association's Current Progress, we showcased in this issue how far the incumbent set of Board of Directors has aligned its programs and activities to the over-all mission of the PMAAAI.

As Board Chairman and CEO, Cav Amado T Espino Jr puts it, if everyone knows exactly where Cavaliers need to go, having a clear vision of the Association's destination and identifying key reference points, everyone can follow, all will be aligned and in cadence.

EDITORIAL BOARD

CAV AMADO T ESPINO, JR '72 CAV VIDAL E QUEROL '73 CAV DOMINGO M PEQUIRAS '77 CAV STEVE B LUDAN '92 CAV JOYCE J OMAC '14

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF CAV ARVIN R LAGAMON '92

EDITORIAL ASSISTANTS CAV RAFAEL D NABLE '10 LYDIA V CABAJAR DIVINIA P NACARIO

JOHN D ALEJO Graphic Designer

> **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.



IN THIS ISSUE

From the Chairman's Desk1
President's Corner2
Supe's Report
Baron's Dissemination8
Cavalier Newsline9
Adjutant's Bulletin10
- Notice of PMAAAI Annual General Membership Meeting
Retirees Section13
PMAAAI PA Chapter News



Female Cavaliers Corner	16
Young Cavalier Heroes	18
Finding Our Roots	21
Operations Research in a Layman's Understanding	27
Class Call	29
Last Call	72

al journal published Readers may now view The Cavalier online at **pmaaai.com.ph** y Alumni Association, for the alumni of the Send your letters to:

The Editor, The Cavalier PMA Alumni Center Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo, Q.C. e-mail address: pmaaai@yahoo.com

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

Some articles have been edited to meet space requirements.



CHAIRMAN'S DESK

CAV AMADO T ESPINO JR '72

Checking Our Alignment

After witnessing countless AFP Day Parades, I can confidently say that the Cadet Corps, Armed Forces of the Philippines, have consistently produced some of the best alignments while passing in review. Some people may attribute such feat to constant (endless) practice, quality equipment, clear command, or even to sheer (consistent) luck. Indeed, all those things may, in one way or another, contribute to producing an immaculately aligned marching formation, but, broken down to its most fundamental principles, I believe that the key to producing real-time group harmony is for all members to have a levelled and common understanding of where the members are coming from, what their respective roles are, and, ultimately, where are they heading to as a group. And being the Chairman of the PMAAAI for almost a year now, I believe that we can pick up some pointers from the Corps on how to really "align".

It all starts with knowing (and really understanding) where *each* of our members are coming from. Much like in a formation, not everyone can come from the same place or footing. Each member has his/her own peculiarities which we need to recognize. Failure to do so may result to misalignment later on. Surely, we can try to arrange a formation's elements according to height, but natural peculiarities in each individual's stride (such as speed, distance and/or leaning) must be recognized and accepted.

PMAAAI is a collection of diverse individuals and suborganizations, *each* with his/her own peculiar views, beliefs and stands on certain issues. Over the past few months, we have tried to connect all these diverse elements. We have tried to connect the different generations of cavaliers by actively promoting the accomplishments of our neophyte members as much as we are promoting the achievements of those who are at the twilight of their careers. Also, in an attempt to further blur the gap between genders, we have placed emphasis on the expanding role of female cavaliers in the Armed Service. Likewise, we have tried to expand the window through which we could see the inner workings of the PMAAAI Chapters, hoping that members can better understand the peculiarities of each group.

The next component to alignment is role identification. After recognizing our peculiar traits, we need to recognize our equally peculiar roles in the formation. The platoon first sergeant's role is different from that of the platoon guide's. Even elements within the same squad have different contributions to the overall alignment of the platoon. The band, which is playing its tunes from far away, has its role to play. Knowing and practicing our respective roles is another key to aligning.

One of the most pressing roles that PMAAAI had to undertake is that of being a vanguard of institutional justice. It was known to most members that the Association went through some controversial issues in recent years. Admittedly, seeking justice on behalf of our esteemed organization becomes more painful when some of the accused are fellow members. Alternatively, the PMAAAI has been called to the defense of notable alumni in numerous instances. For each case, the board has exercised utmost diligence on the manner by which, we, as an association would best address the situation. In cases where the fundamental values of the Academy come under assault, the association spared no time and instrument to plant our stake and held our ground. In other cases, we acted by not acting; to silently rise above petty squabbles and become the better, more matured, and wellmannered congregation of gentlemen and women, true to what the Filipino society expects. In each case, we reacted differently. But in all cases, we have performed our role: to protect not only the individual members of our association, but more importantly, to put into practice and preserve the sanctity of the values instilled in us by our beloved Academy.

Lastly, a marching formation will surely align if everyone knows exactly where they need to go. Essential to this is having a clear vision of our ultimate destination as a group, as well as identifying key "reference points" that everyone can follow. To this end, our Association has dared to create audacious visions of what it wants to become and has taken initial steps toward its achievements. Together, we have created the vision of having our very own home. Through the tireless effort and commitment of all members, we are several steps closer to realizing our permanent Alumni Center. Also, we have shared the vision of being able to sustainably support our members. The Lakas Bayanihan Cooperative Center is one fruit of this vision, which, as of writing, has been operationalized and well on its way to catering to its first clients. Lastly, we have shared the vision of expanding our commitment not only to fellow cavaliers, but also to the greater Philippine Society through our various civic-oriented programs.

At this point, as the current Chairman of the PMAAAI, I can confidently say that much like the Cadet Corps passing in review, the Association is aligned and in cadence!



The PMAAAI Board Has Its Hands Full

The year is about to close and we are functioning on our third quarter after we assumed as the incumbent board of officers. Allow me to reiterate our gratitude for the vote of trust and confidence to minister the management, operations, financial matters, issues, and other fields of concern in promoting the Association members' welfare and well-being.

The Board is expected to deliver effective management of the programs and projects; address issues and concerns of the Association albeit the challenges that are normal to any continually evolving organization.

Our meetings, whether virtually or physically present, has continually brought us together as one family and as a solid team bound by a commitment as Cavaliers. As the theme of the 4th Quarter issue of this magazine, "Aligned and in Cadence: Assessing the Association's Current Progress," we are duty bound to give you an update on what we have been doing since our assumption.

2021 Alumni Register

After six years, efforts to come out with an updated social directory is nearing its reality. By January 2022, Cavaliers can get hold of the 2021 Alumni Register. With a price of Php500.00 per copy, the initial PMAAAI order of 2,900 copies have already been sold out. Some of the 39 classes who ordered in varying numbers even paid in advance and others have been re-ordering too even without the released final copies yet.



OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2021

The updating of the 2015 Alumni register started as early March and was finalized in October of this year after all the creation of all chapters. The final copy is now running at the selected printing company. Our Board Chairman, Cav Amado T Espino Jr '72, upon assumption, directed the Membership Committee for the updating of said register book. Special thanks to Cav Danilo A Abinoja '74 for his indefatigable efforts as editor in chief in orchestrating the whole process of the updating. He motivated all concerned staff with no let-up that paved the way for the completion of the project.

The Editorial Board was immediately organized, after such instruction, composed of the following: Cav Amado T Espino Jr '72, Executive Editor; Cav Steve B Ludan '92, Assistant Executive Editor; Cav Danilo A Abinoja '74, Editor-In-Chief; Cav Romeo V Poquiz '81, Editor Sponsorship; Cav Sunny M Pequiras '77, Editor Chapter II; Cav Aristotle D Gonzalez '92, Editor Chapter II; Cav Rolando N Punzalan Jr '92, Editor Chapter I; Cav Joselito E De Guzman '93, Editor Chapter IV; Cav Patrick B De Villa '94, Editor Chapter IV; Cav Joyce J Omac '14, Editor Chapter IV; Cav



Joselito E De Guzman '93, Editor Chapter IV; Photo ops for Ceremonial Tee Off in PNGC on 20 November 2021 with Cav Esperon '74, Cav Patrick B De Villa '94, Editor Chapter V; Cav Querol '73, Cav Poquiz '81, and Cav Marin '99. Fore!

Jesselito L Castro '98, Editor Chapter VI, Cav Zyril S Villacorta '02, Editor Chapter V; and Cav Lucien Jay G Caiman '12, Editor Chapter III. Kudos also to the PMAAAI Secretariat, composed of Ma. Theresa Salayo, Maria Isabelle Corda, Chona Yabes and Dianne Santiago, for all the assistance they extended to this project.

The updating is really in order because it was in 2015 when it was last updated. The new six class additions would really love to get hold of their personal copies, an affirmation that they belong to the Association.

PMAAAI's Home of its Own

Before we know it, we can also see the realization of having a home of our own. The Association can finally have its permanent building in the home of the Philippine Army in Taguig City. Thanks to the Php300M worth multi-storey building promised by Dr Andrew L Tan of Megaworld. On the other hand, the parcel of land where the building is being (or to be) constructed, was granted thru a usufructuary agreement between the Philippine Army and the PMAAAI.

When the Philippine Arny officially turned over to PMAAAI the parcel lot, held in a simple but meaningful ceremony and graced by National Defense Secretary Cav Delfin N Lorenzana '73, July 13 became historic for all the cavaliers present in said event for it means a step closer to our dream of having our very own home. The Certificate of Turn Over was received by our Chairman from then Army commander Cav Andres C Centino '88.

The incumbent Board will not take the sole recognition for this project because our predecessors took the initial actions towards its realization. Luck seemed to be on our side because we have benefactors who have big hearts and very much willing to help the Association in fulfilling its mission, vision and goal.

We are hopeful this project will go smoothly and will see its completion in the nearest possible time. When that time comes, we can only look back, smile and say "we have been a significant part of that project."

2021 Game of the Cavaliers

Playing golf is one hobby, or pastime, that is hard to break for us Cavaliers. Sometimes it is addictive, but most of the time, the enjoyment of each other's company is all that matter, aside from the enjoyment derived from playing the sport itself.

The latest golf tourney, that started last November 19, will wind up with the Championship Round at Camp Aguinaldo on December 4, to be followed by the awarding ceremony.

Highlights of the golf event include the joining of a 90-year old Cav Bienvenido Lim '54 and 87-year old Cav Augustus C Paiso'56. The former even donated Php100K to PMAAAlas GOC sponsor. A total of 807 cavaliers participated and organized with 22 teams for special categories. There were 17 participants, on the other hand, who came from Fraternal chapters.

Exciting prizes await the lucky winners: four major raffle prizes; one major raffle prize, six domestic roundtrip tickets via Cebu Pacific, three Vespa S125 scooters for hole in one prizes, one each in Villamor, Navy and Aguinaldo., another Php100K for hole in one in Villamor; 2-Star Honma Beres Golf set for hole in one in Aguinaldo; seven certificates (seven hotel stay) with Php94,200. Value and Php20,000.00 MCDonald's gift certificates.

Lest I forget, our generous PMAAAI Board Chairman Cav Amado T Espino Jr '72 himself donated a hefty amount of Php500K for this golf tourney. Thank you Sir for all your big heartedness to the Association's programs and projects.

By the time this Cavalier comes out, there have been winners already and the awarding rites have already taken place. Congratulations in advance (as of this writing) to all the winners.

Lakas Bayanihan Credit Cooperative

The above-mentioned cooperative is now operational as it marked its grand opening with a ribbon cutting and office dedication ceremony located at the PNP Multi-Level Carpark Building at Camp Crame, Quezon City. Credit goes to Cav Jimmy S delos Santos '69 and Cav Rodolfo S Azurin Jr '89, in their capacity



Cav Lim '54, Cav Paiso '56, Cav Pizarro '63, and Cav Reyes '64, had a fellowship after their round of golf in PNGC with Team '72, Team '74, Team 79, and Team '86.

as Chairman and President of PMAAAI in 2018 who initiated this worthwhile cause.

At present, the LAKAS BAYANIHAN CREDIT COOPERATIVE (LBCC) is poised to carve its own niche as it seeks to provide excellent services and assist its members towards a better future. With the spirit of cooperativism in mind, LBCC is clearly focused to extend all necessary support and assistance to all members. All while keeping interest rates competitive and lower than most institutions, offering better interest on savings, and furthering our goal of financial stability and sustainability in all our undertakings.

With all these efforts the incumbent Board is doing right now, we encourage everyone to let us work hand in hand, arm in arm,

 We are now accepting loan applications!
 Image: Comparison of the second sec

and march all Cavaliers toward more meaningful efforts for our fellow members and outstanding contributions and performance in the Association's programs. Together we can do better, we can do more to proper direction and purpose.





SUPE'S REPORT

CAV FERDINAND M CARTUJANO '88

PMA @ 123: Building a Stronger and More Responsible Institution Amidst Challenges

Philippine Military Academy – the country's premier military school – celebrated its 123rd founding anniversary at Fort General Gregorio del Pilar, Baguio City on October 23, 2021.

Bannered under the theme PMA @ 123: Building a Stronger and More Responsible Institution Amidst Challenges, the Academy celebrated the efforts of its personnel, alumni, and cadets in overcoming challenges for it to continuously perform its mandate and mission to produce the future leaders of the nation.

The 123rd Founding Anniversary was graced by its Guest of Honor, CAV AMADO T ESPINO JR, Chairman, PMA Alumni Association Incorporated and Class President, PMA "Masigasig" Class of 1972. He, together with the Superintendent, held a wreath-laying ceremony at the sundial and flag pole area to honor fallen comrades and give them a formal sign of respect.

The 56th Chief of Staff, AFP, GEN JOSE S FAUSTINO JR was also in attendance, and presided over the donning of ranks and oath-taking ceremony of the Foreign Service Academy graduates from the U.S. and Canada.

This was followed by the blessing and inauguration of the Cadet Islam Prayer Room. The prayer room was established for Muslim cadets to have their own place of worship within the Academy grounds.



During the parade, selected command personnel were recognized and given awards for their immense contribution to PMA and accomplishment of its mission.

PMA traces its roots on 25 October 1898 when the Academia Militar was established by General Emilio Aguinaldo, President of the Philippine Revolutionary Army.



PMA also conducted various activities to commemorate its 123 years of existence throughout the month of October

"Sagip Dugtong Buhay:" A bloodletting activity

A bloodletting activity, dubbed as "Sagip Dugtong Buhay," was conducted from 02-03 October 2021 which aims to save lives and give hope to those in need. A total of 459 cadets and PMA personnel donated to Baguio General Hospital, Philippine General Hospital, AFP Medical Center, and Philippine Blood Center. The activity capped off with a simple program dubbed as "Tribute to Frontliners".



Community Pantry and Relief Operations at different Barangays in Benguet

On 17 October 2021, Team PMA set up a community pantry, and conducted relief operations at Barangay Ambassador, Tublay in Benguet province. Essential goods and 300 pairs of slippers were distributed to 200 households wherein the primary recipients are victims of Typhoon Maring.

Notably, PMA has been regularly setting up community pantries since June 2021. The following five barangays in Benguet Province has benefited from these community pantries: 1) Ampucao;2) Dalunipirip; 3) Poblacion of Itogon; 4) Barangay Ambassador of Tublay; and 5) and Sitio La-ao at Camp 4, Tuba, Benguet.

Soxes of Hope distributed to Barangay Ambassador, Tublay, Benguet

PMA is compassionate in helping the affected residents of the recent typhoon. Hence, the team extended their help by distributing a "Box of Hope" to residents of Barangay Ambassador, Tublay, Benguet on 17 October 2021. It was conducted to help them recover from their current situation.





The "Box of Hope" intends to lift the residents' morale and help them realize that there are still reasons for hope in life. Each box contains some sanitation and personal hygiene kits to prevent the spread of COVID-19 virus in the area. However, the pinnacle is the handwritten letters (placed in each box) of PMA cadets that will strengthen the residents' faith and convince them that better days are yet to come.

Launch of "Pamayanang Munting Aklatan" (P.M.A.) at Barangay Ambassador, Tublay, Benguet

PMA launched its first mini-library for the community called "Pamayanang Munting Aklatan" (P.M.A) at Barangay Ambassador, Tublay, Benguet on 17 October 2021. This project aims to bring educational materials closer to communities, giving the youth access to information for their personal and professional growth and development.

Tree Planting Activity in partnership with DENR-CENRO

On 19 October 2021, PMA's leadership team, officers, personnel, and cadets paid it forward to the community through a tree planting activity held at Fort Del Pilar, Baguio City. In collaboration with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR)-CENRO, 500 seedlings were planted for society to attain a sustainable and livable future. This also helped strengthen the partnership and camaraderie of PMA, local government, and the community.



Due to COVID-19 pandemic, participants observed social distancing and health protocols.

Webinar on RA 11313 ("Safe Spaces Act")

Team PMA held a webinar about RA 11313, also known as the "Safe Spaces Act," on October 19, 2021. Facilitated by Atty. Mylen Gonzales-Esquivel, Gender and Development consultant and practitioner, the webinar tackled important aspects of said law.

The webinar was attended by PMA organic personnel and selected cadets who pledged their commitment to sincerely support the provisions of RA 11313 and advocate for providing safe spaces for everyone.

★ "MAGSAYSAY CUP" (CCAFP Inter-Company Debate); "Tagisan ng Obra at Sining" (On-the-Spot Painting and Photo Story Making), "Pautakang Pang-Akademya"; Inter-Company Quiz Bee; and the First Academy Film Festival

The Headquarters Tactics Group and Cadet Corps Armed Forces of the Philippines organized various contests to showcase the talents, skills, knowledge, and competencies of the cadets. These activities were conducted from 19 to 22 October 2021.

OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2021

Thanksgiving Mass, Prayer, and Blessing of Water Tanker and Dump Truck; Ceremonial Turnover of Symbolic Key; Ribbon-Cutting and Unveiling of Long Gray Line Marker



A thanksgiving mass was held on 22 October 2021 to express the Academy's gratitude for all the blessings received in keeping the Academy stronger and more resilient amidst challenges. This was followed by a prayer and blessing of the newly-acquired water tanker and dump truck, and a ceremonial turnover of the symbolic key.

Team PMA also administered the ribbon-cutting and unveiling of the Long Gray Line marker with PBGEN STEVE B LUDAN, President, PMA Alumni Association Inc. and LTGEN FERDINAND M CARTUJANO PAF, Superintendent, PMA.

The PMA Band Drill and PMA Silent Drill were also held on said day.



PMA Foundation Thanksgiving Mass and Awarding Ceremony

In celebration of the 123rd founding anniversary of PMA, a PMA Foundation Thanksgiving Mass was held on October 24, 2021. Attended by selected PMA personnel and cadets, the event was also graced by then GEN JOSE C FAUSTINO JR PA, Chief of Staff, AFP. This followed by the awarding ceremony of winners from the contests conducted by Headquarters Tactics Group from 19 to 23 October 2021.

Selessing and Inauguration of "Kabunian"Hall/ Longayban Hall Extension

On 20 November 2021, Team PMA conducted the blessing and inauguration of Longayban Hall Extension, also known as "Kabunian" Hall, led by LTC JOEL T SIMBAJON CHS, Command Chaplain. It was graced by CAV AMADO T ESPINO, Chairperson, Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association, Inc.

The Longayban Hall Extension will serve as a receiving area for guests, alumnus, and other key personalities who will visit the Academy. It was funded by the PMAAAI Payback Scheme.

✤ Blessing and Inauguration of Newly Rehabilitated Cavalier's Park

On 30 November 2021, PMA and the entire nation commemorated "Bonifacio Day" – a tribute to the 158th birth anniversary of Andres Bonifacio, who is considered the Father of Philippine Revolution. For this occasion, Team PMA conducted the blessing and inauguration of the newly rehabilitated Cavalier's Park which features the Valor Hall.



Said park in the Academy honors and recognizes the life and valor of our PMA cavaliers who dedicated their own lives for the service of the Filipino People.

Through various stakeholder engagements, the establishment of Valor Hall was made possible. This project aims to inspire the cadets to do their best in their academics and military training. The project was implemented through the support and partnership of PMA with Atty. Martin A Loon, CEO and President of COCOLIFE.

Moreover, the activity was also attended by three Medal of Valor Awardees: COL ARIEL O QUERUBIN PN (M) (RET), LTGEN ARTURO B ORTIZ PA (RET), and LTGEN BARTOLOME VICENTE O BACARRO PA, Commander, Southern Luzon Command.

Likewise, it was also graced by the following key personalities: USEC REINER PAUL YEBRA, Department of Transportation; COMMISSIONER MARKO ROMEO FUENTES, Energy Regulatory Commission; COMMISSIONER RAYMOND ANTHONY C DILAG, Presidential Commission on Good Governance; ASSOCIATE JUSTICE JHOSEPH Y LOPEZ; ASSOCIATE JUSTICE MARVIC F LEONEN; PRESIDING JUSTICE ROMEO BARZA; BGEN FREDERICK EVANS L RAMOS (RET); MGEN RHODERICK M PARAYNO (RET); MGEN ARNOLD M QUIAPO (RET);LTGEN GALILEO GERARD R KINTANAR PAF (RET), Former Commanding General, PAF; VADM ALEXANDER P PAMA (RET); GEN EDUARDO S OBAN JR PAF (RET), Former Chief of Staff, AFP, and HON BENJAMIN B MAGALONG, Mayor, Baguio City.

Blessing and Inauguration of "Balai Maringal"

On 06 November 2021, "Balai Maringal" was blessed and inaugurated with Chief of Staff, AFP, GEN JOSE C FAUSTINO JR PA in attendance. The event was also attended by selected PMA personnel and members of PMA "Maringal" Class of 1988.

"Balai Maringal" is a class project of the members of PMA "MARINGAL" Class of 1988. It can be used as a function area for different activities and as a holding area for guests attending PMA activities.



As we continue to perform our mission, we continue to uphold the values of Courage, Integrity and Loyalty. In the same manner, we give full importance on the welfare of personnel and cadets. We, the PMA, will continue to walk in cadence in achieving progress and success!



Baron's Dissemination

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

Progress from Change

"Progress is impossible without change, and those who cannot change their minds cannot change anything." -George Bernard Shaw

To start with, change will always be present in life. It is something we have to live with. It happens for a reason. If we do not accept change, how could we ever improve?

Change could either mean progress or disaster for an organization. Why? Because organizations are not exempted from change. There will come a time when organizations would have to adapt to the changes in time. It's either we accept it or let it be until we realize that we are way behind.

Technology, the environment, and society are just some of the factors that will force us to change the way we do things. Technological advancements would require us to keep on developing projects and programs. Climate change would

require us to reconceptualize how we would train as cadets and how we could help in conservation of the environment. Differences between generations would require us as leaders to develop a better sense of understanding of people and society. These are the changes that would teach us that we need to move forward and not backward.

For example, changes in the security environment gave PMA the chance to adapt. The Class of 2022 became the first class to take on the BS in National Security Management. The Classes of 2023, 2024, and 2025 are taking the same Degree. This year, the Class of 2025 became the first class in the Academy's history to undergo the newly offered BS ICT. It is a stepping stone to address the challenges brought about by the technological

We cannot stick to one situation forever. We cannot sit around while our counterparts evolve. We would be leaving the Corps in the Dark Ages if we refused to accept change. Stories of "during our times" may bring us smiles and fond memories, but it should drive us to help make the Corps better than it was before. advancements we have today. PMA realizing the changes in the security environment gave the Academy a chance to keep up with the times and address the needs of an evolving environment.

But despite the progress we have seen such as the implementation of new Bachelor of Science programs, there are still roadblocks up ahead. The biggest roadblock to the Corps' progress is resistance to change. We cannot stick to one situation forever. We cannot sit around while our counterparts evolve. We would be leaving the Corps in the Dark Ages if we refuse to accept change. Stories of "during our times" may bring us smiles and fond memories, but it should drive us to help make the

Corps better than it was before.

The COVID-19 pandemic is one roadblock to the progress of the Corps. It has taken its toll on the Corps. Training has been affected. Classes are held inside barracks; suspended educational tours at the major services; and family-less graduations among others. We've learned to adapt to the "new normal" and find new ways for the Corps to keep moving forward in these trying times.

In closing, the words of Walt Disney "Progress is impossible without change" should be our driving force. Change drives us to do better, especially as cadets and future officers. The changes that we see challenge us to build a better future. Because of change, we will have to keep moving forward and keep progressing, for the Corps today and for the generations to come.

OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2021



CAVA

CAV ROSALINO A ALQUIZA '55

Cav Centino appointed **AFP Chief of Staff**

Philippine Army Commanding General, Cav Andres C Centino, a member of PMA "Maringal" Class of 1988, where he graduated with cum laude honors, has been appointed as new Chief of Staff, AFP replacing Cav Jose Faustino Jr. '88,



Centino

who retired after a four-month stint. He earned a Master's Degree in Management from the University of the Philippines and a Master of Science Degree in National Resource Strategy from the National Defense University in Washington, D.C. He will serve as CSAFP until his mandatory retirement in February 2023.

Cav Carlos appointed PNP chief

Cav Dionardo B Carlos '88 has been appointed as new Chief, PNP replacing Cav Guillermo Eleazar '87 who compulsorily retired on 13 November 2021. Prior to his new stint, Cav Carlos served as PNP Chief of the Directorial Staff. He also became the PNP



Carlos

Director for Integrated Police Operations in Visayas and in Southern Luzon.

Cav Carlos also served as head of the PNP's Highway Patrol Group, the Directorate for Information and Communication Technology Management, Directorate for Police Community Relations and as a spokesperson of the PNP.

Cav Brawner appointed new **CGPA; Cav Canlas, CGPAF**

Cav Romeo S Brawner, Jr '89 was appointed as the new Commanding General of the Philippine Army. Prior to his present designation, Cav Brawner held the position as commander of 4ID PA. He also served as the first Deputy Chief of Staff for Financial Management, J10 of the GHQ, AFP; as the Commandant of Cadets of the PMA, the Commander of the 103rd Brigade during the liberation of Marawi City and served as PA spokesman and AFP Public Affairs Office chief.

the In Philippine Air Force, Cav Connor Anthony D Canlas '89 has been, likewise, appointed as the new Commanding General of the Philippine Air Force replacing Cav Allen T Paredes '88 who compulsorily retired on 7 December 2021. Cav Canlas was the PAF vice commander and former Air Defense Command chief.

Cavs Lacson and Parlade run for president, Eleazar for senator

Two former Chiefs of PNP will run in the 2022 National Elections. Cav Panfilo M Lacson '71 and Cav Guillemo L Eleazar '87 will run for president and senator, respectively under the Partido Reporma party.

Lacson Cav was Chief PNP under Estrada administration and serving as Senator since 2016.

Cav Eleazar previously served as Deputy Chief for Administration of the PNP before his appointment as PNP Chief in 2021.

Aside from Cavs Lacson and Eleazar, some

cavaliers are running for elective posts: Cav Antonio G Parlade Jr '87 for President; Cav Reynaldo V Velasco '71 will be the principal candidate of Party List Police Retirees Association, Incorporated or PRAI; seeking re-election for Senatorial seats are Cavs Gringo B Honasan '71 and Antonio Trillanes '95; For mayoralty post - Cav Efren O Yebra '80 (Paracale, Camarines Norte), Cav Ariel B



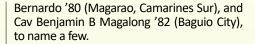
Brawner



Canlas

Lacson

Eleazar



PMAAAI holds Annual **General Membership Meeting in PMA**

Due to pandemic situation, the PMAAAI Board of Directors decided to hold the PMAAAI Annual General Membership Meetingon 18 February 2022 in PMA, Fort del Pilar, Baguio City, one day before the scheduled PMA Alumni Homecoming. Those who can not attend thru face to face may participate via virtual mode. The Association convenes annually, for the election of directors; to report on the accomplishments of the current board, and financial status of the association; and ratification of all resolutions and acts of the Board and management. Please see page 12 of this Cavalier Magazine issue for the schedule of activities.

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:

auco maicatca.	
BGEN CARMELITO G BELTRAN '58	18 Aug 2021
BGEN BENJAMIN Z DIZON '58	05 Sept
CAPT RAMON T MONTINOLA '68	06 Sept
CDR ROMEO M ENRIQUEZ '67	07 Sept
COL PAUL BRONSON D CIANO '93	08 Sept
COMMO ROLANDO R RICAFRENTE '81	09 Sept
BGEN NAPOLEON M ANGELES '58	10 Sept
BGEN PRUDENCIO B REGIS SR '51	13 Sept
CPT PRUDENCIO L MALIGALIG '75	20 Sept
COL RUDY T GULIGADO '75	25 Sept
BGEN JESUS T DIZON '51	27 Sept
BGEN FELICIANO M GACIS '54	27 Sept
COL ROGELIO S LUMABAS '53	03 Oct
BGEN AMANTE S BUENO '54	06 Oct
COL EUGENIO S BATARA JR '91	06 Oct
CDR VICTORIANO C BUAQUEN '67	08 Oct
COL RAMON EMMANUEL L MARTINEZ JR '69	13 Oct
CAPT MARIO B ANTONIO '66	27 Oct
BGEN BENJAMIN G CRUZ '57	14 Nov
PBGEN REYNALDO I BERROYA '69	15 Nov
PCOL FLORANTE J BAGUIO '75	15 Nov 🏹
	0.45



THE CAVALIER

ADJUTANT'S B U L L E T I N

Lakas Bayanihan Credit Cooperative (LBCC) Marks its First Day of Operations with Ribbon Cutting and Office Dedication

By: LBCC TEAM



On October 8, 2021, The Lakas Bayanihan Credit Cooperative marked an important milestone as it celebrated its grand opening with a Ribbon Cutting and office dedication ceremony at the second level of the PNP Multi-Level Carpark Building, Camp Rafael T. Crame, Quezon City. No less than The Deputy Chief for Administration (TDCA) Philippine National Police (PNP) PLTGEN JOSELITO M VERA CRUZ was Guest of Honor and Speaker (GOHAS) representing Chief PNP, PGEN GUILLERMO LORENZO T ELEAZAR.

The program started at 2:00 p.m. with a ribbon cutting at the main entrance of the newly refurbished office. PLTGEN VERA CRUZ was assisted by LBCC Chairman of the Board LTGEN JAIME S DELOS SANTOS (Ret), Vice Chairman PMGEN RODOLFO S AZURIN JR and Board Member PBGEN STEVE B LUDAN who took time to travel all the way from Cagayan Valley where he serves as the PNP Regional Director. Special guests included representatives from our partner China Bank Savings and insurance partner. The office dedication was administered by Pastor Nilo Cacela.

In his inspirational message, PLTGEN VERA CRUZ congratulated the LBCC officers and board members present for their hard work and dedication in making the Lakas Bayanihan Credit Cooperative a reality. He expressed his optimism on the future of the Cooperative on its mission and vision of enabling its members, particularly the members of the uniformed services, in achieving a better quality of life, uplifting their economic and financial well being, and responding to their financial needs. Having a cooperative founded on social and economic upliftment of its members is indeed a worthy undertaking, and is bound to succeed in every way possible. Indeed, his message is a fitting tribute for all the hard work and sacrifices of the officers and members of the LAKAS BAYANIHAN CREDIT COOPERATIVE.

OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2021



The Beginning: Search for a Worthwhile Cause

The event marked the realization of years of hard work initiated by the Chairman of the Board, LTGEN DELOS SANTOS PA (Ret) who, in his capacity then as the Chairman of the Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association, Inc. (PMAAAI) in 2017. Assisting him in setting up a worthwhile cause was PMGEN RODOLFO AZURIN JR, then President of the PMAAAI. They were able to generate funds from several fund-raising initiatives with the participation of several PMA classes. With the assumption of the next set of PMAAAI Board and with PBGEN LUDAN being elected as the next PMAAAI President in 2021, the outgoing officers convinced the new set of officers to continue the plan to set up a cooperative that would serve the needs of our men in uniform and their dependents. Thus was born the concept for the LAKAS BAYANIHAN CREDIT COOPERATIVE which initially targeted officers and men of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

Expanding the Cause

With the initial seed capital pooled from the earnings of the different PMA alumni classes, the past and present sets of PMAAAI officers and the various class representatives met and decided to invite officers from other uniformed services like the LAKANs or graduates of the Philippine National Police Academy (PNPA) who serve in the Philippine National Police (PNP), Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP) and Bureaus of Fire Protection (BFP). Senior officers of the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) were also invited, as the majority of its officer corps was also made up of PMA alumni or Cavaliers.

In September 2020, this initial group of Cavaliers and Lakans formed the initial core of membership to the LAKAS BAYANIHAN CREDIT COOPERATIVE. They attended the very first Pre-Membership Education Seminar (PMES) facilitated by the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA). The first set of seven (7) Board Members were elected and CDA approved the establishment and accreditation of LBCC on March 10, 2021, with an initial authorized capitalization of FORTY MILLION PESOS (PHP 40,000,000.00).

By the middle of CY 2021, the initial Board of seven (7) members was expanded to fifteen (15) with the adoption of a



new Articles of Cooperation and By-Laws. PBGEN LUDAN also initiated the formation of the first Cooperative Management Team that was tasked to undertake the necessary ground works for the operationalization of the LBCC. By June 2021, the Board formally approved the formation of the management team of five (5) members. This Management Team, headed by a General Manager (GM), an Assistant GM and three (3) staff members now forms the core of the executive organization or management team which also serves as the Ad Hoc secretariat of the Board.



THE CAVALIER

By September, 2021 the LBCC was able to conduct two more PMES that saw the attendance of over three thousand nine hundred (3,900) prospective membership applicants from the AFP, PNP, BJMP, PCG and BFP. They are now in the final process of approval, a clear indication that LBCC is well on its way towards full operational capacity. The LBCC also submitted its application for accreditation with the PNP CAAD to enable the cooperative to collect payments for loans of PNP by means of automatic salary deduction from the PNP Finance Service.

Charting the Future

Today, the LAKAS BAYANIHAN CREDIT COOPERATIVE is poised to carve its own niche as it seeks to provide excellent services and assist its members towards a better future. A future where every member's quality of life is made better and more sustainable in the midst of an ongoing global pandemic. A pandemic that has severely affected our lives. We now aim to ease the suffering of those affected members and increase their chances of overcoming financial difficulties. With the spirit of cooperativism in mind, LBCC is clearly focused to extend all necessary support and assistance to all members. All while keeping interest rates competitive and lower than most institutions, offering better interest on savings, and furthering our goal of financial stability and sustainability in all our undertakings.

A Solid Organization: LBCC Board of Directors

The current Board of Directors of the BCC are as follows: CAV JAIME S DELOS SANTOS AFP '69 - Chairman CAV RODOLFO S AZURIN JR '89 - Vice Chairman CAV MATTHEW L BACCAY '92 - Secretary CAV RUFINO G RAMORAN JR PA '89 – Treasurer CAV REYNALDO VELASCO '71 - Director CAV AMADO T ESPINO JR '72 - Director CAV ALAN R LUGA '81 - Director CAV JOSEPH ULYSSES C GOHEL '89 - Director CAV EDUARDO D FABRICANTE '89 - Director CAV STEVE B LUDAN '92 - Director CAV JONNEL C ESTOMO '92 - Director LAKAN LOU FRIAS EVANGELISTA PNPA - Director LAKAN JERRY O CASTILLO PNPA - Director LAKAN ROMANO V CARDINO PNPA - Director LAKAN REYNANTE B BASTIAN PNPA - Director

Above-mentioned officers have each been voted for their excellent reputations, and high regard and enthusiasm in supporting the ideals and aspirations for the Lakas Bayanihan Credit Cooperative.

Notice of PMAAAI Annual General Membership Meeting

10	:	ALL MEMBERS
PLACE	:	PMA Fort Gregorio Del Pilar, Baguio City
DATE	:	18 February 2022, Friday
TIME	:	1500H

AGENDA

PART Registratic	n	۱
--------------------	---	---

- PART II Meeting Proper
 - a) Call to Order
 - b) Proof of Notice of the Meeting
 - c) Proof of Presence of a Quorum
 - d) Review and Approval of the Minutes of
 - the 2021 Annual General Membership Meeting
 - e) Matters Arising from the Minutes
 - f) Report of the PMA Superintendent
 - Report of the President and Treasurer g)
 - Ratification of all Resolutions and Acts of the h) **Board and Management**
 - i) Election of Directors
 - Other Matters j)
 - k) Adjournment

Please respond to: PMA Alumni Center Secretariat Attn: Ms Diane Santiago or Ms Tere Salayo Tel: 912-5074 / 0906-2201196 / 0905-9990711

Mode of Celebration: Hybrid (partly face to face, partly virtual teleconference) due to the current pandemic situation

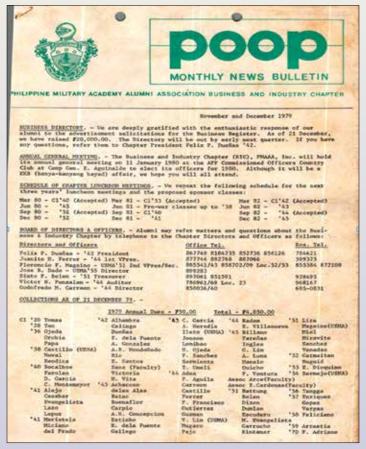
Attire for those attending face to face: Dark Suit or Barong Tagalog and Black Shoes and Black Pants Active: Major Service Blouse

Those participating via virtual mode are also requested to be dressed in a presentable attire.



Health, Wellness, and Sports

Trivia. Did you know that the PMAAA Business and Industry Chapter (BIC) had a newsletter before? From the "vault files" of PMAAAI, the monthly news bulletin was called the "poop." The word poop is actually not derogatory as most of us would think. Dictionary. com defines poop as a superstructure at the stern of a vessel. The word poop is also closely identified with poop sheet, which is an informal military slang for a sheet of paper containing the facts or a summary of relevant subject; a written or printed notice; a bulletin, a report (Oxford English Dictionary).



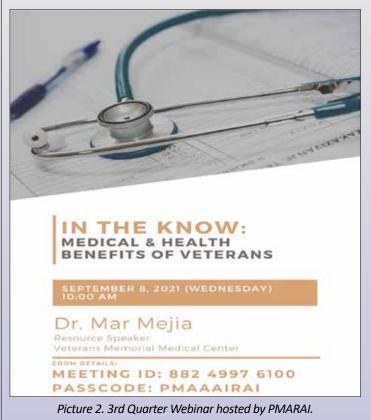
Picture 1. Monthly Bulletin of BIC, the POOP

Our article for the 4th Quarter Issue will focus on the positive effects of health, wellness, and sports for the senior and the young once retirees. There is no better time to talk about health and wellness than now. The Covid-19 pandemic has brought chaos to the world, this phenomenon has multiple layers. At the forefront are the deaths and illnesses attributed to Covid-19 that cause life to veer from traditional path. The once-ever-present status quo has been

temporarily disrupted. This life-changing jolt has facilitated a pause to reflect upon and address lifelong, repeated missteps. For us, do we "freeze in place" or act. If we chose to act, we can now ponder and explore unrealized alternatives.

In his military treatise *The Art of War*, Sun-Tzu proclaimed, "Amid the turmoil and tumult of battle, there may be seeming disorder and yet no real disorder at all," so it follows that with worldwide chaos we now can explore opportunities to realign and restructure ourselves. We must ask ourselves, What important life issues should we address? and How do we achieve those results? Finding answers to these questions could be difficult, but we must continually revisit these questions to achieve the positive change we seek.

Taking these reflective measures and proactive follow-up actions are crucial to avoid repeating our past pattern of misdirected efforts. Real improvement can take place only when we focus on truly meaningful issues that impact society's actual needs, rather than recycled issues that exhaust our drive. **Improved health and wellness** (for emphasis), community cohesion, greater happiness, work-life balance, self-realization, and personal freedoms are just some of the many vital areas to explore before this lull disappears. We need



THE CAVALIER



to focus on what truly matters most in life and shift our mindset to empower that advancement before this opportunity fades. For starters, let's look at health and wellness.

Medical and Health Benefits of Veterans. The Committee on Professionalism and Ethics chaired by Cav Tristan M Kison '79 started the "BER" season with a webinar on health and wellness. And so, last 8 September 2021, the PMARAI hosted its guarterly webinar, In The Know: Medical and Health Benefits of Veterans with Dr. Johann Giovanni Mea, Spokesperson of the Veterans Memorial Medical Center (VMMC), as Resource Person. The webinar was well attended, affirming the importance of health and wellness among retirees. To clarify, Who are Veterans? Veterans are members of the Philippine Expeditionary Forces – Korea; the Philippine Civic Action Group – Vietnam; AFP Retirees; AFP members who rendered military service prior to May 26, 2007, who were honorably discharged or separated after at least six years total cumulative active service; AFP members who rendered military service starting March 18, 2007, who were honorably discharged or separated after at least 20 years total cumulative active service; and former members of the Philippine Constabulary, the Philippine Navy, the Philippine Air Force, and the Philippine Army who were absorbed by the Philippine National Police or those who transferred to the Philippine Coast Guard.

The VMMC offers medical and health benefits to veterans. Qualified veterans and their dependents may avail of free care for any services available at VMMC. The medical center also offers the Veterans Hospitalization and Medical Care Program (VHMCP) for veterans and their dependents living outside of Metro Manila and who cannot physically go to the VMMC. More information on these benefits are readily available at the VMMC Website: <u>http://www. vmmc.gov.ph</u> or at the Philippine Veterans Affairs Office (PVAO) Website: <u>https://pvao.gov.ph</u>. The hospital is a tertiary medical center now at par with most other private centers. In the future, it will be offering free cardiac operations once the cardiac operating room complex is completed. VMMC also offers the Comprehensive Health and Wellness Program (CHWP) which is a comprehensive executive check-up program designed to achieve a healthier life for our veterans.

Starting Healthy, Working Healthy, Retiring Healthy: A Conservative Approach to Wellness. Those who serve in the uniformed service (military and law enforcement) work long and dangerous hours, oftentimes in difficult situations. Supporting them requires a national commitment to ensuring their health, wellness,

and safety. This national commitment might need all the stakeholders' inputs and an enabling law to implement it. Hence, I will concentrate on a conservative approach.

When we were cadets, we would often do company runs or buddy runs from the Sundial to the Philippine Military Academy Gate and back. That run is almost 5K and we would often do it after the last class before evening mess. Now that we have retired, how often do we go for a walk of more than 20 – 30 minutes a day in a week? Once, twice, three times, or none at all. This pandemic has completely disrupted our norms of life. It made most of us desk-bound and glued to our computers or the televisions for hours – save for the few lucky ones who play nine or 18 holes on breaks between MECQ to GCQ or Alert Level 3 to Alert Level 2 (IATF-IED Resolution Nr. 138 dated 9 September 2021). (*To be continued on the next issue due to space constraints. – Author*)

Committee Updates. The Game of the Cavaliers (GOC), an annual golf tournament among Cavaliers will be held in three courses – the Villamor Air Base Golf Course (Villamor), the Philippine Navy Golf Course (Navy), and the Camp Aguinaldo Golf Course (Aguinaldo). The Division, Individual, and Special Categories will be simultaneously played at Villamor and Navy. The Championship Matches to determine the Overall Team Champion and Overall Team Runner-Up will be held at Aguinaldo on the last day of the competition. To comply with IATF protocols, the tournament, also dubbed as the Fellowship, will be spread out over two weeks at the three venues from 19 November – 03 December 2021. Good luck to all the players! Congratulations to the 2021 GOC Steering Committee headed by Cav Vidal E Querol '73 and to the Tournament Director Cav Romeo V Poquiz '81!

Meanwhile, the PMARAI Cavalier Awards Committee chaired by Cav Van D Luspo '75 had met several times last September. The Committee had submitted their recommendees to the PMAAAI Cavalier Awards Committee. To the nominees, we extend our utmost congratulations and the Association wishes to thank you for enhancing the prestige of our Alma Mater and the PMAAAI and for significantly improving the general welfare of our country in general or your respective communities in particular!

The PMARAI Board of Directors and Officers wish you all a joyous Christmas and a safe and healthy New Year!

Let's live up to all the Academy values. I command you: be strong and steadfast! Do not fear nor be dismayed, for the LORD, your God, is with you wherever you go. – Joshua 1:9 (NAB)

PMAAAI PA Chapter News



FORT BONIFACIO, Taguig, Metro Manila – The Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association – Army Cavalier Chapter Inc Officers conducted deliberation of nominees for Cavalier Award for Calendar Year 2022 on 28 September 2021.

The PMAAA – ACCI officers conducted deliberation through Video-Teleconference for the nominees of Cavalier Award on the following categories: Command and Administration, Staff Functions, Special Operations, Special Fields and Army Operation. The Awards Board of PMAAAI – Army Chapter conducted series of meetings and conferences from 10 to 28 September to come up with their recommendation to National Chapter to be conferred with awards in their respective fields of endeavor for the upcoming PMA Alumni Homecoming, Calendar Year 2022. Through the stewardship of the PMAAAI – Army Chapter President, Cavalier Patriarch Robinson Pel '92, the members conscientiously selected Cavaliers who significantly contributed in the enhancement of Philippine Military Academy's prestige.

Said award will be bestowed to the most outstanding PMA alumnus who exhibited "sterling leadership and professional competence" in their own field of expertise during the PMA Alumni Homecoming in February 2022 at the Fort del Pilar, PMA in Baguio City. The Cavalier Award, a coveted award by a PMA alumnus, is only given annually to graduates of the academy who distinguished themselves in their chosen fields or professions.

Despite of the challenging setup due to COVID-19 pandemic and the implementation of social distancing policy measures, Cavalier Pel is delighted that the Board was given a chance to be a part of the selecting body of the Army Cavaliers. He believes that this meaningful activity must always form part of the ceremony to recognize Cavaliers that consistently perform and strive to do better. Thus, he profoundly thinks that whoever is conferred the Cavalier Award epitomizes excellence, courage, integrity and loyalty for adding prestige to the laurels of PMA.



THE CAVALIER 📩

FEMALE CAVALIERS CORNER

EVER ONWARD TROOPERS

Ever Onward Journey

• CAV JEZAIRA L BUENAVENTURA '18

• For years, female cavaliers have been assigned in field units. Each has her own share of experiences. As a young cavalier following the footsteps of those ahead of me, here is a glimpse of my experience while deployed in an Infantry Battalion.

Reception

16

I hurdled the mountains of Baguio and crossed the islands of Visayas just to reach my new destination, the vast marshland of Agusan del Sur. I was there to face the uncertainties that lay ahead. I was assigned in the home of the Ever Onward troopers, the 26th Infantry Battalion, 4th Infantry Division, Philippine Army situated along the banks of the mighty Agusan River in Talacogon, Agusan del Sur. Before reporting, I did not know what to expect except for the advice to bring rain-boots. Mud indeed welcomed me in the place very new to me just as with everyone else as the unit recently transferred its headquarters. While the battalion just started building facilities in the new site, I also started making my own bunker. With the help of some troops, I personally shoveled, hammered, sawed, painted and did what they said are jobs for men. And these were some of the realities that greeted me when I reported to the unit.

Incorporation

That time while I was building that bunker, I also started to build a new home with the personnel of the unit. Just like building a house with a strong foundation, the presence and guidance







OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2021

of the senior officers of the unit helped me build a strong foundation for myself to become a capable officer in the battalion. The apprehension and the uncertainty was gone because of the troops and officers of the unit who received me and welcomed me as a member of the Ever Onward family.

Recognition

I was designated primarily as the Personnel Officer and had several other designations. I handled mostly admin related matters. I applied what I learned in training and exercised leadership in my team, as well as with the female enlisted personnel of the unit. I always reminded them that being a female is not a hindrance for us to perform well in all aspects of work. In fact, we can do better as long as we ensure to know our job

and do it well, and strive for excellence in everything that we do. Being around just 0.02% of the male population of the unit, we guided each other and watched each other's back.

I also had experiences that I believe being a female officer proved useful. Such as when wives of soldiers approach me (as the personnel officer) to discuss family matters. As a fellow woman, I can feel that they can comfortably express their concerns. This helps the unit to get to the bottom of the issues and eventually resolve them better.

I also discovered that there are a lot of important things that are not being taught during military training but can be learned by experiencing those things firsthand. I had an experience when I was tasked to facilitate the evacuation of a wounded personnel from the encounter site to hospital. I may not be able to witness how he fought in battlefield but I witnessed how he fought for his life on the hospital bed until his last breath. As the only officer around, I was tasked to inform his family of the situation. But no matter how hard I tried to choose the right words to say, I told them what happened and ended up saying "sorry". That "sorry" made them understand what I meant. They may not be able to take it, but they knew that their soldier will be going home in a casket. That's when I knew that saying "sorry" was the hardest part of being a soldier.

On the other hand, "Thank You" is the most rewarding phrase that soldiers get especially from civilians. In my short stint as the CMO Officer of the unit, I had the chance to be immersed with

> the indigenous people in the hard to access hinterlands of Agusan del Sur. The 26IB had an Adopt a Community program where we extended government services to the people in several communities. The people's warm smiles and genuine appreciation by saying "thank you" were more than enough return of all our efforts and hard work.

> After the success of activities like such, a pat on the back or thumbs up from senior officers were as rewarding for me. As time passed, I felt the trust accorded to me as I was given more tasks and greater responsibilities as with other male officers of the unit. Those simple acts of recognition that they give in return motivate me to do even better and accomplish what are expected of me in the best way that I can with a female cavalier touch.



t was sunny day of 15 August 2021, when FA-50PH pilots while on their routine errands, received an information from Tactical Operation Group, that a Focus Military Operations (FMO) is planned to be carried-out in the Eastern part of Samar, against a very heavy fortified terrorist camp and high value target (CNTs). The employment of Air Power combined with ground forces were carefully planned to ensure the maximum effect against the CNTs. The PAF leadership decided to use four (4) FA-50PH aircraft, as a strategic platform that is capable of surprise, swift and very lethal attack, as the main platform for the Battle Air Interdiction phase of the operations.

Dawn of 16 August 2021, a pre-flight mission briefing to the FA-50PH pilots was conducted by the flight lead, MAJ ABUAN PAF '08, using the given target locations. Likewise, flight route, initial point,

Distinguished Heroism and Extra Ordinary Achievement

CAV ABUAN '08 FA50Ph Flight Commander CAV VALERA '09 FA50Ph Element Leader CAV MERLE '11 FA50Ph Element Leader CAV ROMERO FA50Ph PIC



attack heading, altitude assignments, callsigns, tactical frequencies, line-up card details, contingencies, system checks, emergency procedures and weather briefing were conducted in preparation for the said mission. After the briefing, target correlation was performed with the targets' grid coordinates and elevation generated by the Mission Planning Data System of the aircraft. Upon GO signal for the mission by the Air-Mission Commander (AMC), the FA-50PH flight with callsign mighty BULLDOG departed from the Forward Operating Base (FOB) going to the area of operations. Upon clearance from the AMC, the mighty Bulldogs unleash it fangs and successfully delivered it payload, composed of eight (8) 500lbs LDGP bombs and 800 rounds of 20mm, to the designated target areas, thereafter the flight proceeded back to FOB. After a few hours, one (1) element of FA-50PH loaded with 200rds of 20mm each, was instructed to conduct persuasion flight and dynamic targeting over the area of operations, thus ensuring the total destruction of the terrorist camp.

OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2021

The FA-50PH pilots and crew involved in said FMO were awarded with Distinguish Aviation Cross by the Philippine Air Force. Said crew demonstrate distinguished heroism and extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial operations during the conduct of Bomb Interdiction Mission against more or less 70 CPP-NPA Terrorist (CNTs) members in the vicinity of Brgy Osmeña, Dolores, Eastern Samar. With such incredible display of courage and persistence in employing airpower, they have shown a tenacious drive to provide prompt and effective airstrikes that resulted in the death of sixteen (16) CNT members (4 females and 12 males). In addition, the following items were recovered: twenty-four (24) M-16 rifles; three (3) M14 rifles; one (1) M653 Assault rifle; one (1) improvised hand grenade; two (2) laptops; two (2) android cell phones and seventeen (17) analog cellular phones. These cavaliers distinguished themselves in combat in keeping with the finest tradition of Filipino soldiery. This Focus Military Operations is considered one of the biggest AFP combined air and ground operations with the most number of neutralized CNTs and recovered firearms.

14

CAV ESPALLARDO '15 FA50Ph PIC CAV DE CASTRO '15 FA50Ph PIC CAV PAMONAG '17 FA50Ph PIC



O n 02 November 2020, 1LT LEONARD T LIPER PAF '14, Co-pilot of the AW-109AH Element stationed at Zamboanga received information from TOG SULTAW to provide CAS on the joint Focus Military Operation "PERFECT STORM II" participated by the Army and Navy counterparts to include the help of US UAV as ISR operators. The plan is to neutralize the brothers of Mudzrimar "Mundi" Sawadjaan, a notorious member of ASG perpetrated to be the mastermind of twin suicide bombings in Jolo, Sulu last August which killed 14 and injured 75 people. The brothers were believed to be Madsmar Sawadjaan and Mannul Sawadjaan, the Western Mindanao Command (WESMINCOM) confirmed that the group was conducting kidnap-for-ransom activities under the watch of Mundi Sawadjaan and Abu Sayyaf leader Radullan Sahiron. The AW-109AH Element was tasked to intercept the speedboat on the waters of Sulu and neutralize the said ASG members to halt their planned kidnapping.

On 03 0100H November 2020, after the mission briefing led by the JTF Commander, the AW-109AH Element took-off from KHTB Helipad and proceeded directly to Sulare Island, Sulu to intercept the enmies. Upon arrival, 1LT LIPER PAF '14 as the EO/IR operator scanned the vicinity and found that the target was already on the move westward to Tawi-tawi islands.

The AW-109AH Element immediately contacted the Navy MPAC for time-to-target coordination. While establishing contact with the friendly forces to confirm said heat signatures, the pilots identified the pulsing laser illuminator from the U.S. Army UAV. After catching up with the target speedboat. Thereafter, the pilots requested for clearance to engage the targets. After confirmation, the AW-109AH element conducted series of strafing at the escaping speedboat. After several passes of strafing, the speedboat changed its course going southeast and slowed down. The pilots then vectored the Navy MPAC to the direction of the enemies and eventually expended all of its air munitions. The Navy MPAC managed to catch and immediately performed clearing operations. After safely neutralizing the enemies the AW-109AH returned to station to reload and refuel to provide air cover while the search and retrieval operation was ongoing. On 03 0800H November 2020, the "PERFECT STORM II" was successfully completed and safely conducted without and loss in the government side.

The AW-109AH Element involved in the said FMO were awarded with **Order of LAPU-LAPU Award (Rank of Kamagi)** by the Republic of the Philippines President Rodrigo Roa Duterte. CAV LIPER '14 distinguished himself in combat in keeping with the finest tradition of Filipino soldiery. This Focus Military Operations is considered as one of the most successful AFP joint air-ground-sea operations with the neutralization of the notorious ASG leaders responsible for the suicide bombings in the country.

Keeping with the Finest Tradition of **Filipino Soldiery**





Integrity in a VUCA World

• EDITORIAL STAFF

An upperclassman whom I look up to, once gave me a very remarkable piece of advice. He said that among the many inscriptions on our respective bull rings, the only non-negotiable virtue stated therein should be "INTEGRITY."

Among the many definitions of integrity, what I personally adopt as a standing definition is the one that uses the word to describe our "wholeness" as a person. Integrity, in essence, is the quality of our individual selves at the most fundamental level. Integrity is the "intactness" of a person's basic core, the entirety of his/her values and beliefs, that ultimately directs his/her every action. Drawing from these definitions, integrity, in its ideal form, would appear to be the unshakable foundation of an individual. But in a time and place when things change suddenly and unexpectedly, how can one keep his/her fundamental self "intact"?

Volatility is the rate by which, things around us change. At present, things change a lot faster and more often than it used to. We can see this phenomenon around us. Gadgets and devices get replaced by newer models every several months. Trends today are no longer popular the following day. Public perception on myriads of things like policies, personalities, or practices, may change as quickly as overnight. What is generally acceptable this year, may no longer be the norm on the next.

It may seem that among the four traits of our current times, volatility challenges a person's integrity the most. How can a person retain the "intactness" of his person in a world that constantly changes? But rather than looking at integrity as an outer coating of a person's character that will face the brunt of the changes that are happening outside, it would probably be more beneficial in this case to view integrity as the set of anchor points that determines a person's "non-negotiables. But in order for such "non-negotiables" to be really steadfast, we need to use universal truths such as values and Ideals as foundations of our belief systems, instead of basing our beliefs on fallible things such as personalities and current practices, things that sway, tosses, and turns with the volatile world we are in. We need to adopt and follow values, instead of people. We need to rely on institutions, instead of transactions.

Another trait of the present times that may challenge one's integrity is **uncertainty**. Uncertainty is brought upon by the lack of knowledge on things about the present and future. While it is true that things change rapidly, we lack the understanding about the actual effects that it may have on us. And oftentimes, the values and ideals that we hold are the first casualties of doubt when things don't go according to our expectations. Some may ask whether the values and belief systems that they hold are still relevant to the current situation. Until such small doubts and sporadic internal conflicts turn into larger waves of self-doubt and eroded integrity.

Due diligence in understanding the situation may be the first line of defense against uncertainty. The deliberate study of the present and future situation, to include how our core values and belief will fit in, can prepare us to the eventuality that some of our principles may actually hold us back in certain situations. Understanding our environment is the first step in managing our expectations and tempering our idealism.

Things around us are, more likely than not, part of a larger interconnected system that affects other things. The personal social media posting you sent this morning, may positively or negatively affect your organization later this afternoon. Or the remarks you made about a particular personality several years ago can be used to credit or discredit the stand that you have right now about an ongoing political issue. We are now living in a very **complex** society where politics, economics, sociology, and technology all interact with each other in many different ways. Somewhere between the lines connecting these complex systems, our values and beliefs may come under question, both by ourselves and by other people.

While it is true that a person's integrity is composed of nonnegotiables, it should not prevent us from "course correcting" our orientation when needed, especially in this very complex environment. And in such complex environment, no matter how careful or diligent we are, we are bound to make mistakes. But a bigger mistake would be to confuse one's "integrity" over one's "ego." Admitting to a particular mistake, does not degrade one's value, but rather, preserves its sanctity by placing it above one's human nature to err.

Ambiguity may probably be a result of having a volatile, uncertain, and complex world. When things change rapidly, resulting to unexplainable outcomes and affecting interconnected systems, the environment becomes confusing. Things may not seem to make sense anymore. And, because of the fact that personal values and principles are less often talked about, they are the first victims of ambiguity.

Communicating one's values and principles, as clearly and as consistently as possible, may mitigate the impact of ambiguity. When we convey to others our personal values and principles, it establishes several "anchor points" that we can always refer back to whenever we find ourselves in ambiguous situations. In certain instances, well communicated positions on fundamental issues can prevent doubts and confusions. Another effect of communicating one's values is that, verbalizing our commitment to a higher standard can actually compel and guide us to honor such commitments even when things become complicated.

The world we are in right now is indeed, increasingly becoming more VUCA (Volatility, Uncertainty, Complexity, and Ambiguity) by the minute. And with the rapid and unpredictable changes that is happening around us, we can expect that traditional concepts, such as keeping our integrity and its corresponding value system, may lose its luster over the appealing notion of merely becoming flexible and negotiable. But instead of looking at integrity as a liability in this fast-paced era, we can use it as a tool to help us navigate this ever-evolving world.

Featured article

Operations Research in a Layman's Understanding

• CAV CHRIS R FRANCISCO '68

I. Introduction

Operations Research, popularly known as Systems Analysis, and/or OperationsAnalysis (OR/SA) is a major field of management science.

Before we discuss the real meaning and definition of OR/ SA, let us start with a more pragmatic situation which everyone is confronted in our day to day struggle for survival. Every day the world is becoming more complex; more complicated because as we approach the future, man has become very daring in his exploration. But this desire to improve the level and quality of life is confronted by the greatest constraint. This constraint is the need for more available input materials (capital for business, food for the needy, raw materials for products, and other requirements) that would be able to meet the growing demands of our immediate and future needs arising from human activities, rapidly changing technology and all other factors (favorable and unfavorable) that continuously and inescapably confront us.

But it is not a mere question of having these needed or required input materials. For if we are rich and resources are abundant, this problem of input requirements would be all academic. Reality dictates however, that there is NO such thing as abundance of resource for it is always scarce, and its efficient utilization to achieve the highest degree of performance or productivity has been the underlying economic principle of a progressive and dynamic society. This brings us to the most important term in our discussion; the term optimum. Optimum or optimality is associated with a performance, activity or decision that, taking all factors into consideration, would yield or result into the best possible outcome. At this point what we are driving at is in whatever activity we do, we always aim for the highest performance or satisfaction at the least expenditure of input resources. These input materials are both quantitative and non-quantitative (to include tangibles, intangibles and imaginary factors).

During WW II, a group research or study in the field of management science has emerged to answer this basic problem. This field of discipline is known as Operations Research (OR). As activities become more complicated (for example, a large entity like big private corporations or different government agencies), the management using the traditional and reactionary or "gut-feel" method is no longer feasible to support the objectives of the company. We could express therefore in simplest form that our objective in all types of activities whether real or imaginary, can be expressed in the following manner:

Given the constraints,

"Maximize operational effectiveness at the least (expenditure of) economic costs".

Or expressing in a different form;

"Minimize economic costs in attaining the maximum operational effectiveness ."

The above statements summarize the pragmatism of every rational activity or undertaking in any field of endeavor.

II. Definition of Operations Research/Systems Analysis (OR/ SA).

With the foregoing introduction, we define OR/SA.

"Operations Research is the systematic method- oriented study of the basic structure, characteristics, functions, and relationships of an organization.

Such study is intended to provide the executive with a sound and quantitative basis for decision making." $^{\!\!\!1}$

"Operations Research is devoted to solution of executive -type problems – to provide management with scientific basis for

solving problems involving the interaction of functional units of the organization in terms of the best interest of the total organization. It is the systematic application of mathematics and statistical techniques in the solution of governmental, business and educational problems."²

"Operations Research is the application of scientific method and analysis to management problems to provide executives with a sound quantitative basis for decision making in the face of complex relationships, of uncertainty and risks, of conflicts of interest, and of alternative courses of action".³

The Characteristics of O.R.

- 1. Total system orientations.
- 2. Commitment to scientific method.
- 3. Use of special mathematical techniques (relative degree; but does not attempt to push quantification to meaningless extremes).

How does OR then differs with a scientific research?"Scientific research is one that is usually empirical and experimental, while OR discourages the use of empirical or experimental methods in its model. In fact, one definition of OR is the art of giving answer to problems in which worse answer would be given." ³

III. Systems Analysis

Systems Analysis (SA), on the other hand, is an outgrown of Operations Research(OR). In fact, SA and OR are interchangeable. SA is a major field of OR specializing and dealing with the management objectives to include planning, programming, budgeting, and execution of resources in the higher levels of organization. Managers do often talk of grand strategy or grand optimization in the different levels of the firm.

Systems Analysis(SA) maybe defined as inquiry to assist decision-makers in choosing preferred future courses of action by (1) systematically examining and re-examining the relevant

objectives and the alternative policies or strategies for achieving them; and(2) comparing quantitatively where possible the economic costs, effectiveness (benefits) and risks of the alternatives." ⁴

The steps involved in making SA study is practically the same as in OR. In both cases, the use of model or model building is more of an art and not a science. It is safe to assume therefore that OR/SA has relative degree of offering solutions to problems. It is not a panacea that guarantees correct or best solution to every problem. Rather, the degree on the depth, comprehension and effectiveness of OR/SA solution is relative. It also depends on the proper application of relevant mathematical techniques and statistical packages where ever applicable.

IV. Concluding Statement

In closing, it must be emphasized that "in the final analysis, judgement is supreme and analysis is but an aid to judgement." We should not make a decision without quantitative or scientific basis if it is possible. A million dollar man is quantifiable and rebuild his capacity to achieve greater things. His ability to solve difficult problems is directly proportional to his boundless and exceptional intelligence. Be an OR person. It can improve your economic and productive well-being!

References:

¹ Operations Research – The Basics, by E. Leonard and NJ Netzorg.

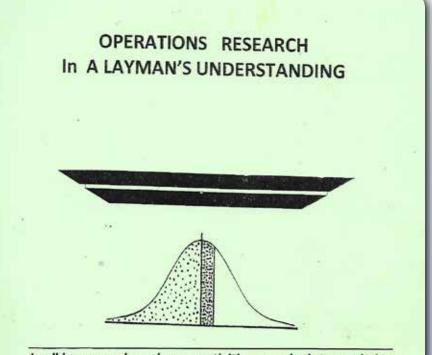
² Ibid.

³ Operations Research as a Tool for Decision Making, by Hans Laue.

⁴ Cost Consideration in Systems Analysis, by Gene H. Fisher(Some Concepts & Terms used in SA).

• Some Concepts and Terms Used in Systems Analysis (Source: Cost Consideration in Systems Analysis, by Gene H. Fisher (Chapter 3).

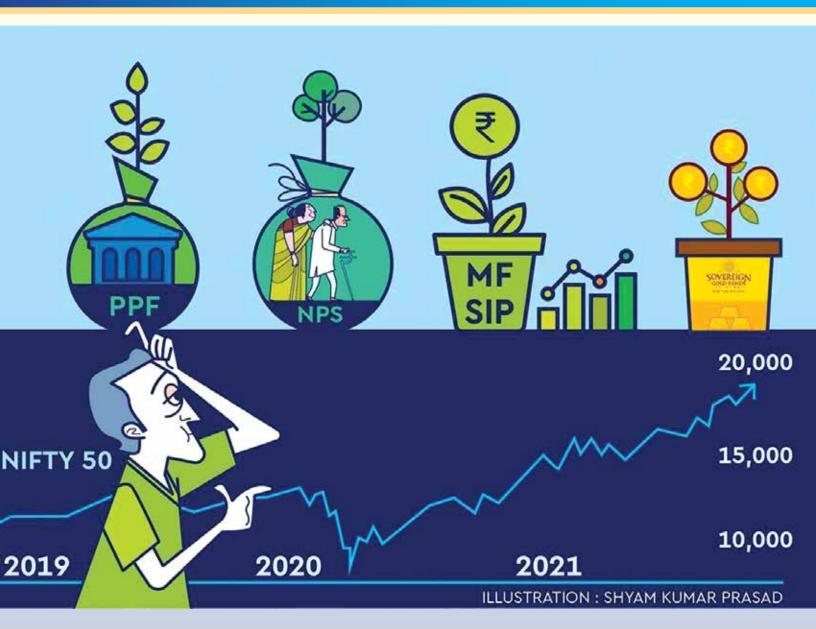
- a. Economic Cost the quantitative measure of expenditure (or its equivalent amount of other resources) required to carry out an activity or decision.
- b. Economic Costs are Benefits Lost any activity or decision to commit a resource carries opportunity cost or value, and therefore represents a denial of its utilization (investment or application) in another



In all human and non-human activities, our aim is to maximize minimum gain and at the same time to minimize maximum losses in investments in order to achieve our dreams and aspirations for greater things in life.

> By: Chris Rebano Francisco, PhD 2020 A.D.

Association of General and Flag Officers Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City, Philippines



area. The opportunity foregone should be lesser than the opportunity of investment that was chosen or decided. "The only reason why you hesitate to spend your money is incidentally, because of the alternative things it could buy. Cost is the value of benefits lost."

- c. Which is easier to measure, Costs or Benefits?
- d. To ignore Costs is to ignore Benefits.
- e. Identifying, Measuring, ad Evaluating Costs -"Costs analysis is essentially a sequential process: identification and then evaluation of alternatives."
- f. Minimizing Costs or Maximizing Benefits. "The aim is either minimizing costs of accomplishing a certain mission/program or to maximize the benefits achieved with a certain level of resources or level of cost made available."
- g. Marginal Cost cost incurred as we make incremental changes in the program.

- h. Costs are consequences Costs are value of foregone alternatives. 'Costs' are undesirable direct consequences of a decision or program.
- i. Costs depend upon the Choice and the Chooser.
- j. Time is money the concept of discounting.
- k. Other problems related to time inescapably involve cost. Value is discounted or appreciated.
- I. Maximin- Maximize Minimum gain.
- m. Minimax-Minimize Maximum losses.
- n. Efficiency versus Effectiveness.
- o. Economy versus Efficiency.
- p. Fixed Budget Approach versus Fixed Effectiveness Approach.
- q. Comparing Alternatives.
- r. Macro-Cost Analysis versus Micro- Cost Analysis.

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

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



Pike is our new Class President. We usually elect one but this time we just pointed our thumbs at him.

The Grim Reaper has just claimed the lives of two classmates --- Feliciano "Noy" Gacis, Jr, our oldest and Amante "Mante" Bueno our youngest. Noy died of old age and was cremated. Mante had a heart attack, survived, but succumbed to kidney failure.

Noy and I were together in most of our military assignments. We had parallel lives.

When we were young lieutenants, he would read (and memorize) the book "How to Increase Your Word Power," while I would finger through the bang-bang pages of a cowboy story.

Noy is the only classmate I know who has been to the Pyramids of Egypt and Bastogne, Belgium. He also visited the Acropolis in Athens and with his wife Lou, the Niagara Falls. My OAO Belen and I have been to the Acropolis and Niagara Falls.

When we were at Lucena, I normally strolled among the coconut trees with three young ladies. Meanwhile, Noy courted a girl (Puring?) who already had a boyfriend. The boyfriend was so alarmed that he and Puring got married sooner. Noy was one of their Ninongs.

While I was taking up Basic Artillery at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, Noy was also in the Advanced Artillery Course. We stayed in the same building. I cooked food and he would come to help me "nguya nguya" it. At that time he had a girl friend in Texas and after graduation, he visited her.

Meanwhile, Belen and I, with our daughter Amihan, went to the World Exposition in Montreal. At a second floor railing, we watched a huge projection on the face of a building of a mother looking down at a huge projection of her baby on the concrete space below. It was amazing. Amihan walked up one side of an inverted pyramid. It was vibrating. Nakakatakot but she was not afraid.

Noy's command of the English language landed him as Assistant Secretary and writer of DND. He was soon promoted to Undersecretary of National Defense a post he held for four years.

Noy admired former WWII generals so much so that he named his two sons Omar and Rommel. Gen Omar Bradley commanded the 11 Corps in Sicily and the 12 US Army Group consisting of 43 divisions and 1.3 million men.

On the other hand, Gen. Erwin Rommel was the German propaganda icon. He led the North African Campaign, earning him the monicker "Desert Fox." He had to withdraw later from Africa because his long supply chain from Germany was often disrupted.

Finally, Noy and Lou has a charming daughter -- Charmane. #

Mante Bueno had a colorful civilian and military career. He started with the Army. As a young lieutenant, he led various small units throughout the country. Then he transferred to the Philippine Constabulary. Along the way, he studied at Ateneo de Manila University, School of Business where he earned his MBA. In UP, he aimed for BS in Civil Engineering but discontinued it. He took up Basic Constabulary Course in McKinley; Disaster Control and Recovery Operation at the US Naval Training Center in San Francisco; Instructor Training Course in San Diego; Basic Airborne Training with PAF; Command and General Staff Course in Ft Leavenworth; and Traffic Management in Japan.

He became Chief of Customs Intelligence and Investigation Development Officer of DOF; Senior Tactical Officer of PMA; Security Operations Officer of the PHILCAG in Tay Nihn, Vietnam; Provincial Commander of Sorsogon PC; AFP attaché in Bangkok; Deputy Commander of the PC Regional Command in San Fernando, Pampanga; where he also served as Acting Mayor; Commander of the Constabulary Patrol Group; VP for Security, Security Bank of PI; and President, Trace Alarm and Security System. He and Glo settled in Antipolo City. Their place overlooks the skyline of Manila. At sun set, changing colors blanket the sky, reflected by the swimming pool. Adjacent to the pool is a spacious hall that serves as a chapel, a dance floor, or any group activity such as the family reunion Class '54 held there once. #

The late Jose Crisol was our instructor in Spanish at PMA. In one session, he asked me to write a sentence in Spanish on the blackboard. So I wrote --

"Rolando bato gadero no moso."

"That sounds like Portugese," he mused, massaging his chin.

Anyway, he gave me a grade of "1" (In the Academy, it is the highest grade while "3" means failure.) Knowing Spanish and Portuguese is really astounding.

Fast forward: Jose Crisol became Undersecretary, DND, and was in charge of the Rural Development Program which was implemented at provincial level by the PC. I and another officer worked under him. That gave me a chance to tour Luzon, particularly Benguet, Isabela, and Cagayan. In Benguet, I saw a woman with a slender cigar pushed through a hole in her ear lobe. In Cagayan between Aparri and Laoag, I passed through a scary segment of the narrow road. On the left was a cliff rising to the sky. On the right was another vertical rock that plunged to the sea. If our truck fell, the wave it creates would wipe out the Batanes Islands beyond the horizon.

A young Peemayer and I were passengers in the elevator (AFPSLAI).

"Sir," he said, "I always read your articles in the Cavalier Magazine."

My ears flapped, my nostrils wiggled, and my ego flew up to the top of the cumulus cloud outside. At least, someone is reading my corny (as in sarap-sarap popcorn one eats while watching a film in a theater) articles.

After we exited, the elevator dropped to the basement with a Big Bang -- and the Universe was born. #

Rolando bato gadero no moso.

A rolling stone gathers no moss./ gopeng



After 65 years from graduation, the 51 graduates have still 15 surviving bodoos (29%) in various state of health: 5 PA from the 27 (18%); 5 PC from the 12 (42%); 1 PN from the 5 (20%) and 3 PAF from 7 (43%). The eldest is Ching Corachea at 90 and the youngest is Tony Fernando at 86.

The class reported to Loakan on 1 April 1952, as 77 new cadets to undergo Beast Barracks in Polo Fields, Pacdal, Baguio City, under the tutelage of the ruling class, Class '53. The yearlings (Class '55) were initially off limits to us until Incorporation Day when we were allowed to march in formation with the Corps of Cadets and joined the summer maneuvers in Cava, La Union, where the 2nd classmen (Class '54) conducted an amphibious landing in our camp to end their summer training and started to tackle the new plebes right then and there.

Thereafter, we reported to Loakan for the 1952 academic year and 11 turnbacks from Class '55 were added to the class to make a total of 88. The turn backs had an advantage over the new cadets because they were "at ease" (no longer treated as plebes by the upper classes). As such, they had more time to study and be comfortable than the plebes who were constantly being harassed by upperclassmen for various offenses which could easily be committed. For example, an upperclass may ask: "Mr. Dumbguard, what is my middle name?". For failing to know, he was ordered to write it 400 times and to report compliance thereof on the following mess (meal). Plebes were not allowed to walk but double time in the barracks area, except during call to quarters (study period and taps). After a year of plebehood, we were "recognized" in a Recognition Parade of the Cadet Corps, a fitting and meaningful ceremony where the upperclassmen passed by each of the aligned plebes to shake hands with each other, to forget the year-long punishments that had been meted out and accept you as an equal in the Cadet Corps. All cadets treasure the ceremony by shedding tears and making tight embraces. When we went home for vacation after Class '53's graduation, we could hardly sit on the BAL (Benguet Auto Line) bus seats bringing us down to the lowlands. Our buttocks were still swollen from the many paddle strikes that we were given as parting remembrance before Recognition Day. As yearlings, we spent our first vacation in our homes as proud and confident men that have survived a difficult year and ready to face more challenges that awaited us in Loakan.

Our last class visit to the academy was made on 2016 to attend our 60th Graduation Anniversary and found the Cadet Corps in formation bigger and lengthiermakingithardforusoctogenarians to troop the line. Large barracks buildings and other infrastructures have sprouted all over the place making the academy a lively community from its former dreary state. With these improvements, we feel proud that our alma matter had modernized to carry out its mission better.



EDUARDO R ERMITA President TAGUMPAY R JARDINIANO Secretary

 S_{scourge} that first reared its most unwelcome head in the first quarter of 2020, Class of '57 members and their families join the rest of humanity in continuing to grapple with the uncertainties of the future as we usher in the last few months of a most unsettling year. As 2021 draws to a close, we felt it was timely to do a quick recap of recent events of a year we tried to make the most of. Much has been said and done about the COVID-19 pandemic. To say that it has been a game changer is easily an understatement. Last year, we were hoping and praying that the epidemic would end at the soonest possible time, that effective methods for treatment and prevention would be made widely accessible. While seemingly great strides in the right direction have been made, sadly, 2021 proved to be worse than the previous year, with tremendous loss of lives and huge blows to the economy. Locally, there have been nearly 3 million COVID cases, with about 50,000 fatalities. This is a war with an unseen enemy, no

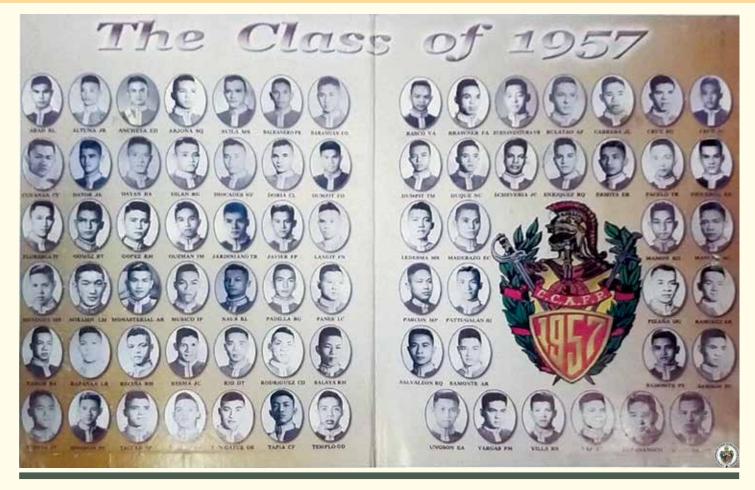
different from what the Class of 1957 has been trained for six and a half decades ago.

Normally, the Class of 1957 family, which includes the 29 surviving members and their spouses, the widows and the children collectively known as the '57 Brats, has a lot of activities, programs, events and get togethers planned annually. This is a very active and tight knit group. A tightness that even other PMA batches have taken notice of. Currently headed by Ed Ermita after taking over the reins from Jun Tan-gatue, the Class '57 family would regularly meet during PMA Week in March and for special events throughout the year most notably the annual Christmas party celebration. Throw in the customary birthdays, anniversaries and sadly, the wakes for those who have gone ahead.

For 2021, as in last year, physical get togethers have either been cancelled, curtailed or put on hold. But being the adaptive and resilient group that we are, the Class '57 family has joined the rest of the world in going for alternative options to stay connected and united while we await the return to normalcy. Although it will be a new normal, it is nevertheless something that we will embrace. Thanks to advances in technology and social media, the Class '57 family regularly "meets" up online via Viber and Facebook group chats, and video meetings on Zoom. Case in point, this was most helpful in organizing an anti-COVID vaccination program that took place in April and May this year in Camp Aguinaldo, one of the rare physical meetings that took place recently, and only because it was obviously necessary. Roughly, about 1,200 people were vaccinated, an undertaking made possible by the joint efforts of the Veterans Memorial Medical Center headed by '57 Brats President Dr. Gigi Ledesma Pereira and our government. Our next Zoom video get together in lieu of an actual Christmas party will take place on December 11. Also in the works is a planned video documentary of the batch's history. This we hope to roll out in time for the 65th anniversary of the PMA Class of 1957 happening in April of 2022. A most momentous milestone for the 29 surviving mistahs out of 74 who graduated, their spouses, widows and the brats. It will also serve as tribute to those who have gone ahead.

As 2021 comes to a close, the Class of '57 family joins the country, as well as the rest of the world, in praying and hoping for peace and healing, and that this pandemic continues its seemingly downward trend, truly a silver lining behind an overstaying dark cloud. We reaffirm our belief that this too shall pass and we will be together again in literally body, mind and spirit. Happly holidays to everyone, stay safe and may God bless us all!

OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2021





The "brr" months have set in. September and October are gone. It's now November as I prepare our 'Class Call' and soon it will be December. Ah, what to do? We are still in the age of the pandemic and although restrictions have been eased, we the "super senior" have to be super careful and thus continue to limit our activities.

Still the class hopes, plans, and prepares for the great day next year 2022. During our

PMA Foundation Day, we are the diamond jubilarians, the senior host class during the Foundation Day activities. Come March 2022, we will be celebrating our 60th year since graduation.

Right now, however, our plans are stymied by the COVID-19 threat. Still class president Nano continues to plan and consult with the class on the activities we can undertake to commemorate the occasion. We, of course, want to have our reunion at PMA but as with Class 61, that seems to be out of the question now. A class reunion in Manila? Time will tell but Nano said we have the funds and he has the class pins which he will give to everyone.

In the meantime, most of us just have to rely on "virtual" contacts. We communicate and share activities in the internet, Viber, Messenger, and Facebook. "Regulars" in our Class 62 Viber Group are Nano, Budge M., Maura S., Glo"w F., Ray L., Al L., Zonia G., Joel H., Rene M., Charlie T., Dana A., Paco A., Fred F., Manuel S., Mitch T., Rudy S. and Kintin and Luz A. There are, of course, "lurkers" like me. At Facebook we see Willy C. and his dogs, Zonia and her flowers. On the phone, Mau E. continues to keep in contact with classmates. He also goes around Camp Aguinaldo in his new toy, his E-bike. Another medium is Messenger where we learn activities again from Ray, Tito, Luz, Al, and Annette de Castro. The class condoled with her during the passing of her and Custer's daughter Bernie.

And from Ray, we have learned about the recent arrival of Romy and Linda Meana from Canada. Welcome back, Romy and Linda.

We end these ramblings by wishing one and all "A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR! (JRRIMANDO)





Extending our warmest holiday wishes ahead from PMA Class '63 Matindi.

IN LOVING MEMORY

We are saddened to announce the loss of Ed Resos in August as well as Joe Pineda and Nick Hernandez in September, respectively.

LAST QUARTER BIRTHDAY CELEBRATORS

"Soldiers rising in ranks fighting all kinds of battles in our lives. May we enjoy our birthdays with cake, medals and numerous balloon gun salutes. From black to gray, from smooth to wrinkled, and from young to old, what a journey we have taken! Happy Birthday! God bless our aging lives."

THE CAVALIER

OCTOBER

- 9 Beth Abaya
- 11 Nick Blancas
- 12 Fred Romero
- 19 Leni Valencia
- 21 Johnny and Estela Andaya
- 22 Gaps Sabarre and Beth Arevalo

NOVEMBER

- 1 Big Boy Adriano
- 11 Mulong Landingin
- 12 Ide Tillah
- 14 Nolan Laput and Josie Nale
- 18 Pio Carranza
- 22 Boy Orevillo and Warlie Tigas
- 23 Grace Valderama
- 25 Inday Andaya
- 29 Nena Delgado

DECEMBER

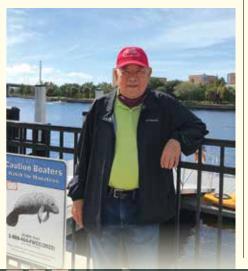
- 7 Cire Cirera
- 10 Aida Mayo



From Jorge Agcaoili, North America:

• Andy Pabellano - After so many decades of being a Californian, he and Siony are absolutely finding it hard to adjust to their newfound life in Las Vegas. *Marami pa daw silang dapat matutuhan* before they could develop a new workable routine. Siony and a daughter had to rush him recently to the ER due to some discomforts. Turned out to be dehydration, and, released right away.

• **Guzi Deguzman** - Found a new medical protocol to treat his illness, a recent discovery which is much better than the one



- 14 Ebor Ebro
- 15 Iniong Reyes
- 19 Arnie Acedera
- 21 Mike Miguel and Amy Ilagan
- 24 Josie Resos
- 25 Naty Laput
- 29 Bobby Babiera and Veny Venadas

INSIGHTS

This pandemic has changed us in many ways. Change is all not that bad. It is scary sometimes but in all humility, we need it likewise. I have only caught up with the changes that is within my power and reach in my twilight years having lived eight decades and almost one coming up a week before Christmas Day.

In everything, there are reasons, seasons and we have a lifetime of decisive choices at any stage in a given span of time. It remains a series of events, emotions, periods of enlightenment and exchanges of energies for us to remember as much. Everything that does not matter just pales into the insignificance.

We celebrate life in the same way as we celebrate the end of life. It is important to celebrate and cherish the little moments in between-every single day beyond stated holidays throughout the year.

It is imperative to have an attitude of heartfelt gratitude each day as that changes our outlook and our altitude.

Always find the time to process your thoughts and feelings, be present in moments as well as be productive. Have fun as well.

SEASONS GREETINGS

Merry Christmas and an Abundant 2022 to us all! Cheers! May we all be blessed in all areas of our lives beyond the holy and holiday season!

May we remain hearty and hale, happy and healthy, always! (18121605)

being given to him now. So, he and Emmet decided to forego their planned trip to Pinas as this protocol is only available here.

• Jorge Agcaoili - Since Miriam and I migrated to the USA in 1992, we always had to endure the rigors of extremely cold weather during wintertime and the need to do the strenuous task of cleaning our driveway whenever heavy snowfall occurs. This year we'll have a reprieve from these seasonal difficulties. We will celebrate the coming Thanksgiving with our youngest son Michael who recently moved his family from Texas to the Tampa area in Florida and we decided to be snowbirds for once to give us ample time to honor the invitations of Miriam's four sisters who had been residents in the same area. Hopefully, we will be back in Illinois by March 2022.

• **Tagoy Diño** - Like before, nothing of interest to add to our Class Call. Just sending his greetings to everyone.

From the "locals":

• Clem Mariano - Nothing much to report; my family tries to beat boredom of quarantine visiting some popular towns in Laguna like Paete and Liliw, Silang and Tagaytay in Cavite, while my wife search and shop for her ever growing plant and flower garden at



THE CAVALIER

home. Takeout meals are consumed in the safety of the car. The rest of the family in the trip end up buying little thing they don't need and seasonal fruits they can't all consume, hahaha. Everybody happy. I devote more tv time on You Tube (50%), NetFlix (35%), and less on Cable TV (15%News). Of course, I still manage to do walkathon in the corridors at home safe from the virus. With Alert Level 2 declared lately, we intend to continue still with all the same precautions to keep safe, despite the relaxation of protocols.

• Jimmy Valeros - Not much can be reported from my end except an old house circa 1971 belonging to no less than our Mistah, **Tony Aguilar**, who has been staying in it since 1979 when he is in Baguio. Ironically, the demolition was ordered by a fellow Peemayer who is the Mayor of Baguio City, retired General Benjie Magalong of the Class of 1982. As of this writing, we stopped the self-demolition of the structure, hoping the Mayor will reconsider. • **Rey Reyes** - Among many other chores he does as Class VP, he has assumed as Point Person for Class 64 participation in this year's Battle of the Classes in golf. **Garic, Arfs** and **Rey** have committed to participate, joining a team of the 60s. Meanwhile, **Rey** and **Sandy** are looking forward to a family reunion in the US early next year.

• Paddy Padilla – The persistence of **Rey Reyes** has paid off; he has finally connected with Paddy with whom we have lost contact for quite a time. Paddy shared the good news that in his annual checkup, everything was normal; evidently, no ill effects of his earlier confinement for COVID several months ago.

• Arfs Arpon - Keeping busy at his adopted town of Lipa - with gardening, golf and social media, among others but at this time, with transitioning to a younger set of PMAers - Classes 80 and later - the management of LEAP, the Loakan Educational Assistance Project – a move towards sustaining in perpetuity the legacy of a decades-old advocacy started by US-based PMAers on the education and development of youth in developing countries, the Philippines in particular.

• **Ding Odoño** – "Can't find any earthshaking event involving me to mention in the Class Call." (We say, wrong! Our proof: this Nov 11 letter that found print in PDI Nov 11. It won't come as a surprise to us if this is, as we have gathered, a takeoff for the launching of a movement for social change which, over time, "will address the social ills, the decadent social, economic and political order in our society."

• **Billy Villareal** - "Nothing significant." (We say, keeping Beth happy is very significant)

• Rene Garcia - Now goes by REMGAR as his nom de guerre in social media,but keeps fit still with his golf and an old habit refusing to die hard: "slow jog or brisk walk (that is) is good for the heart and helps control my sugar." /waga/cc64-2104





PAMBUNGAD

Sa paglabas ng siping ito ng Cavalier Magazine, Disyembre na. Lahat ng ating pag-iisip ay nakatutok na sa Pasko at Bagong Taon. Magdadalawang taon na tayong nagdurusa sa hirap na dulot ng COVID-19. Maraming sinamang-palad na nasawi, nagkasakit, nawalan ng hanap-buhay. Hindi naging normal ang buhay sa Pilipinas, kasama na ang buong mundo. Ngunit dahil matindi ang ating pananalig sa Panginoon tayo ay lumaban sa unos na ito. Hindi tayo nawalan ng pag-asa. Sa ngayon, nakakita tayo ng liwanang sa hinaharap.

ONE MORE GONE

We lost one more dear classmate, the third this year – Mario Antonio, a dashing lad who reinforced "snappity" in the ranks of the Cadet Corps in the early sixties. He died on 27 October 2021 at the hospital due to heart problems. He joined the Navy after graduation in March 1966, even becoming a rare naval aviator in his junior officer years. Unfortunatey, he left the military service early to venture in the proverbial green pastures in the Middle East. There, he met an unfortunate accident, incurred serious injuries from which, he never recovered fully. One of our most unforgettable memories of him was his joining the class' golden graduation anniversary celebration at PMA in February 2016. He even took part in the Trooping of the Line of cadets by the alumni, albiet on a wheel chair, during the Parade and Review.

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the normal arrangements for his burial have not been made as of the date of submission of this article, while awaiting the arrival of two sons who are living abroad – Mark and Marlon. Nevertheless, on 30 October, a small group of sixty-sixers, namely, Class President Noli Espejo, Bing Rivera and Fred Bautista, went to spouse Irene's house at Vista Verde, Cainta, Rizal, to relay the condolences of the class. Around to entertain the group were Irene, son Marvin, daughter Marianne and her husband Robie Pablo. A memento given to Irene was the Class 1966 Golden

THE CAVALIER



Anniversary Book where Mario's career and family life were featured in pictures and captions. (Vignettes of his burial may be reported next issue.)

CLASS ACTIVITIES

As reported in the last issues, Class activities took the form of informal, no topic ZOOM meetings every other Sunday, attended by those who are available and not sleepy on a late evening and small group breakfast meetings.

One subject intermittently discussed was the Class plans in February 2026. Who would go up to PMA? Would it be funded from the Class Fund (that needs to be built up, as early as next year.)? As of now, there is an early consensus among those who attend the breakfast meetings. How much, methodology, etc. are still up in the air. What is clear, there are four years available to complete and implement plans.



Seated, left to right: Fred Bautista, Noli Espejo, Irene Antonio, Bing Rivera. At the back: Robie, Marianne and Marvin.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATORS

We wish to acknowledge those who celebrated and will celebrate their birthdays during a three-month period.

October – Viusy Dauz (20), Roy Nicolas (24), Edd Santos (16), Greg Llorca (13), Menong Garcia (07), Tess Arugay, Cel Cunanan (21), Glo Domingo (?), Margie Galon (17), Lita Garcia (15). **November** – Ces Bello (29), Ben Espejo (9), Louie Fernandez (23), Doming Hontucan (08), Rose Buck-Carreon (11), Remy Dado (22), Delia Jabile (26), Auring Paginag (21).

December – Conri Bruce (04), Lumen Dumadapat (01), Cel Millena (04), Lucy Sarmiento (05).

Happy birthday, fellow seniors!





CLASS ACTIVITIES

A. It's unfortunate that COVID did not allow us to hold the following Dimasupil Monthly Forums (DMF) for the September - November 2021 period:

September - To be hosted by Merle Odi and family.

October - To be hosted by Aging Alino, Joe and Myrna Andaya, Ching and Papoose Ballecer, Vic Corpus, Andy and Meds Reyes, and Sammy and Cora Tomas.

November - To be hosted by Cords and Myrna Cordero, Ben and Lea Libarnes, Bernie and Aying Patino, and Vic and Evelyn Villacorta.

B. If allowed by COVID, we hope to have the following activities for December 2021, onwards:

December - Remembrance Day in honor of the departed Dimasupils and spouses, Christmas Party, and Election of Class Officers.

January 2022 - DMF to be hosted by Jun and Agnes Avenido, Bobby and Penny Lastimoso, Edsel and Toto Salvana, and Joseph and Reina Young.

February 2022 - PMAAAI Annual Convention in PMA, Baguio City (other details to be announced later).

February 2022 - Alumni Homecoming in PMA, Baguio City (other details to be announced later).

UPDATES ON THE DIMASUPILS

We are very sad that two Dimasupils passed away recently due to COVID: Romeo "Romy" Enriquez and Victoriano "Vic" Buaquen. Romy died on 7 September 2021 in Corinth, Texas, USA. Vic died on 8 October 2021 in Baguio City, after spending some time in the USA. May their souls rest in peace in the bosom of the Almighty.

The following Dimasupils are certified COVID veterans: Joy Casillan, Manny Dalipe, Abe Din, Jun Ibay, and Vir Odulio. Unfortunately, being COVID victims has not made them immune to the virus. So, let's keep safe always.

Let us pray for Edsel Salvana. Parkinsonism is bothering him.

UPDATES ON OUR FAMILIES

Another sad news: Frediz Enriquez joined Romy in the afterlife on 14 September 2021, one week after his death, in Corinth, Texas, USA, also because of COVID. May she rest in peace in the kingdom of God.

The following members of the Dimasupil family have successfully overcome COVID: Mia Alino (granddaughter of Aging), Cora Din, Ronnie Ibay and the entire household, and Marina Odulio. Praise the Lord!

Let us pray for Penny Lastimoso. She is now in the hospital recovering from a heart attack.

Congratulations to Anne Beatrice "Trixie" Aguana - Balmaceda, daughter of Roy and Ching, on her recent appointment as RTC Judge. She is actually the second Dimasupil brat to be appointed to this position. The first one is Judge Nanette Austria, daughter of Sergs and Senyang.

Good luck to the following Dimasupil scions who are running in the May 2022 elections: Mannix and John Dalipe, sons of Manny and Maryrose, for Congressman (reelection) and Mayor, respectively, of Zamboanga City; Ernix Dionisio, son of Ernie and Dinsay, for Congressman of Manila; and

Rommel Lastimoso, son of Bobby and Penny, for Mayor of Roxas City, Capiz.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATORS

Best wishes to the following Dimasupils and spouses who celebrate their birthdays in October, November and December: Vic Corpus (4 October), Lulu Larroza (4), Joe Andaya (6), Ching Ballecer (8), Sammy Tomas (9), Toto Salvana (9), Aging Alino (17), Andy Reyes (17), Norma Aliac (27), Sonia Briones (29), Ronnie Ibay (31), Bernie Patino (3 November), Libbie Brawner (4), Penny Lastimoso (10), Merle Odi (13), Ben Libarnes (14), Araw Bernabe (16), Ed Larroza (16), Cesar Quiambao (17), Nora Ruelos (20), Vic Villacorta (23), Mar Cordero (27), Papoose Ballecer (29), Moises Boquiren (4 December), Lulu Perez (6), Lea Libarnes (10), Emay Bautista (11), and Abe Sadul (27).

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our own Viber group named "PMA Dimasupil Class 1967" is now alive and vibrant. It is exclusive for Dimasupils (including adopted members) and spouses. We enjoin those who are not members yet to join the group. Just be a Viber user first, then inform Jun Avenido about it, and he will immediately add your name to the group.

Considering that our Social Amelioration Fund (SAF) is now running low, the SAF Committee would like to remind all concerned to pay their contributions for this year 2021 and next year 2022. Please contact our Class Treasurer Rudy Gaerlan for further details.

Last September, the PMA Superintendent inquired if our Class is in favor of the PMA "Adopt-a-Park" Program wherein our Gazebo '67, together with other Class parks or facilities, would be offered to any interested Class or Classes for co-ownership to insure its upkeep. After some consultation, we replied that we are in favor, with priority to Class 2017 or any other Classes ending in 7 who want to be co-owner.

CLASS TRIVIA

This one is from Bernie Patino: "Speaking of IQs, I remember a funny story. A few weeks before graduation, our Class was given tests to determine our individual IQs. Two classmates, both Delta, made fun of the tests. Naturally, the test results showed they were "idiots." Little did they know that the results were to be incorporated in their 201 files and forwarded to the Army (2nd hint yan, Army sila; 1st hint yung Delta sila). For being playful, they paid the price!"

Quotable quotes:

1. From Vir Odulio, on his birthday last August: "I am now 18 years old with 58 years of challenging and rewarding experiences and I thank God for the gift of life."

2. From Graisie Gaerlan, in reply to a post in our own Messenger group: "Thank you OLD friend. Till we meet again - face to face - with the other oldies. But for the meantime, we may be physically distanced but not socially. Let's stay safe, sound and healthy till our next Dimasupil Forum."

3. From Merle Odi: "Let us all be conscious of the frequency of falls occurring in the elderly, because of the expected balance problems. We also are prone to tripping because of problems with eyesight."

4. From Ed Espinosa: "May we all reach the century mark with all the blessings from above."

Merry Christmas to all Dimasupils and other Cavaliers and their families.





I. Official award from the Government of Japan

On Nov 3, 2021, the Government of Japan announced the award of the "The Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Star" to Lieutenant General Voltaire T. Gazmin (Ret.). During his term as Secretary of National Defense from 2010 to 2016, he promoted close relations between Japan and the Philippines on the security and defense cooperation in the region, as well as contributed to strengthening Japan



and Philippines defense capabilities and improvement of security environment in the region. Japan highly valued his effort to support the peace and stability of Asia Pacific and other regions. PMA Class 1968 congratulates and is extremely proud of Volts for this highly prestigious and deserved award. Japan is the Philippines' biggest source of official development assistance and world's 3rd largest economy.

II. A tribute to Ramon Tupas Montinola

Bai Mon was born on July 30, 1944. He passed away on Sept 6, 2021 a few weeks after he joyfully celebrated his 77th birthday. Mon looked much younger than his biological age. According to him "this is due to being surrounded by family, classmates and friends who sincerely care and pray for each other and are one in with our faith in one true God." This was Mon who valued friendship, wished others well and faith in the Almighty.

He was an outstanding, loving and caring father to all his daughters, family and extremely loyal to his beloved Baby. He



and Baby have a family of 35 consisting of 5 daughters, 5 sons-in-laws, 11 grandchildren, 2 grandsons-in-law and 2 great granddaughters. Mon was a prayerful person. He delivered a heartfelt and touching closing prayer during our Class' virtual rosary event days before he was hospitalized.

Mon joined Class 1968 due to an infraction of a cadet regulation which is an interesting story. He blended well and smoothly with us and was a distinguished member of Alfa Company when we graduated on Mar 24, 1968. He joined the Army group where all 14 members and a US Army officer mistah completed the SCOC and basic airborne course. His first assignment was company commander in the 3rd Infantry Brigade (Sep) Cebu City. He later pursued

full-time interests in piggery, poultry, prawn farming and real estate business.

Mon and Baby hosted Cebu assigned and visiting CMs and spouses often with Danny Flores and Cora. It is sad that Mon had to go. We find relief that he is now with the Almighty and watching us. We will always cherish him much and his memories. Our sincerest condolences go to Baby and the Montinola family.

III. Recent macro-critical developments. As of Oct 27, 2021, Philippines ranked the lowest among ASEAN-5 countries in COVID 19 pandemic resilience (Bloomberg). More recently, infections have started falling to low to moderate risk levels as vaccination coverage steadily improves. Full vaccination coverage has exceeded 40% of the adult population (DoH). The share of *Sinovac* vaccines is nearly the same as that of combined four Western vaccines out of the additional million doses purchased and donated in inventory (Nov 2021, PNA). Majority of CMs and ladies got their 2nd Sinovac shots in May-June 2021 and are due for booster shots. More effective Western mRNA vaccines are their choice.

Annualized quarter on quarter real GDP growth was 3.8% in the 3rd quarter 2021. GOP targets a 4-5% real growth in 2021 and at least 6% thereafter. DoF is disinclined to exceed the guide post of 60% of public debt to GDP ratio to protect the country's international investment rating. Consumer inflation, a key parameter in MUP pension reform is running at 4.5%. The poor bear the brunt of inflation and corruption in government.

Online and modular learning is only 37% as effective as face-to-face learning (NEDA). Home-based tutoring is indispensable to minimize lasting learning shortfalls on our school-age family members. The recent U.N. COP 26 Agreement keeps alive our hopes of being saved from more catastrophic climate change. We all hope that the next decades shall be kinder to us and the next generation.

IV. Other Class matters. A virtual meeting was held in Oct 12. Eleven CMs participated namely Pres Art C, Art J., Mel, Willy, Volts, Bobby, Alex, Nori, Sonny, Patrick and Abe. We took up the following matters:

a. Status of Class Funds. Alex was thanked for his efficient service as outgoing Class treasurer. President Art will oversee treasury operations in the interim,

b. Access to medical cash and *abuloy* assistance from PMAAAI, VMMC, AGFO and PVAO subject to eligibility and documentary requirements. It was suggested that PMAAAI create a help desk to liaise with other AFP offices to assist members facing high-cost medical treatment,

c. An excited and competitive Class team is back in the fairways practicing for the next PMAAAI golf competition, and

d. Further protection through anti-flu and anti-pneumonia vaccination and other relevant matters.

The Viber enabled exchange within the Class is very active. Everyone is reminded that the PMA 1968 is intended for official and collective Class interests whereas the '68 video Chat Group is for wider socialization and other matters. A Class 68 Gmail group is being made available to encourage sharing of Class pictures and further communication. A much sought Class face to face event under better conditions hopefully before year-end is under serious consideration. Inputs to the Class Call are encouraged to make it more inclusive.



OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2021



JAIME S DE LOS SANTOS President JESUS B DULLER Secretary

Pahinga na, Mistah Mon. You have fought a hard fight; you've done your very vest ... you are now with our Lord Jesus Christ ... so take your well-deserved rest. We, your Mistahs, will always remember your gentle ways and kindness, your readiness to say a prayer for the Suaviters and their families all the time when asked and on your own. Rest in Peace now, till we meet again. – Bobing Brilliantes

A Hero's Welcome

By Robert Longley

Time to come home dear brother Your tour of duty through You've given as much as anyone Could be expected to do

Just a few steps further The smoke will start to clear Others here will guide you You have no need of fear

You have not failed your brothers You clearly gave it all And through your selfless actions Others will hear the call

So take your place of honor Among those who have gone before And know you will be remembered For now and evermore

Mistah Mon, the bells have rung, and taps have been sung for you. Rest in Peace with the Lord. Our deepest condolences to your family. May I dedicate this poem to you. –Willie Wong.

Monching, you are joining our other Mistahs in Heaven, especially our Alfan Firstclass roommates - Max Balansay and Damy Yala. May you all Rest In Peace. Pray for us all who are still left behind. We miss your steadfastness for what is right and the pursuit for the truth. Please intercede for Suaviters spiritual concerns and well-being, including our DRs (delinquency reports) so, when it's our time to face the Lord comes, our demerits and touring hours are already pardoned. – Jake D.

Let us all pray for the eternal repose of the soul of our Mistah RAMON LEMA MARTINEZ, Alfa Company, CCAFP. It is very shocking and devastating, the 3rd Suaviter to pass on to the next life this year. Rest In Peace bonk, my bunk mate the full yearling year. – Jimmy D. Remembering the blessed life of our beloved brother-in-Christ,

RAMON EMMANUEL MARTINEZ JR.

Nov. 30, 1945 - Oct. 12, 2021

Loving father, doting grandfather, loyal friend, respected military officer, and a good and faithful servant of the Lord.

Meeting ID: 810 3875 9139 Passcode: titomon



Mon graduated with the highest rating in Military Efficiency and was number 1 in Ordnance and Electrical Engineering. He has an MBA degree from AIM and an Awardee of NDCP. Most of his years in his career were spent in DND retiring as USEC. Upon retirement, he was focused on Church Ministry spreading the word of God most especially among military personnel. For Mon, Jesus is always First in his life. Knowing how Mon spent his life, I am confident that he is in Heaven together with our Mistahs who went ahead of us.



Monching's vibrant group photo with Mistah Greg Camiling and church family members.



Children's Response

We would like to thank PMA Class 69 for their help and support through this difficult time. You have been his brothers and friends over the past fifty years, and we are grateful that your care and concern for him has continued in your support and generosity towards us.



"It is with profound sadness and sorrow that we bid adieu to one of the most courageous and dedicated public servants and defenders of the Republic, Gen. Reynaldo Berroya (Ret.), Administrator of the Light Rail Transport Authority, an exceptional leader." **Tugade said on his verified Facebook page.**

"As Administrator, he was one of those who was instrumental in lifting and revitalizing the image of the country's transport system, particularly the railways sector," **Tugade added**.

"We send our condolences over the passing of LRTA Administrator Reynaldo Berroya. As LRTA administrator, he played a big role in improving the services of the railway sector." **Harry Roque said in his press conference as Presidential spokesperson.** "The former police general also previously served as Transportation undersecretary and assistant secretary."



L-R: BoyM, WillieW, AlexN, JessR, ReyB and RJG.

Cleo and Vivz were enroute from Manila to San Francisco when Rey died. Cleo only knew it later trough the social media after they landed in SF Airport. Filled with sad emotions, he could only post this short Viber message: "Kid, Rest in Peace". (They fondly call each other "Kid)



To Inday Berroya and Family:

Please accept our Suaviter condolences and prayers for the sudden demise of our beloved, my Kabayan AND high school seat mate, Mistah Rey! We share in your huge loss and grief, but our God obviously has other reasons for taking Rey so soon... Please be assured that we are all here to do whatever we can for your family. We may not measure what Rey can do but please know we are here should your family need our assistance. Vikki and our children join me in our petition to God that He takes Rey in His heavenly care forever. - **Bobing and Vikki**

Our profound prayers and condolences to Inday and the Berroya family. While we feel pain and sorrow for the passing of Mistah Rey, this transition from earthly death to heavenly life should give us lively hope for our peaceful resting place in Heaven as we reunite with our Creator. May Mistah Rey find joy and lively company among angels, saints and friends in his eternal home. Pray for us who are left behind. - Jake and Sarla

For Inday and the children: Rey's passing weighs heavily on us,his mistahs, friends and comrades. Go gently into the night, Rey. For some of us,it may have come too early; but as it is in this life, the answer is blowing in the wind. Goodbye, soldier, brave Cavalier! -Benjie and Meg



Deepest condolences to Inday and the Berroya family! We are shocked with Rey's sudden passing. - Joey and Tere

Our deepest sympathy and condolences to Inday and family... our prayers are with you. - Nonoy and Mone

Please convey our condolences to Inday and her family. Our thoughts and prayers are with them. May Rey rest in God's peace! -Dan and Emy

Our deep condolences to Inday and family. - Rene and Odet

This is the worst year for cl 69, four mistahs gone in one year. Our condolences to Inday and family. - **Ellen and Jus**

Thoughts from Inday:

The first word to describe my beloved husband, Rey, is integrity. He was always true to what he believed is right. He made decisions and acted upon them according to his highest truth regardless of the consequences. His decisiveness puzzled people. Life to Rey was one big adventure and

his zest for life was so contagious and was like a pied piper. Wherever he would end up, people followed him. The outpouring support from people of the present and distant past over the past few days is a witness to all these. A year or so after he took over LRT, made it ISO certified. Rey's life was a life well-lived with enthusiasm and vitality. He left his mark enthusiastically in the hearts of so many especially in spending time with his daughters and the family. Thank you for our time together, sweetheart. It was time well spent. God bless.

While we, the Suaviters, suffered a tremendous blow on the passing of our four classmates this pandemic year 2021, life still goes on. Here are some lighter moments to share in pictures:



Jimmy harvesting Rambutan and enjoying unlimited supply of oxygen in his farm. Simple joys of a farmer that enhances health and wellness.



Rey and Inday with daughters and grandkids.



Fall 2021 reunion with our daughters on during my 75th birthday. –Nonoy and Mone



Merry Christmas to all Cavaliers! May the Yuletide Season bring peace and joy to all with the continuous prayers that all will be well despite the pandemic situation.

Preparations for our "Re-enacted" Golden Anniversary Celebration

The Matatag Class will celebrate its 50th graduation anniversary this coming December 2021. The celebration could have been done last February 2021 Homecoming in PMA but because of the worsening pandemic situation brought about by COVID 19 virus at that time, that celebration was not done and only a limited number of attendees was allowed although virtual platforms such as Zoom and Facebook live streaming were done. Only five Matatags were present because

they were part of the entourage involved in the program and preparations. Although the donning of the golden medallion was done in a "symbolic" gesture (some Matatags with their mas Matatags did it at their respective homes simultaneously during the program proper}, it was decided by the class that a repeat performance be done at the PMA grounds depending on the situation and subject to the IATF protocol and City of Baquio's health requirements. It was good that the current PMA Superintendent Lt Gen CJ Cartujano, was open to the idea and

has approved the attendance of a limited number of Matatags and Mas Matatags for such celebration. And so, after several "madugong" discussions during class meetings, the following were agreed upon. First, there will be three groups that will celebrate this occasion separately. About 24 Matatags and their bunkmates will go up to Baguio City and be present in PMA, 24 mistahs with their respective wives who are based in the US and Canada will have their celebration in Las Vegas, and the rest who are based locally but did not signify to go to Baguio for some health, schedule, and other issues will celebrate it here in Metro-Manila. OPR for these events are mistah Tex Balmaceda, Mistah Roly Degracia, and Mistah Rex Piad, respectively. Secondly, these 3 celebrations, being a class activity, will be supported by the class fund accordingly.

Incoming Election of Matatags '71 Organization

President Egay requested sometime in September that he be allowed to be "on leave" for reasons that he will be attending to some important business projects and also to prepare for the campaign of the DIWA Party List candidate son, Congressman Michael Aglipay and his son-in-law, DPWH Secretary Mark Villar who is running as senator. That being the case, Executive Vice President EQ Fernandez was designated as the Acting President until December. It was discussed in several meetings that if possible before 18 December, the 15 nominated trustees will be known and already has done its organizational meeting so that after celebration in Baguio, the new Batch of



officers can take over by January 2022. The 15 nominees will come from the Army, Navy, Air Force, Police, and FBM (Foreign Based Mistahs) groupings where 3 nominees will be voted by each group. By the time this Class Call will be published, the new batch of class officers shall have been sworn into office and taken their respective elective position.

Prayers for the Class and the Sick

It has to be accepted that as one goes older, dumadami na and dinadamdam na mga sakit. Some may suffer weaknesses or pains in the joints or kasu-kasuan, others may have worse cases like deficient heart or lung conditions, eye defects, vertigo, kidney and prostate problems, diabetes, and others. Some of the Mistahs and mas Matatags were also infected by the dreaded covid virus this year but survived except our beloved mistah Prospero



"Popop" Ocampo, who succumbed to it as he was not vaccinated. We, seniors, must also be careful in our movements to prevent accidents. Remember, a bad fall may mean broken bones or head injuries. It is the time now to be conscious of our movements, taking it "slow-by-slow (borrowing the words of our snappy Tac - O Gen Quintin Alcudia), no rushing but being careful always. Thus, we are glad that our mas-Matatags created a nightly Rosary Prayer offering for the class especially for our mistahs and mas Matatags who are suffering from some health problems which proved to be effective. This virtual rosary prayers done nightly at 9:00 p.m. coincide with the 3:00 p.m. rosary prayers being held in Lourdes, France. Mas-Matatags Aleli Belonia and Jing Martinez and a host of others lead these events. These prayer warriors helped alleviate the sufferings of all concerned and served as inspiration to all of us to be closer to God. Additionally, daily virtual masses are also done by some Mistahs and ladies with special intentions for the sick. On Sundays, Prexy Egay and Mawie encouraged everyone to join their EMME Family virtual mass at 1030H. We also appreciate the daily prayers and spiritual messages sent in our Viber groups by Mistahs Mel Acosta, Ed Matillano, Bugsy Cabagnot, Efren Fernandez, Vic Batac, and Pastor Pabuayon and mas-Matatags Aleli Belonia, Mawie Aglipay, Lita Gil, Fim Velasco, Jing Martinez, Rochee Domingo, Jennie Domingo, Celia Lalisan, Verna Albano, Marie Velasco, Jo Galvez, and Tess Paynor. Really, prayers help and create miracles.

Let us continue doing this for "God's answers to our prayers may exceed our expectations". Amen.

Golf Fellowships and "Kayahing" Blues

It has to be told that those Mistahs who are not into golf miss a lot. Golf, I think, is the only activity where Mistahs who love the sports (although to some, the sport does not love them...he he...Fore!) enjoy the sportmanship, the sun and the view of the fairways, and the fellowships after the game. This after-the-game gathering is what is more important than the result of the game itself. During this activity, the laughter and the joys cannot be bought according to mistah Rex Piad. The bolahizing, the often reminiscing of the life in PMA as cadets and as officers, the bragging rights of the winners, the "encounters" with uppies and former Tac-Os over bottles of beers are but a few instances that make the life of the Matatag Golfers more exciting, healthier, and saner.

The Matatag Golfers, dubbed as Hampaslupas'71, have formed two groups actually to cater to those who live north of Pasig River and those from the South. The Northern Group or commonly called the Beverly Group play mostly in that San Fernando/Mexico, Pampanga fairways composed of Rey Acop, Bing Alano, Twiggy Zubia, Ed Matillano, Teody Viduya, Oca Martinez, Dong Tabamo, and Obet Pagdanganan while those in the South is known as the Hampaslupa South composed of Rey Alcasid, Rey Rivera, Dick de Leon, Marte Chioco, Tex Balmaceda, Egay Aglipay, Joey Lalisan, Jerry Albano, Rolly Garcia, EQ Fernandez, Rey Velasco, and Danny Belomia. We have also the Foreign based golfers or the FBM group composed of Archie Almario, Dan Perico, Amba Jun Paynor, Totoy Fabros, and Doy Francisco. The games were played in Villamor, Navy, Aguinaldo, Beverly's Place, Luisita, John Hay, Baguio Country Club, South Forbes, Pinewoods, Canlubang, and Northwood.

Last September, there was a dual meet with the Magiting'70 Golfers in Luisita hosted by Egay Aglipay and Matatags and last 6 November, a return bout was hosted by the Magitings'70 at the Navy. There were six pairs from each group that played and the result in flight wins was even...3 all. However, in the total points, the Matatag Hampaslupa's'71 won. Everyone enjoyed the booze, kayahings, the raffles, and prizes. Thanks to DENR Sec Roy Cimatu, PVAO Administrator Nesty Carolina, Congressman Romy Acop, Clyde Fernandez, and Class '70 Prexy Ed Israel for the hosting and the gracious preparations they had.



LANDENSINA: May mga tao na 'di na makapamili, kung katakawan

ba o 'yung konsensiya.

Pinipili nilang magpakaganid kaysa makonsensiya... Mahirap naman 'yun, ititigil namin ang imbestigasyon dahil may nananawagan, Presidente man o hindi, e, ang dami ngang natutuklasan."

SENADOR

Thus, another dual meet will be held during the Games of the Cavaliers at Villamor on the 21st of November, this time to be hosted by Matatags'71 and Class Prexy Egay Aglipay. May the best team win! **Abangan....**

Matatag Candidates for the 2022 National Elections

Mistahs Senator Ping Lacson and Rey Velasco had filed their certificate of candidacy recently. Sen Ping will vie for the highest position of Presidency while Rey will be the principal candidate of Party List Police Retirees Association, Incorporated or PRAI. Let us all support and wish them good luck!

Quote for this Issue:

"Some people don't like you because your strength reminds them of their weakness. Don't let the hate slow you down." Thema Davis//JCL/12 Nov 2021//



AMADO T ESPINO JR President CELSO G CASTRO Secretary

Hello all. There are not much to report since the last class call for the months of July to September. One thing certain for now is, all of us are missing the interactions once we had with each other except for the ones we do through virtual means. The only chance we have face to face chitchats are during fittings of uniforms and vaccinations but for limited time only and everybody are in hurry to go home. That's the reality in "normal condition." On the positive note, things are becoming better and with God's mercy, everything will be alright as our 50th Golden Anniversary is nearing. For the updates:

a. Inauguration and blessing of Muslim Cadets Prayer Room:

The Muslim Cadets Prayer Room was finally completed and inaugurated last Oct 23 during the 23rd Foundation Day of PMA, with the Chairman/CEO of PMAAAI and our Class President, Jun Espino as the Guest of Honor and Speaker. Joining him representing the Masigasigs were Gene Senga, Art Lomibao, Bing Valencia, Orly Buenaventura and this writer. After the arrival honors accorded to Prez Espines, they were invited by Lt Gen CJ Cartujano, Supe, PMA for an informal briefing about the thrusts and developments at PMA specifically on cadet training. From there, Prez Espines's party were ushered to the site of the newly constructed Muslim Cadet Prayer Room for its inauguration and blessing in the presence of Muslim cadets and other invited guests. Later, the guests passed by Lungayban Hall to refresh prior to the parade. We felt nostalgic watching the parade and seeing Prez Espines trooping the Long Gray line. We enjoyed dining with the Corps after the parade and we can't help to be emotional as we entered Yap Hall welcomed by thunderous applause and standing ovation from the Corps. What a momentous and sentimental feelings. Again, our congratulations and thanks to our generous and visionary Prez for sponsoring the Prayer Room in the name of the Class; a life time legacy for Muslim cadets and future Cavaliers. We also



thank the PMA leadership headed by its competent SUPE, and the Cadet Corps for the warm welcome and reception.

b. Class Uniforms:

The Uniform Committee made assurances that the class uniforms will be distributed before the end of December and first week of January for Masigasigs and Mas respectively. There are still some Mistahs who failed to show-up during the scheduled measurements while few had not made any contact at all, despite the efforts of the Committee reaching out for them.

c. Golden Sword:

The Editor-in-Chief conducted consultation meetings to iron-out the concerns of some Mistahs regarding the lay-outs of their respective pictures. Almost 90% of the Golden Sword editorial works are done and hopefully the proposed Sword will be presented to the Board for comments and approval for final printing. Of course, the pictures of class activities during the homecoming shall be included in the book. Teody was advised not hurry its publication to ensure the quality of the Golden Sword.

d. Vaccination Roll-Out:

The Masigasig vaccination roll-out was completed last Sept 7 at VMMC. Relatedly, we are happy to report that the Class was able to solicit 120 doses of anti-flu vaccines



from VMMC and DOH respectively. The first batch of vaccination will be held on Nov 19 at VMMC. The 2nd batch is work on progress. As you are reading this article, the said vaccinations are done already.

e. Christmas Party:

The Christmas party planned by the ladies will be held virtually on December 9. Prez Espines started the ball rolling with his personal contribution of 100K while the rest of the fund came from Mistahs

and Mas. A total of 235K was generated for the party. The ladies Christmas Party Committee decided to donate and share part of the purse to charitable institutions that take care of the orphans, the aged and the abandoned persons. With that, we commend the Committee for that humanitarian and laudable endeavors. Sharing the bounties and blessings to less fortunate is Godly. Going back to the party, we expect entertaining programs like, masquerade costumes contest, Xmas family jingle competition, raffle prizes and merry mix of singing and fun sharing. Thank you ladies. Lahat masaya.

f. Proposed Homecoming Activities:

Due to the pandemic, the activities during homecoming depend on the health protocol to be imposed by the national government and local LGUs. In the last Class Officers/BOT last Nov 7, it was proposed that the class will stay in Baguio for two nights and three days from Feb 17-19. Here's is the tentative schedule:

17 Feb: Departure for Baguio (By bus/ private cars)

- : Check-in Microtel/Crown Legacy
- : Dinner (details to be announced later)

18 Feb : Early Breakfast

- : PMAAAI Annual General Membership Meeting at PMA
- : Free time

19 Feb : Early Breakfast

- : Early Check-out
- : Departure from hotel for PMA
- : Registration
- : Coffee Break at Bahay Masigasig
- : Alumni Parade
- : Lunch/ Picnic at Bahay Masigasig
- : Class Annual Meeting
- : Departure for Manila.

The traditional post Valentine Party is on hold due to the restriction/protocol specified on all alert levels. The schedules are purely tentative depending on the situation early next year. Be as it may, the Class is looking forward to celebrate the 50th Golden Anniversary by all means. Let's hope and pray that the situation in February will allow us to celebrate and enjoy the momentous event in our life.

These are all for now, stay safe and healthy.

Happy reading and MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR to all.







Merrier Christmas 2021, too bad for the schadenfreuders

Mistah SND Lorenzana showed "Philippines solely on its own handled the Ayungin Shoal"; first Filipino to receive Indonesia Peace Medal

Mistah Tito Angcanan wins the 5K California run 70-74 years class

US leaves in Afghanistan, positions in SCS.

NE 2022 evolves sui generis politicians Philippines handles the pandemic way much much better, and here's why:

INDONESIA President Joko Widodo will personally confer the Medali Perdamaian as fitting tribute of Indonesia for Mistah Lorenzana role in the successful rescue of Indonesian fishermen kidnaped by the Islamic State-linked Abu Sayyaf group in 2019. He is the first Filipino to receive the Medal of Peace. CONGRATULATIONS Mistah Del.

Also, Mistah SND Lorenzana showed to us and the whole world how to resolve the RP-China crisis involving the Ayungin Shoal. He showed that Philippines solely on its own can handle the challenges and issues in the WPS/SCS involving superpower China with brilliant result that successfully



Mistah Tito Angcanan at the finish line United Airlines 5km run Oct 2021, San Jose Callifornia.

resupplies our troops, promotes and protects our sovereignty. Unlike the strategic loss of Scarborough Shoal to China in 2012, this time the Ayungin Shoal is effectively in Philippine control and possession. And will remain that way.

The MAAGAP takes pride in the recent achievement of Mistah Tito Angcanan in the United Airlines Rock n Roll 5 km run, San Jose CA series, Oct 2, 2021. Mistah Tito bested his age group 70-74, and his time of 00:39:50 even topped the winner of the age group 60-65 years. How did he do it? Well, he has been running at least 5 times a week in the Philippines and upon his arrival in USA, he hit the road running literally for three days to acclimatize with California 12°C. CONGRATULATIONS Mistah Tito.

Mas Maagap Janet Magsino finds time to busy herself during the pandemic by joining the Session Live belting all time favorites. "Sessions is the first live streaming platform custom built to solve the most pressing issues for musicians - building a true fanbase and generating significant and sustained income." much like the early platforms Twitch, Facebook Live, and YouTube Live. It provides chance for the Maagap to engage directly with Mas Maagap Janet as artist and share her music to our family and friends. Mas Maagap Janet and host of burgeoning artists worldwide are given chances to level up and in the process may even earn income from it.

On a sad note, Maagap mourns the death of Mas Maagap Coy Baquiran despite efforts of Veterans Memorial Medical Center; a vehicular accident in Isabela several years back paralyzed her waist down. The entire Maagap has been with her all through out. Mistah Tony showed the love and devotion of Maagap husband to afflicted wife, and led his family amidst this sufferings and serious challenges. This is the Maagap character of husband's love to wife as displayed by Mistah Nestor Sanares to deceased Annie, of Mistah Joy Cabato to physically challenged wife Ceny, of Mistah Ding Reyes for taking care of Vicky who has been fighting and thriving with some ailments. To appreciate beauty, live it daily. And so too with, "To live and cherish till death do us part." By the way Mistah Christie Datu is doing really well after Nephrectomy, the removal of kidney operation. Our prayers to the Good Lord for swift return to the golf course just like Mistah VQ after his herniorrhaphy in June this year.

The Maagap would like to take this opportunity to salute the medical workers of Veterans Memorial Medical Center(VMMC) for their excellent performance in handling the medical cases of Mas Maagap Ceny Cabato and the Covid cases of Maagap Boy Rio and Mas Maagap Judy. As Mas Maagap Judy Rio would say at home, the facilities are world-class completely different from what used to be the Mona Lisa hospital decades ago. The VMMC is testament to the care President Digong and Mistah SND Lorenzana have for the men and women in uniform as well as the veterans. On the pandemic, every Cavalier has a sad story to tell of family member, relatives, neighbors, friends, upperclass and underclass who somehow recovered through the ordeal of covid infection or died from it. At one point. the daily news of Covid-afflicted Cavalier numbed our senses and took out any surprise of the news about new infection or death. And most likely the onset of emotional scar may be hidden on the younger generations and to our Apos. Hopefully our Apos would not develop anti-social attributes having thrived in isolation or lockdowns.

Despite stringent health protocols, the 3 househelps of Mistah VQ were infected with Covid and had to be individually quarantined/ isolated inside the compound, each one in separate lodging on homecare treatment for more than 2 weeks. Good grief, all of us in the house were fully vaxxed with Sinovac. Luckily, Myeth and I were not infected maybe because we wore masks even inside the house. Thank Most Gracious God! Covid infection, if patient is fully vaxxed and is treated early, is highly reversible with doctor prescribed lung antibiotic, Ling Hua, Ivermectin, exercises including deep breathing under the sun daily.

Our country, Philippines' handling of the pandemic when compared with global gold standard nations, like the USA and UK, has been way much much better despite claims of doom and gloom by our own schadenfreuders. Consider population wise, Philippines- 110M while USA- 331M or 3-times bigger and UK- 67.8M or just about half of the Philippines. Total Covid cases, Phil- 2.82M while USA- 47.88M or 17-times more and UK-9.52 or more than 3-times our country. And just how many died, Philippines-45k while the USA- 783k or 17-times more, and UK- 142k or 3-times more than our country. If only our own schadenfreuders learn to love our country, we can reach even greater heights. As of this writing 13 November, on 7-day average daily new cases, Philippines- 2k with 136 deaths while the USA- 78k or 39-times more with 1023 deaths or 7-times more, and when compared to UK-35k or 17-times more with 156 deaths or fairly even. As the cadet in us say, "What ask can we more?"

Indeed, as days roll on, our country gets closer and closer to the outer edge of the pandemic woods. Several months ago, the Delta variant in its peak recorded as high as 26k daily cases. (Does Delta Coy ring a bell in the cadet barracks?). With all the data pointing to continuing decline of new cases,



Above is Mistah Gemini family Halloween celebration in Bantayan Island.



Above: Mistah Sonny Divina Halloween in Seattle.



Above: Mistah Sammy Bagasin Halloween in Toronto.



A new toy, wooden hammer.

Above Mistah Vidal Querol clan doing Squid in the farm.

4 [.]

the Maagap and the whole country will experience much merrier Christmas 2021.

My Rasa, still I do not know

The worms bored the trunk deeply. And, dropped all the leaves silently. Wagged no more forever her tail. Snuggled no more on my chest. Breasted my crawling tears.

I bowed my heart and head, To the blowing of the wind, Unknowing even to the end.

In fact Halloween 2021 saw the Maagaps in places previously forbidden by lockdowns. The extended family of Mistah Gemini spent All Saints Day in the famous Bantayan Island. He must have lumped all his savings of unspent staycation budget to get to the island paradise. Mistah Sammy Bagasin and Mas Maagap Glecy flew more than 12 hours to Toronto, Ontario to celebrate the Halloween with the Apos. What love for the Apos would suffer the Lolo and Lola of such vey tiring and exhausting travel across the entire Pacific. What the grandparents in both could not do when much younger, well, Sammy boasted pointed moustache a la Dracula and Glecy with almost witch-like dreadlocks. Mistah Vidal Querol clan went to the farm in Pasong Callos to do their own Squid Game episode during the holiday. And the Apo with much surprise played with a wooden hammer toy only the farm could provide. (Picture of kid holding a wooden hammer.) Mistah Tony Billones and Monet, Matt and Gee Mayuga, George and Toots Uy and Boy and Ofie Gudani went joy riding to new places after moments of solemn remembrance of the departed loved ones and friends.

National elections 2022 continuously flummoxes everyone from jeepney drivers barbers, fishwives to political experts of prestigious schools. New alliances, alignments, realignments of political parties, withdrawal and substitution of candidates and transfer of candidates from one party to the other are events happening at speed virtually leaving analysts, rumor mongerers, professional gossipers and trolls catching their breath to utter relevant comment. Elected officials running for another elective position will not resign when other Filipino candidates must resign or considered resigned once candidacy is filed. Philippine elections are a Petridish of opportunists, machinations, aspirants, intelligent, gullible dullards, true and woke patriots. From this Petri dish, the Filipino politicians are sui generis Filipinos who render laws, and of course election laws, not applicable to them.

US chaotic retreat from Afghanistan came with US increased military presence in the South China Sea and consequential tensions when such positioning and the geopolitical alliance of the (Australia-UK-US) AUKUS unabashedly proclaim its goal to counter the rise of China around the world and specifically in the South China Sea. Expectedly in response, China sent record number of warplanes across the Taiwan Straits while ASEAN littoral countries reacted to the future deployment of Australia nuclear submarine near their shores. The recent US submarine collision in the South China Sea which happened after the launching of the Anglo-Saxon AUKUS aggravates regional anxiety. Maagap is monitoring if the much publicized AUKUS was meant to drown out global debate on the rupture of EU-US alliance as consequence of the notorious submarine deal, decline of US global leadership, hegemony and exceptionalism due to series of setbacks in the Mideast region, and its absence in the global response to the pandemic. Added to the challenges of US comeback in the global leadership stage have been its widening sociopolitical divide, its inability to fire all chambers of its economy due to pandemic surges and emergence of Covid variants and the economic scars of the trade war. History tells us however, that the similar chaotic US retreat from Vietnam 1975 did not permanently dent US global leadership and hegemony through the years.

After All Saints' Day, we welcome back to the golf course Mistah VQ after four months of mandatory golf sabbatical as part of recovery regimen from hernia operation. He quickly bounced back to his deadly form as lead Maagap golfers in the forthcoming Games of the Cavaliers 2021. On the same week when the pandemic restrictions eased to Alert level 2, it was immense joy to watch kids who were locked inside their homes, at least for families which observed the restrictions, were finally liberated. For 20 long months, it was the first time to see kids running in the malls, going to the farms and playing with other kids. Philippines Jollibee was the favorite destination of the Filipino kids. Yes, we are almost there; a little more push together as one country and people(inviting the schadenfreuders) and we will get out of the woods to the happy and inspiring years before the pandemic. A Merrier Christmas to all, Cavaliers. Cheers!!!



MESSAGE TO THE CLASS

t's hard to believe that the most anticipated season of the year is upon us. Christmas is just a month or so away!

We love to celebrate Christmas for as long as possible. It gradually starts from September to December 25 and ends at Three Kings in the second week of January.

Many things will be different this Christmas. Unless the Pandemic drastically recedes (hopefully), the observance of Christmas will be subdued or restrained. There will still be some restrictions: no mass gatherings, pre-dawn masses, reunions and parties including some merry-making activities like fireworks display and the such.

Be that as it may, one thing is what matters most. And that is living the true spirit of the festive season; time of giving, caring and sharing. One way is to lend a helping hand to the needy, especially during this time.

Advance Christmas greetings to all. "May the spirit of Christmas bring us peace, the joy of Christmas, give us hope and the warmth of Christmas grant us love."

CLASS ACTIVITIES

1. Virtual Class meeting/reunion/ kamustahan on October 26, 2021 presided by Class President Sonny Razon

Agenda:

MC – Amy Tolentino Opening Prayer – Randy Ruiz Message – Sonny Razon Secretary Report – Willy Garcia Treasurer Report – Gene Cedo Golden Sword '74 – Danny Abinoja Class Uniform – Ricky Dela Paz Class PMA Project – Ace Tolentino Hotel Reservations – Danny Abinoja PMAA Matters – Danny Abinoja Game of Cavaliers – Ricky Dela Paz Class Roll Call (1 min/member) – Amy Tolentino Zoom Host – Benny Cabrieto

Class Directory – it was reported that getting of needed data/info for the Directory is almost finished with a few members (17) still to submit yet. The Directory will be incorporated into the Golden Sword Yearbook in PDF files.

Golden Sword – the Chairman, Benny Abinoja, appealed to members to submit the two page layout even before the deadline in December. He said he needs

selfless cooperation and commitment and need to work together. The plan had been conceptualized and laid down. Taskings and responsibilities had been identified and assigned to concerned Mistahs. Timetables will be set; meanwhile, the theme for the Golden Sword had been selected by the Editorial Board: "Class '74 – This Is Our Story."

Class Uniform – Ricky Dela Paz announced the class uniform which was already approved under the chairmanship of Ruben Garcia. The shade of the Maroon coat/ blazer had been selected and the pants will be khaki. The T-shirt underneath the coat is colored gold. The head gear will be a wide brimmed cowboy hat.







Class PMA Project (View Deck) – Ace Tolentino reported that: contract between PMA and the Contractor has been finished for the View Deck and ready for signing. The building plan has been presented to PMA for approval and once approved, the Contractor can start the project.

Game of Cavaliers – Ricky Dela Paz announced the 16 members of the Marangal Golf Team who will compete on Nov. 22, 2021 at PNGC and on Nov. 27, 2021 at VGC. Tournament fees have been paid by individual players. Jun Esperon will donate the team uniform to be worn during the tournament.

Hotel Reservations – Danny Abinoja announced that the class had already made reservations at Manor Hotel and Forest Lodge Hotel. In fact, we had already paid for it in advance. Also the venue in CAP for formal dinner has been reserved.

2. Perspective of an Honorary Member, Daniel Rene Rieza on the Golden Jubilee 2024: The Road to 2024.

The Road to 2024

2024 will be the Jubillee year of PMA Marangal Class 1974. In the old tradition, the Jubillee year is the year after seven cycles of the Sabbatical year which is held every seven years. So seven by seven is forty nine and the following year is the jubillee year. The Jubillee year is not only a year of great celebration but also a year when the fields are allowed to lie fallow, to rest as it were, where slaves are freed and where debts are, don't laugh, forgiven.

How then will the Marangal Class of 1974 celebrate its Jubillee?

It will let the fields lie fallow. It will let it rest. These fields are the fields of our endeavors, what occupies us, our occupation. We will set them aside as we celebrate our Jubillee. To many, retirement is the primary occupation. Catching up and making up for lost time with the family. After all being in the uniformed armed services is a 24/7 duty. We will let those pre-occupation lie fallow, we



will let them rest for a while as we celebrate our Jubillee. Instead, we will reconnect with classmates of fifty-years ago. Time out from retirement and family, let's catch up with our mistahs for now.

We will free our slaves and in turn be freed from what enslaves us. Before retirement we have been slaves to our ambitions; career, position, the desire to provide a good life for our families, celebrating our Jubillee may mean freeing ourselves finally from these. But we have been retired for quite a while now, have we not been freed? Perhaps, but in turn, we have been occupied with other things, maybe not really enslaved but certainly some things took our attention. These are many, health issues, family issues, financial issues, all of these and more became surprisingly, our focus. Who knew that retirement could be so time-consuming?

Again we will, for the shortest of moments, shed all these concerns and focus on our Golden Jubillee. We will look at our mistahs, many we have not seen in a while, and ask not "how are you mistah" but also "who are you now, mistah?"

Oh yes, we have changed, slowly and almost imperceptibly but we have changed. By the time of our Golden Jubillee most would have been retired for almost 20 years. Time to take stock.

Finally, our Golden Jubillee will be a time to forgive all debts owed us. All the slights (big and small) and all the injuries (imagined and real) will be forgiven. It will be a time to walk back all the hurts and all the bruised egos and finally embrace each other again. In forgiving, we are forgiven.

And so it is that the PMA Marangal Class of 1974 are preparing for 2024, the Golden Jubillee year. This is done with anticipation and also with a bit of trepidation for there is always the fear that our intentions, our reaching out may not be well-received. But no matter, we are forging ahead holding on and relying to nothing more than the old adage that what unites us is greater than what sets us apart.

The preparation have now been set in motion; contact-tracing to reach out to long lost mistah, preparing our Golden Sword edition and all the usual details for a grand Golden Homecoming are now gathering momentum. This prompted a mistah to joke "sana hindi mawala ang monumentum!"

Still, as they say, it is not the destination but the journey and the whole class is now beginning to get involved and to enjoy getting involved. Regular, associate and honorary members are standing up to be counted. It is the journey of a lifetime.

3. Class Activities in pictures



Biking Port of Calatagan.





Zoom meetings



Golfing kahit tagaktak ang ulan.



RAUL S GONZALES President DANTE T FERRER Secretary

After a year-and-a-half-long pandemic, Ait is undeniable that many people have acquired anxiety and lockdown fatigue. Apprehension has been replacing excitement and is making even the most subtle person go irrational. It was timely that class president Raul Gonzales called for a virtual general assembly and invited the Makabayans, especially those based abroad to break the boredom and attend the class meeting.

True enough, an unprecedented number, 31 enthusiastic mistahs to be exact, showed-up very eager to know the happenings in the Class. There were only two main topics prepared for discussion, namely, the preparation for the 2025 golden jubilee homecoming and some related matters from the mother alumni association. However, due to the stifled energy from the participants, the meeting lasted an exceptional three-hour marathon. The class president reminded the members about the on-going amnesty in the payment of membership dues in the PMAAAI and PMARAI. A list of the Makabayans who are "not in good standing" status landed a couple of times in the Class Viber chat group. The president also said that the updating of entries to the PMAAAI Members Registry was expediated through the efforts of Ernie Boac, vice-president for Army group, Pete Cadungog for Air Force group, Pete Magno for Navy group and, German Doria for PNP group. The updated list was sent back by the PMAAAI Registry Committee for final disposition.

Updates on the Plans for the 2025 Golden Jubilee Homecoming –

The president, recalling previous consensus among the Class, reiterated that the *salakot* will again be used as part of the costume during the 2025 homecoming. In this regard, he placed another set of order to be given to those who do not have yet. He urged those who have been issued before to take an interest of caring for their *salakots to prevent* wear and tear.

Regarding hotel accommodation, Noe Wong said that the reservation has been secured by depositing one-night worth of stay with the chosen hotel that could accommodate all of the participating members of the class. Noe Wong in a flashback, said that during the 2020 Homecoming, members of the Class were lodged in three separate hotels which gave



Class meeting of PMA "Makabayan" Class 75 on September 15, 2021 held over Zoom.

rise to problems on communications and movements. That problem will be aptly solved with only one hotel to billet the attending Makabayans as a group.

The matter of funding is one that could never escape the curiosity of everyone. The president said that the fund-raising campaign is working but there is still the exigent need to sustain the momentum. Noe Wong said that the target amount was based on the expenses during the 2020 homecoming, but for the 2025 Golden Jubilee Homecoming the outlay will be a little bit more because it is likely that the Class will be spending more. He earnestly advised everyone to be candid about the fund campaign and to consider completing the donation by year 2023 as this is the year the Class will make an evaluation of the activities that have to be funded.



The Salakot – PMA Class 75 "Makabayan" icon of distinction

Updates from classmates -

Among the Makabayans who attended for the first time are Andy Hernandez, Willy Bactad, Carlito Claudio, Rudy Petican and Rey Ansay. Carlito Claudio lives in Toronto, Ontario, Canada and is five kilometers away from another classmate, Alex Geronimo, but said that he could not reach him. The reason why Clyde never made it to the 2020 Homecoming was because he underwent emergency medical procedure just before the homecoming. Another Fil-Canadian Makabayan, Willy Bactad lives in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada has two married children and that he enjoyed baby-sitting his grandchildren. He retired from working as a nurse in a hospital after 32 years of service. He plans to attend the 2025 homecoming.

The president was thankful to Rey Ansay for reaching out to other classmates like Andy Hernandez who lives in California, USA and Rudy Petican who finally hang his flight suits after 44 years of flying. He planned to attend the 2025 homecoming and vowed to be involved in the activities of the Class.

Another guy from the "land down under," Walter Villagonzalo is the only Makabayan in Australia although there are several "*bogu-bugos*" around. He said that he has been a community volunteer for the past 30 years organizing cooperatives and social enterprises. He intends to run for the parliament in the state elections next year. Walter Villagonzalo is a nominee for the 2022 Cavalier Awards under the Special Field category of Community Volunteerism and Social Entrepreneurship.

Other Makabayans who hardly ever make appearances have, out of the blue, graced the virtual meeting room with their

attendance. They are Dante Ganir, Rico Borromeo, Rene Navarro, Arsenio Arugay and Florante Baguio.

Birthday Greetings-

Birthday greetings and felicitations to our birthday celebrators for the 4th Quarter 2021. We have 13 mistahs celebrating birthdays, eight are adding another year in their life amid the pandemic. Mistahs, always remember to keep smiling and have a positive outlook on life, stay safe and healthy. Happy Birthday!

We have five departed mistahs whose birthdays we remember. Happy birthday in heaven!

October

Napoleon Delos Santos Jr +	Oct 7
Sergio Alcubilla +	Oct 8
Roberto Robles +	Oct 10

November

Sofronio Pasiliao +	Nov 1
Cesar Carranza	Nov 3
Bernardo Julianda +	Nov 20
Florante Baguio +	Nov 25

December

Carlito Claudio	Dec 7
Ruperto Rico Borromeo	Dec 8
Arthur Gosingan	Dec 9
Osmundo Hernandez	Dec 10
Reynaldo Ansay	Dec 26
Renato Navarro	Dec 29

In Memory – When news breaks so suddenly that a mistah has passed away, the angst can be hard to process because in one moment, that mistah went from being a person to becoming a memory. A memory that we all treasure together. The Makabayans were disturbed by the passing of two mistahs, Prudencio "Dempo" Maligalig and Rudy "Guligs" Guligado, in a short span of five days. Death, as a poet says, *"never comes at the right time, despite what we mortals believe. Death always comes like a thief.*" – Christopher Pike

Prudencio "Dempo" L. Maligalig—The family broke the news that Dempo died on September 20, 2021 in Los Baños, Laguna due to a lingering illness. He was survived by his wife, Maria Renelle Maligalig and children, Jon Paul, Ian Albert and Marc Christian. Class president Raul Gonzales led the Makabayans in commiserating with the bereaved family. Very few among the Makabayans were able to visit the wake. In fact, only Raul Gonzales, Noe Wong, Willie Palugod, Gerry Doria, Nap Cachuela and Jeff Sodusta made it to the wake. However, during the necrological services held on September 22, 2021 aired via



Prudencio L. Maligalig (April 28, 1952 - September 20, 2021)

live TV streaming, 16 Makabayans watched the proceedings.

Pete Cadungog, vice-president for PAF Group, delivered the eulogy on behalf of the PMA Class 1975 and the PAF Flying School Class 1976-B. An extract from the eulogy is quoted below:

"Before I proceed in sharing my remembrances and memories with our beloved Mistah Dempo, in behalf of PMA Makabayan Class 1975 and my family, allow me to offer our deepest condolences and sincere sympathy to Mistah Dempo's whole family members and loved ones. We share with you our deep grief and the feeling of emptiness right now for his passing away. Your loss is also our loss; however, we are comforted by the fact that God, who so loved the world, sent His Son Jesus Christ to suffer death in order that we may have life. That's why, we Christians, even in death, could always claim victory in our celebration of life because that is how our life evolve - from its temporariness here on earth to eternity in heaven."

"Last year was our 45th class anniversary which we celebrated during the traditional annual PMA Alumni Homecoming celebrations. Our preparations as a class were complete until Covid-19 pandemic came rampaging. As one of the senior host classes, we could attend without limiting our number. Mistah Dempo was present. He proudly marched in cadence throughout the oval of our hallowed parade ground, the Borromeo Field. He remained true and determined because he valued our relationship. That is Mistah Dempo, a fellow Cavalier, a true

blue-blooded Makabayan Class 75 Mistah, a brother and a comrade."

As parting words, Pete Cadungog quoted the last four lines of the PMA Alma Mater Song to convey his personal and collective distraught feelings of the Makabayans and the PAF Flying School classmates.

Rudy "Guligs" T. Guligado – Guligs was released from this life on September 25, 2021 after succumbing to COVID 19. Guligs' demise was distressful for the family and close relatives as they were away from him at the time of death lest having potential contagion. This situation compels traditional memorialization practices to be modified like limited visitors during wake and shortened vigil for the ashes. On September 29, 2021, a virtual memorial service was held at the Libingan Ng Mga Bayani (LNMB) memorial chapels. Ernie Boac, class vice-president for the Army Group, rendered a eulogy. Ernie Boac, in his eulogy, narrated his awe and reverence when he received the news that Guligs was critically ill in the hospital and that he did not want his classmates to know of his condition so as not to create unnecessary anguish among them. Not long after, in fact the following day, Ernie Boac said that he received the sad news of the passing of Guligs. The following is an excerpt from the eulogy where Ernie Boac shared his first meeting with Guligs:

"I first came to know Cadet Rudy Guligado, after our Summer Camp Training as plebes in the PMA way back in 1970. He was then a yearling and both of us were in the same squad of Bravo Company. I can



Rudy "Guligs" T. Guligado (May 27, 1949 - September 25, 2021)

clearly recall his unique way of how his plebe squad mates reported to him on several occasions and usually after Saturday noon mess. Cadet Guligado would require Roberto "Obet" Robles, a classmate, and myself to report to him. We would first accompany him to the Post commissary where he would buy two large bottles of soft drinks and a bag of pandesal. After which we would proceed to the fourth floor of Melchor Hall to enjoy what he purchased. For plebes, "boodles" or food stuffs are always a welcome treat. This was followed by a set of physical exercises he required us to do. The highlight of these sessions was the "pep talks" and words of encouragement from him to help us hurdle the rigors of plebe hood. I will always cherish these acts of kindness of Cadet Guligado."

Ernie Boac continued his tribute narrating how they started army life after graduation. Among the salient details he recounted is Rudy Guligado's choice of infantry as his occupational specialty and taking the Infantry Officers Advance Officers Advance Course in Fort Magsaysay where he graduated with distinction in the late 80s.

Further, Ernie Boac said that Rudy Guligado received a specialization training on Civil-Military Operations (CMO), an expertise he developed which later earned him the position as group commander of the Civil Relations Group in the Cordilleras. Rudy's passion for sports and physical fitness led to his designation as the chief of the Army Special Service responsible for the overall supervision of the physical fitness and sports development programs and activities in the Philippine Army. Ernie Boac moreover cited Guligs' active participation in class activities such as the alumni homecoming, Christmas party celebration and other special events. Ernie said that it was in February last year during the last face-to-face activity of the class to commemorate the 45th Anniversary when he vividly recalled how proudly Guligs donned the class uniform with the iconic salakot.

In a note concluding his acclamation, Ernie Boac referred to the interment flag that is displayed beside the urn containing Guligs' ashes and explained that "It epitomizes the finest tradition of the AFP and the other armed services, befitting a departed comrade-in-arms. When this Philippine flag is finally turned over to the loved ones of mistah Guligs, it symbolizes the gratitude of the nation and the Filipino people for his faithful, dedicated and distinguished service." And with a snappy salute Ernie Boac, on behalf of the PMA Class 75, bade farewell.

On September 30, 2021, the ashes were interred at the LNMB following a mass and military honors. Some Makabayans were present during the interment namely, Raul Gonzales,Noe Wong, Ernesto Boac, Jeffrey Sodusta, Nap Malana and Nap Cachuela; and many followed the live streaming of the occurrences via Internet.

Rudy T. Guligado was survived by his wife, Cynthia, daughters Angeliene Sofia DG Roxas and Angelica DV Guligado from previous wife, the late Tonette, and son Angelo DV Guligado. Rudy has two other siblings namely, Carmen Guligado-Cruz and Evangeline Guligado-Tangunan.

(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 <u>ferrerdt@msn.com) - Ed.</u>



Farewell Mistah Nat:

After about three years of Chemo, trips to the hospital, inspiring classmates with his cheerful thoughts and advices, and finally getting the dreaded disease, our dear Mistah Nathaniel Legaspi has flown west last Aug 24, 2021. Sad news for the class indeed.

Nat had a colorful military career. Entering the Academy at a young age of 17, he joined the Philippine Air Force. Flew different types of transport and utility planes, specialized in Intelligence and Diplomatic fields, got assigned to different units in the PAF and GHQ, and retired as the Commander of the 2nd Air Division and a Major General.

Nat was finally laid to rest with Military Honors at the Libingan ng mga Bayani on Nov 6, 2021. We will miss you, Mistah.



Announcements:

The Comelec committee has announced elections for Class Officers will be held this December. All Mistahs are reminded to participate and choose wisely. Details are with the Company reps. Good luck to the candidates, and I am sure the future class officers will be deserving and will continue to maintain the high standards that have endured all these years in the true MAGILAS tradition.

Also, keep yourself active and updated in our Viber and Messenger group chats. Everybody, KEEP IN TOUCH.

Very Good Updates:

COVID is finally settling down. Fewer cases, more vaccines, easing of lockdowns and restrictions. Maybe soon, we will be able to bond with each other physically. However, let us not keep our guard down. As Seniors, we still have to continue to be safe, and protect ourselves and our families. Life is good. Let us enjoy the remaining years with good health, happiness, and faith in God.

Class Trivia (From the Magilas Storybook) Loyal Sons of Fort Del Pilar

Five Magilas members served the Academy either as Superintendents or Commandant of Cadets. VAdm Len Calderon was the Superintendent when majority of the class members retired from the service. Len gave them the best honors the Academy can render to outstanding alumni. He succeeded MGen Doo Maligalig who not only served as Academy Superintendent but also as Commandant of Cadets before his elevation to the post. Then Col Sonny Cachuela, Col Paji Pajarito and Col Ben Dolorfino consecutively handled the Cadet Corps as Commandant before Doo's arrival.

The abundance of Magilas mistahs at the Academy proves the undying loyalty of the class to its breeding ground. Others who spent some time educating the cadets were Bong Ibrado, Pol Bataoil, Mon dela Cruz, Cholo Carlos, Vic Boco, Igoy Allaga, Pat Labiano, Alex Yapching and the late Ross Barrera and Alvids Viduya. If the number of class members who served PMA after graduation were made a basis to grant the Fort del Pilar Loyal Sons Award then Charlie Company would have certainly clinched such honor.

4th Quarter Birthday Celebrants

Oct 6 – Tui Deemongkol, 9 - Abner Cabalquinto, 9 - Ely dela Paz, 10 - Louie Ticman, 18 – Alex Yapching, 22- Pol Bataoil, 24 - Raffy Dacanay

Nov 4 – Sonny Cachuela, 5 – Jimmy Caringal, 7 – Jogy Fojas, 10 – Ben Dolorfino, 11 – Jefferson Soriano, 15 – Doo Maligalig, 20 – Ed Gonowon, 21 – Jigs Dasallas, 27 – Sluggo Nano, 29 – Boying Alarcio

Dec 16 – Romy Hilomen, 25 – Jess Verzosa, 28 – Gerry Defensor

Again, wishing everyone good health and happiness. Let us keep praying and may we never cease to thank GOD for the gift of life.

Sa tulong ng dasal 🙏 at awa ng Maykapal.

Lockdown. quarantine. curfew.

Mask up. Spread out.

Get vaccinated *A*.



TSIKENKLAB

Linked tsikenklab zoom meets. Sarisaring talakayan. Turok'ed *mistahs* are happy and well. We all long for better and safer times.

• HALALAN 🖄 2022

Four mistahs have filed their certificates of candidacy. We wish them good luck in their politikal endeavors.

In the privacy of the ballot box \bigotimes , the people make a public statement.

• OBIT 🖏

48

1. Condolence to Percy Padla on the passing of his brother.

2. Condolence to Mon Gatan on the passing of his son-in-law (manugang).

3. Condolence to Ernie de Guzman on the passing of his mother.

Majority of us are vaccinated J. We are mindful of crowds, confined

areas, and close contacts.

We take vitamins and other immune boosters.

Others opt for practical remedies.

Some occasionally bike, walk, or hit the fairways.

We know we can still be infected by the virus if we are careless.









With the arrival of the vaccines in our country during the 1st Quarter of this year, everyone was hoping for a better year. But NAY, due to the arrival of the Delta variant, the number of Covid cases in our country even went up to as high as 20K and more this 3rd Quarter forcing our concerned agencies to "lock up" again the majority of our people. The Matapats were not an exempt to this, as law-abiding citizens, most of us just stayed at home with our respective families. Worse, a number of us, to include members of their families, got infected by the Covid 19 virus. One good thing about it was that all of them were prepared and physically fit to battle the virus that no one was fatally impaired. Thanks to all our prayer warriors, but more especially, our PRAISES and THANKS to our Lord God Almighty who was just so gracious and loving to heal all our affected mistahs and their affected families.

Now that the number of cases has been slowly dwindling down, we are hoping to have a more enjoyable and merrier Christmas season and a prosperous New Year.

Let's all stay healthy at ingat pa rin tayong lahat mistah.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS and felicitations to the following Matapats and Katapats who are

celebrating their birthdays this 4th Quarter. We wish you all good health, more blessings and many more years to come:

October: 02 - Gigi Castro; 4 - Boy Honoridez; 9 - Babylyn Abella; 20 - Evelyn Soriano; 24 - Drus Bolodo; 26 - Tattu Sanchez; 28 - Amor Bumanglag; 29 - Nette de Jesus; 31 - Cip Gundao

November: 2 - Mayette Fajardo; 13 -Art Ortiz; 15 - Mike Salvaleon; 16 - Bubbles Alcantara; 17 - Maloli Supnet; 18 - Gene Calonge; 20 - Aida Cutiyog; 23 - Annie Sanchez; 25 - Fred Peralta; 26 - Essel Soriano; 29 - Paeng Lleno; Annie Butalid; 30 - Yaggie Aguilar

December: 5 - Toton Oban; 9 - Noelo Albano; 10 - Mary Rose Dellosa; 13 - Ed Oban; 17 - Flor Banayat; 19 - Eric Manaquil; 25 - Dj de Jesus

HAPPY WEDDING ANNIVERSARY to the following Matapats and their Katapats. We wish you all a lifetime of happiness together.

October: 7 - Rongee and Marissa Rongavilla; 15 - Alex and Jojo Estomo; 23 -Steve and Gigi Castro

November: 25 - Ariel and Pong Querubin; 29 - Alex and Faith Dicang

December: 8 - Boy and Marion Espino; 23 - Leo and Bobbie Santiago; 28 - Pio and Gloria Domantay; 29 - Vicsie and Dodie Felix

Our **DEEPEST SYMPATHY AND CONDOLENCES** to Chuck Dizon and his bereaved family for the demise of their beloved father Gen Jesus T. Dizon who was finally laid to rest at the Libingan ng Mga Bayani last October 2, 2021. Rest in peace Cavalier. May you find eternal happiness in the loving arms of our Lord.

AIR FORCE "Mandirigma" UPDATE:

Despite the so many tragedies COVID-19 has brought us, the Mandirigmas have found unexpected blessings. The opportunity to experience a slow pace and smaller life was for most of us, Mandirigmas and Nandirigmas, a welcome reprieve from the over scheduled, harried and often overwhelmed version of the days before this pandemic. Most of us realized that what had once seemed inconceivable — no schedule or appointment for the week — was now necessary for a sense of peace and calm. A few of us experienced the joys of doing nothing and just staying at the safety of our homes.

The battle against Covid 19 was difficult for everyone but was most devastating to one of us who was hospitalized for severe symptoms. Another one experienced mild to moderate symptoms. But our unwavering faith in our Creator gave us much courage and hope to hurdle all the challenges that Covid 19 has brought before us. So here we are, up and about, ever ready to continue the joys of living.

Yaggi was mildly hit by the dreaded C-19 but not down, and continue to enjoy the company of his family in Caloocan. Noelo and Cyril found bliss in taking good care of their grandson while the parents are on military duties. Ric and Flor joined their daughter Dr. Rikka in the US as she embarks on the next chapter of her life. Steve and Gigi are safe and enjoying the comforts of their home in Taguig with their children. Diego and Ruby shuttle regularly between Tarlac and QC to attend to their businesses and family, respectively. Deejay and Nanette are in Lipa, Batangas with their growing extended family, the former being happy to be a RAM (Right Away Mama). Bong and Ping are resolute in their fight against Covid 19, advocating



BGen Jesus T Dizon

Sleeping and Staying at Home as prevention and cure. Cip and family were not spared by the highly infectious C-19 but, by God's grace, successfully emerged as all victors. Ed and Toton are safe and sound, and believe that it is the best time to be with SBMA (Sa Bahay Muna Ako). Maxwell and Melody, living in PA, USA are in the pink of health and fully protected from the infectious C-19. Tattu and Annie are busy with their new found calling and have been encouraging the Mandirigma to join the Matapat 79 Sheperd's Voice Bible Study Fellowship every Wednesday. Tete and Vivian have found a way to get away with anxiety attacks caused by the pandemic by visiting their children and grandchildren regularly and hosting a family get together every Sunday. All these were made possible by the pandemic.

As we witness the decline of infections every day, we are all looking forward to happier days ahead. Hopefully, the plan of Prez Tattu for the Mandirigma and Nandirigma to have lunch together will happen before 2021 ends. Cheers!

ARMY GROUP UPDATE:

Matapat Mark Supnet and wife Maloli are now back to homeland after more than one month vacationing in the U.S. They had a wonderful time which was highlighted by the Aug 23, 2021 lunch with U.S. based Mistahs at a nice seafood restaurant in Los Angeles. Present at the lunch gathering were Bong Golez, Grack Victor, Maxwell Oligane, Conrad Sumera, Jonathan Guimbatan and Mark Supnet. From the pictures that were sent to us, they seem like they didn't change a bit... they are all still young and dashing. Mark is now back in Lipa City where he is happy doing what he used to be doing. He is back to farming and enjoys everyday of it with all the fruits of his labor. He has an open invitation to all MISTAHS to spend a weekend over.

Some Army mistahs are also enjoying their being a first-time LOLO. Congratulations to Matapat Rene David, the first time Matapat LOLO of 2021. Enjoy your time together!

Art Ortiz, while having so many apos already, is also expecting another one soon. BTW, Cadet Babbu Ortiz is now a Firstie in PMA. Babbu was a little baby when Art was a CGSC student in Fort Leavenworth, USA. The course turned out to be a CGSC cross-trained with baby-sitting. Time has gone too fast.

On a sad note, Col Sammy Afdal, a very good friend of the Army Matapats, was ambushed in the Surigao area last Aug 26, 2021. He survived it and is now in stable condition.

NAVY "Siokoys" UPDATE:

The Navy group, after mooring along the pier for quite a while, is setting sail once again...Ariel, our class president, has recently retired from the SMC conglomerate as SVP for Security and Special Concerns. Raul is ably assisting him as our class treasurer. Through his postings in our class Viber chat group, he has shown his prolific analysis and assessment of the political situation in the country.

Retiring from the service did not stop some of us from pursuing other related fields. Mon has decided to put up a training business specializing on transportation security. Alex is presently a consultant of SM on disaster resilience. He is also the Co-Chairman of ARISE Philippines. Jolu is the founding Chairman of Foundation for the National Interest (FNI), which specializes on Maritime issues such as the West Philippine Sea and other maritime related issues. Likewise, Rex together with Dino Juan have recently put up a security consulting and management firm, DEFCONREDALERT that specializes in transportation security, emergency response, and disaster resilience.

By now in our mid-60s, the rest of us have decided to just enjoy retirement and sail back to port. "Shore-based" Siokoys Bobby, Roy, Tony A, Tony R, Chuck, Bong, Conrad, and Ram are presently maximizing their time with family, home and friends. Hobbies and personal pastimes occupy most of their active hours nowadays. So much to do, so little time to do it...

At this point, we would like to remember our Navy mates who have gone before us: John-john, Ronnie and Orwen. We bid them fair winds on their journey through Eternal Life...



Former Class President Mark Supnet with our US based mistahs

MATAPAT 79 SHEPHERD's VOICE 'Faithfuls without Boundaries'

At the onset of the onslaught of the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020, a small number of mistahs, through the initiative of former PMA Matapat Class of 1979 President, Mark Supnet, and Born Again Christ follower, Essel Soriano, organized a Bible Study Fellowship called "79 Shepherd's Voice" exclusively for members of PMA Class 79. The fellowship was in response to the boredom felt by some members of the class brought about by the imposition of Community Quarantine by the government to address the pandemic, as 'Face-to-Face' social gatherings were strictly prohibited especially to seniors and retirees. To address this boredom, Mark and Essel thought of finding a productive and meaningful activity to engage into. The thought of spiritual enlightenment and cleansing through the 'On-line' study of the Holy Scriptures came to mind as the most productive and meaningful activity as members of the class are now in their twilight years of their earthly life. As the group comes from different Christian religious congregations, they likened themselves to "Faithfuls without Boundaries".



The purpose and objective of the spiritual fellowship is to discover and fully understand the Truth of the Word of God and the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The Conceptual Framework of the Bible Study Fellowship is depicted in this simple illustration: Basis (The Holy Scriptures); Ways and Means (Reading, Studying, Sharing); Output (Right Understanding and Discovery of the Truth and Word of God); Outcome (Spiritual Cleansing and Eternal Salvation). It is a spiritual journey of the group and hopefully for all the members of the class and their respective family.

Aside from studying the Bible, the Fellowship is also use as a venue for 'catching up' and for prayer requests.



Election fever is heating up! I enjoin everybody to refrain from bringing sensitive issues into our Viber groups. Let there be no campaigning in our media groups, as some will be bound to disagree with what we post. We may lose valuable friends, in exchange for people who may not even know we exist. Baka imbes na 'All for One', maging 'All For Nothing'!

Eto naman ang 'All For One' as when it comes to Mistahs running for elective posts, the class shall be a force to reckon with! So, to the future Mayor Efren Yebra of Paracale, Camarines Norte, and future Mayor Ariel Bernardo of Magarao, Camarines Sur, here we come!

To keep us connected though miles away, several Class 80 viber groups have been created. Foremost is the "Mapitagan Announcements Only," for class activities and disseminations. Membership to this group is mandatory, including associates and honoraries. Birthdays and other social announcements are posted here, but to keep this page unclogged, our greetings are to be directly sent to the celebrators. Other messages not related to class activities can be posted in our other viber groups such as "Mapitagan Open Forum". Otherwise, you will take your post, and Mandee Espineli will take charge.

We have seven other viber groups for optional memberships, and that's

not because we have seven presidential candidates. To discuss anything under the sun, there is the "Mapitagan Open Forum". Para sa mga hampas lupa, go to "Mapitagan Golfers". "For the Boys" caters to jokes and anything that will arouse you, I mean, arouse your interests. Then we have the "COVID 19-Q" for anything about the pandemic, the "IVM" for those who want to get well fast, and have a kick much stronger than that of all the Pitongs in the world. "Mapitagan Riders" are for those who love to ride, but only on motorcycles (the Class Secretary definitely not included here). Finally, the "Mapitagan Music Lovers", for those who wish that they are Romy Palaroan.

Our inaugural Zoom monthly meeting last 15 Sept 2021 was a tremendous success, with 43 attendees. Set at 10:00 a.m. Philippine Time, it provided equally decent times for our Mistahs in the East and West Coasts of the US of A and Canada. Unfortunately, it was laundry time for Jack Yaakub in Malaysia, and Bob Ramos in Korea, so they had to pass.

Pres Nick Bartolome called the meeting to order, and Jess Lomeda led us in The Cavalier's Prayer. In the Zoomustahan that followed, we all had a minute to update each other on what's keeping us busy, and what liniment (or lotion) we are using.

We also discussed PMAAAI/PMARAI Membership Updates; Guidelines (Netiquette) on Class Viber Groups; COVID-19 updates from survivors Ige Rodriguez, Ted Torralba, and Nes Eloja, and prevention tips from Bong Cabantac and Doc Frank Gali.

Our lifetime membership dues with PMAAAI and PMARAI (formerly BIRC) was a pleasant topic, noting that only a few are still settling their one-time lifetime dues of P10k for PMAAAI, and P2k for PMARAI. If you have questions or clarifications on this, please contact our Class Secretary.

The second Zoomustahan was held last Oct 13 (Wednesday), again at 10:00 a.m. Phil Time. Pres Nick requested Alex De Guzman (who was on duty at that time as hospital nurse in the US) to pray for the class and Nolet Ojeda to recite The Cavalier's Prayer. Among the topics discussed were:

1) Games of the Cavaliers (Golf Tournament). We have 12 players on Nov 21 and Nov 28. The class, thru the PNP group and Pres Nick, will sponsor their Tournament Fees and T-shirts;

 PMAAAI/PMARAI Membership Status
Those who have not yet remitted their dues were gently reminded to do so. Everyone was also asked for updated addresses for the delivery of the Cavalier magazines;

3) The class procured 100 copies of the latest edition of the Alumni Register thru the kind support again of the PNP Group. These Registers will be distributed in December



Screenshot of the 25 out of 43 attendees of the "Zoomustahan" meeting held last Oct 13, 2021.

to each one of us, including the kin of our deceased Mistahs;

4) We were reminded about postings in our viber groups, and that differing views, especially on political matters, are not to be taken personally; and that even if we agree or disagree to agree, we are all still brothers and friends;

5) There are some classmates who are still "missing in action", like Mervin Tiu, Bobit Venadas, and Bruce Ringstand in the US. Classmates who have information on them is requested to pass them on to the Class Secretary. Other missing Mistahs in the Philippines have been contacted and we are awaiting their 'active' status in Viber. Paging Jufel Adriatico, Bob Calleja, Willy Campos, Dippon Carado, Dodge Macatol, Nelson Nario, Ager Ontog, Tino Pereyra, Silver Primero, and Jude Tadeo. Some are just lurking around in our Viber groups, and preferring to be silent. Hope they will pop out and from time to time, magparamdam naman kayo, mga Mistah;

6) Bong Cabantac talked again about COVID-19 updates and prevention tips, in collaboration with Doc Frank Gali. The meeting lasted for almost three hours, though no fault of Bong C. Next zoom meeting is on Nov 17, this time at 9:00 p.m. Phil time.

The class sympathized with the bereaved family of the late Gen Prudencio Regis '51 who passed away last Sept 13, 2021 at VMMC. He would have been 96



Sunshine Baraquiel wins the Ladies Philippine Golf Tour in Tagaytay City on Nov 11, 2021. Congratulations mistah Tony and Neva for raising a Champion.

years old by Oct 23. As per our Mistah George Regis, his Dad's "death was inevitable. May eternal rest grant unto him and may perpetual life shine upon my father. Last night, he was heard by a nurse talking to my mother. I guess sinusundo na sya ng Mommy ko. My Dad is surely with my mother now. I love you so much Mom and Dad and will be missing Dad." It may be recalled that George's older brother, Dennis Regis '75, succumbed to COVID early last year. It must indeed be hard for our Mistah to lose both a great brother, and a super great Dad.

Last Oct 1, our Pres Nick announced the "passing away of his father Eufrocino Bartolome Sr., 87, who joined our Creator at 11:00am today at the Loving Mother Hospital in Tarlac City due to massive heart attack (COVID+). He will be cremated and brought to his hometown in Gerona, Tarlac. There will be no public viewing... only prayers, please. Thank you."

Nick thanked the class nine days later, with his message, "Mga mistah, maraming salamat sa inyong pakikiramay at dasal sa pagpanaw ni Tatay. Malaking tulong ito para sa kalungkutan ng aming pamilya. Ihahatid na namin si Tatay sa kanyang final resting place at magkakasama na uli sila ni Nanay sa piling ng Poong Maykapal.

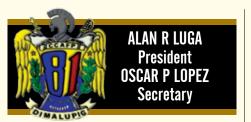


Dept of Human Settlements and Urban Dev't Secretary Eduardo Del Rosario '80 (left) administers oath to Jeofrey Tupas '80, newly appointed Regional Director, DHSUD NCR Regional Office.

Maraming salamat muli, mga Mistah. God be with us all."

The message of Bai Emil "Gupix" Gupana to our Pres Nick, captured to sentiments of the entire class when he said, "Bai Nick, the greatness of your Tatay was written on every heart of his children. He would be missed but not forgotten. We take off our hats in reverence. May he Rest in Peace! Our prayers." As we end another meaningful year, let us take stock of our blessings, and look forward to better times ahead. Let us keep our sanity intact, our class intact, and let not the intensity of the moment overcome our lifetime relationships.

We close with this timely reminder that, "If we argue with a fool, then he is doing the same thing"!



s we approach the final stretch of the Ayear, we recall with sadness the loss of a mistah, Cav Rolly Ricafrente, who succumbed to COVID-19. We pray for the eternal repose of his soul. We also want to express our sincere condolences to the Ricafrente family. While a couple of mistahs also had a close call with this virus, we are still forever grateful to our God Almighty for the protection He has bestowed upon us the entire year. As cases of those infected with COVID-19 decrease, we hope to have a better Christmas season this year. Most of us, if not all have been vaccinated and we are waiting for guidelines on the 3rd dose/booster shots. Let us avail of this for added protection. With mobility restrictions being eased a bit, we can go about our normal activities, but still mindful of health protocols. Maybe, a Christmas get-together can be organized?

At the moment, the Class Golf team is preparing for its participation in the Final Golf Tournament for the year, The Game of the Cavaliers (GOC). According to the Tournament Director, Cav OmecP, the elimination rounds will be held in VABGC and PNGC, while the Championship matches will be played in CAGC. The Class will be sending a formidable team to be



Ricafrente

fielded in several categories: Cavaliers (Individual and Team events), Husband-Wife, Father-Child, and Fraternal Category. Let us all support and cheer for our players and pray that we get all the Championship trophies.

We would like again to welcome mistahs from the USA, Cav GabbyD, James and ChonaD, who braved the COVID-19 pandemic and quarantine regulations, just to reach their precious destination. A Golf reception was tendered on their behalf at the VABGC last 5 November and lunch was thru the courtesy of Cav Dong Dimatatac. We wish that they extend their stay so that they can join the GOC Golf tournament.

By the time this article is published, it would be Christmas time. It is but proper that we hear the Christmas Message of our Class President, Cav Alan Luga.

To the Dimalupig Family.

As we all gather around family and friends singing Christmas carols, decorating our homes with the festive red, green, gold and silver, lighting our parols, filling our bellies with sumptuous boodles, drinking our hot tsokolate paired with our favorite kakanin, having Zoom parties and reunions, giving gifts and spreading joy,





lookingat the night skies and thanking God for the cool December winds and most of all hearing worship service and mass, let our hearts be filled with peace as we celebrate the birth of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son so that whoever

believes in Him shall not perishbut will have eternal life." John 3:16 Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to everyone. God bless us all!



The ravages of this great plague have ceased to be just a distant story or just sterile daily numbers for us. It has arrived at the Matikas border claiming three of our strongest and finest members. We gave our last farewells and salutes to Mistahs Romy Gan, Allan Guisihan, and Asher Dolina in September when summer has really gone for us just within a period of two weeks. Like all others, their departures were totally unexpected and went like a roller coaster ride: like sunny smiles one day; then reports of hospital admission; then, cryptic reports of diminishing blood oxygen concentration; then hopeful reports of recovery and elevation of blood oxygen; and, then crisis... followed by the sad news of expiration. We monitored their status through their text messages that made us one with their struggles. It felt like virtually traveling with them with their hopes and pains through short messages that leave oceans of thoughts to imagine. Warriors, as we are, we try to desperately search for subjects to translate our sorrows to



You will always be remembered Mistah.

vows of retribution... but there is none. Just memories... of laughter, camaraderie, plebe jokes and stories, and thoughts of the future that can't be shared with them.

This getting-to-be-an-epic-long narrative of COVID while becoming much ad nauseam still takes traction even in our most mundane pursuits. The earlier part of the guarter when the Delta strain peaked its notoriety shackled the class to a sedate gloom that even slackened our SocMed exchange. From traffic of around 150 messages/day in Viber, we went down to about 148/day: a remarkable decrease given the higher expectations that come along with the season of the Ber months. Notwithstanding all these, we were still able to pursue our fund-raising jibes, organize our yearend class activities and make possible our pursuits to help our AFP better even in our modest way.

In return for the blessings that our class has accrued through the years, we thought it best that we give and spread the overflows to the ones we love much more in these trying times. Kindness starts at home, and so we embarked on covering all our classmates (those who comply with the information requirements) with an insurance policy. Today Matikas members are covered with an insurance of P100K in case of death, and hospitalization coverage for the same amount in the event of losing a limb while in pursuit of work. Due to the prevalence of confinement mostly due to our aging bodies, the class in its first attempt has raised a sinking fund to cover a modest sum of P30K for those members who are confined in a hospital. Like any sinking fund, this can only be sustained until the fund is available. A more ambitious



version is however being discussed and explored. We are now also gathering all information for our plan to provide some assistance or gifts to the dependents of our departed members. We intend to provide a token, gift or financial assistance depending on the level of assistance needed. Let's pray for wisdom and provision that we would be able to make real these plans.

On another note, last 30 July, through the initiative of our Navy group, and through the generosity of Lion Ready Mix Concrete headed by our Mistah Marixi San Diego, the class facilitated the donation of a seminar room to the AFP Education, Training and Doctrine Command in Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City. The seminar room which is considered world class by its recipient is equipped with state-of-the-art audio/visual equipment and computer wherewithal that empowers the unit and its stakeholders to take on trailblazing initiatives in the sphere of conferences and lectures.

To rationalize our election of class officers, the class board came up with a new method of generating candidates to serve as officers for the succeeding years. It is hoped that once ratified by the class, it will now



serve as the template for our future elections. This is envisioned to solve the lingering problems of endorsing a hapless member to serve as president or class officer against his will which later was notoriously known as "Powerpoint System." This new method draws some inspiration from a parliamentary form of government where candidates/ representatives from the different major branches of service will be nominated by their members to comprise the class parliament. From among them, they will then elect a new set of officers who will serve for two years and a President elect who will serve as an observer of the proceedings and upon the end of the term of the sitting president, assume the role of the sitting president. This is our way of seeing to it that those who will be elected are willing to take on the job and have been prepared nd seasoned to assume.

While some of us may take this as a radical change that comes too much, too late, it is our belief that as long as we live, there should be no reason for us to spare changes for improvement and excellence at any time of the day.





Living the Novel Coronavirus

We, Maharlikans, were made to believe that it is normal for retirees to have big bellies, heightened blood sugar, sky-rocketing blood pressure or hypertension, joint pains, gout enlargement, uric acid buildup, respiratory diseases, abnormal cholesterol level, diabetes, and the like.

"Not anymore," says the novel coronavirus. "I will surely deliver you to the Life Hereafter."

Physical and mental distresses, corporeal disfigurement, bodily pains and un-wellness are sure symptoms of deteriorating, if not poor or bad, immune system. They naturally go with ageing. COVID-19 attacks multiple organs, weakening them until the floodgates are opened to the entry of other bacteria and viruses to afflict other weakened organs. We no longer possess the youth's vitality that would have reduced our vulnerability to the disease, as only a strong immune system could shield us from two of the virus' dreaded, definitely-disconcerting afflictions: contraction of the disease itself, and the mental and psychological disorders that go with boredom, anxieties and emotional distresses resulting from restrained freedom of activities and movements. The challenge we face now is to increase every Maharlikan's fighting chances, and prevent any one from being tallied in the world's infamous 6.89 million death statistics list. The sooner we adopt to these realities, the sooner we put back our lives into the safety mainstream till the Filipino Nation is restored to the prepandemic level.

Call it the *Maharlikan's* COVID-19 Checklist. Here, we put together some of the most preeminent, well-meaning articles, but are now lost in nearly two years of often-chaotic information research, sharing and exchanges to arrest the global pandemic. The Checklist is a summary of medical and non-medical guidelines, foreign and local scholarly works, triedand-tested practices and personal mastery programs aimed at alleviating depressive social-medical orders as we put up, once



Couple James and Agnes lead the long lines of Maharlikans to get vaccinated.

more, one, gallant stand to survive the virus.

First, get vaccinated. If there are still doubts about the vaccines. drop them. Vaccines are core and center in our fight against the virus. Only a seventy percent (70%), fully vaccinated Filipino Nation can achieve 'herd immunity' and makes us virus-resistant. Put trust in the vaccines, and ignore the ugly head of geopolitics that wore down much our faith on them. The best brand is one available at Health Centers. A fully vaccinated Maharlikan has 60% chance to prevent subsequent COVID-19 contractions than one who continues to harbor doubts on its efficacy. Reports on post-vaccine deaths and abnormalities are rather exemptions-thanrule incidences versus an entire humanity, in their patriotic spirit of dedicated work, relentlessly formulating the long-awaited cure.

Second, **upgrade technologically**. We live in the digital age, and, as retirees, deserve a good treat to a smart, good-looking, 5G-ready cell phone unit. Anything short of it makes one the 'walking Neanderthal of the 21st Century'. Virtual reality is the 'new normal' and everything now revolves at our fingertips - paying utilities; groceries, parcels and food deliveries; attendance to religious services; business meetings, bank, commercial, stocks and trade transactions; academic and information researches (Google, e-Library, etc.); and, social media and entertainments (YouTube, Netflix, Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, etc.). They have replaced the traditional physical infrastructures in human interactions and activities. Technology keeps the *Maharlikans* compliant to DOH's social distancing protocol, the most effective way to prevent COVID-19 transmission.

Third, **remain healthy**. To shed 10% of weight thru diet and exercise is the simple way to good health. It has positive impact on blood sugar, blood pressure, joint and gout conditions, respiratory track, uric acid and cholesterol level. Excess intake of sugar, salty and fatty foods is diametrically opposed to a healthy living. So with alcohol which slows down metabolism, and cigars enfeebling the lungs. Self-cure prevents admission to the country's near-overwhelmed, if not failing health care system which should not be any of a *Maharlikan* COVID-19 treatment options.

Fourth, **take counsel** from a Japanese research about immune system. Acidity is not only caused by diet errors, but of a stressful life. Hypertension is not solely caused by consumption of salty foods, but of errors in managing emotions. Cholesterol is not only due to fatty foods intake, but by excessive laziness or sedentary lifestyle. Asthma does not only arise from oxygen lungs disruption, but by sad feelings that make lungs unstable. Diabetes is not only

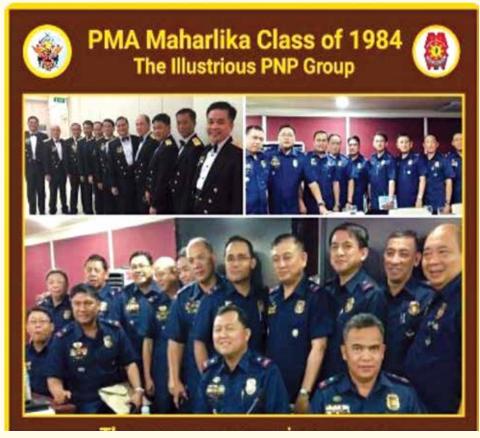


Avoiding the sedentary life, Mayor Jon Aying of Sara Municipality, Iloilo is a 'man of action', receives briefing from DAR's Carlos Garcia and ASec Jun Sadiarin.





We grow together. We age together."



Standing tall, dignified and proud...We render one, final salute for the passing of the Maharlikan era - the PMA Maharlika Class of 1984.

Living the novel coronavirus is, once more, a test of *Maharlikans'* grit, enduring intellect, innovations and faith in each other. We need to find more ways to dictate the tempo to our future, not the deadly virus dictating its fears and virulence.We should be frontliners in combating the novel coronavirus, this time, ever remaining vigilant and to strictly observe health protocols.

Ike Eslao and Nandy Gabriel's concept of 'balik-probinsya': 'Smell the grass'.

caused by excess glucose consumption but by selfish, stubborn attitude that disrupts functional pancreas. Kidney stones does not solely result from Calcium Oxalate deposits, but pent up emotions and hatred. And, spondylitis is not only about cervical disorder but by being over burdened by worries about the future.

Fifth, theidea of **'balik-probinsya'** makes a lot of sense. Periodically, let's escape the NCR madness. Go back to the provinces and reverse ageing with re-vitalized lungs and re-calibrated mindset. Only in the provinces where ageing *Maharlikans* and those fresh, unadulterated sea breezes, rain forests and ecosystems can meet and match. COVID-19 concentration remains highest at the National Capital Region and highest it is at NCR of possible contraction. Re-trace filial roots and strengthen family heritage where old friends and relatives still eagerly await grand celebrations of our retirement.

And, sixth, enhance connectivity and strengthen Class cohesion. A Class of caring members and of common vision are indispensable to every *Maharlikan's* strong immune system, *"We grow together, we age together"*, so to speak. The Viber Groups and other social media entities are infrastructures of Class cohesion, camaraderie, esprit 'd corps, and unspoken bond of friendship. They are also venues of love, generosity, fellowships, and comforting sick and un-well Class members and our extended families, and to realize Class projects and advocacies.



ROBERTO B FAJARDO President ELIEZER R GALAM Secretary

Finally, the renowned PMA Hinirang Class of 1987, has awoken! After a long hiatus, we are back in the Cavalier Magazine to share some of the class' major achievements for the past 34 years. We are proud and delighted that several Hinirangs were able to live by our class name which means "The Chosen One."

Aside from producing the most number of Medal for Valor Awardees in the persons of HIN CUSTODIO PARCON JR, HIN CIRILITO SOBEJANA, and HIN ROBERT EDWARD LUCERO (Posthumous), the class also produced several tops of the command in the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), and Philippine National Police (PNP). These Four-Star Ranks were: HIN GEORGE URSABIA, Commandant of PCG from June 1, 2020 to September 8, 2021, HIN CIRILITO SOBEJANA, Chief of Staff, AFP from February 4, 2021 to July 31, 2021, HIN DEBOLD SINAS, PNP Chief from November 10, 2020 to May 8, 2021, who was subsequently succeeded by a fellow

Hinirang, and HIN GUILLERMO LORENZO ELEAZAR, as the Chief PNP from May 8, 2021 to November 8, 2021. They were appointed by no less than the President of the Philippines, His Excellency Rodrigo Roa Duterte to perform their respective mandates at the height of COVID-19, conceivably the most challenging global pandemic. On top of fighting lawlessness in the country while securing our people and our territory, these leaders had to combat against the seen and unseen enemies during the pandemic. During the tenure of these top Hinirang members, the AFP, PNP, and PCG interoperability improved because they made coordination and cooperation between the organizations easier, resulting in a more effective war against terrorism and insurgency.

On the other hand, retirement from military service and law enforcement did not stop some of our fellow Hinirangs from serving the people and the country. As such, HIN GEORGE URSABIA was appointed Undersecretary for Maritime Affairs of the Department of Transportation. HIN **CIRILITO SOBEJANA and HIN DEBOLD SINAS** became Undersecretaries of the Office of the President. Meanwhile, HIN ALFRED CORPUS served as the Executive Director of the Philippine Center on Transnational Crime and Head of the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) National Central Bureau Manila. HIN MARCELO MORALES was also appointed as Assistant Secretary of the Department of Interior and Local Government. Lastly, HIN LOUMER BERNABE was recently appointed as the Regional Director of Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board. Hinirang's unwavering commitment to serving the country is demonstrated by their selection to crucial government positions.

Meanwhile, some Hinirangs aspired for electoral posts during the upcoming Election in May 2022. As such, HIN JOSE CAPARAS JR is running as Vice Mayor; HIN ARNEL ESCOBAL, HIN MAO APLASCA, and HIN ROBERTO FAJARDO as Party List Representatives; HIN REY LYNDON LAWAS as Councilor; and HIN MONSOUR DEL ROSARIO and HIN FRANCIS "CHIZ" ESCUDERO as Senators. Whatever our political views, one thing is certain: a Hinirang will always support and help a fellow Hinirang. Best of luck to all of our mistahs who are running for political office!

While the majority of the class members are now enjoying their pension and retirement funds for travel and leisure, there are still few Hinirang members who are still in the active service. At present, there are four (4) active AFP Generals, namely: HIN ERICK KAGAOAN, The Deputy Chief of Staff, AFP; HIN HENRY ROBINSON JR, Commander of 9th Infantry Division; HIN CARLITO BUENO JR, Deputy Commander of Special Operations Command, AFP; and HIN RINO TOLENTINO, Assistant Chief of





Staff for Personnel, AJ1. In the PNP, two active PNP Generals are still in service, namely: HIN ISRAEL EPHRAIM DICKSON and HIN JOSELITO VERA CRUZ, The Deputy Chief for Administration and The Deputy Chief for Operations, respectively. They will soon hang their uniforms by the end of 1st Quarter 2022. HIN DICKSON, being the youngest of the class, will be the last man standing and will retire on March 27, 2022. To the Hinirangs still serving in the military, enjoy the remaining days of your service and live up to the standards of a true-blooded Hinirang—excellence!

With this, we will see more of the members of the HINIRANG class of 1987

because no pandemic, nor any threat, can stop the "Chosen Ones" from getting together. Let's prepare and brace ourselves to the forthcoming new normal with our loved ones. Stay safe and healthy.

Merry Christmas and Congratulations to all. MABUHAY ANG HINIRANGS!



OSE CHIQUITO M MALAYO President RODOLFO S AZURIN JR Secretary

PAGBABALIK-TANAW SA ATING UNANG HAKBANG Contributed by Cav Alex Luna

t has been customary that Class Calls were written to update the Class on the different unit assignments and designations of its members. However, for this issue, allow me to deviate from this traditional format since most of us are about to bow out of the service and in a few months or years will be hanging our uniforms while a few are already "tired" and difficult to locate. Let us remember, instead, how we started as young and promising plebes in the hollowed grounds of Fort del Pilar way back in 1985, 1984, 1983 and even 1981 as in the case of Fourthclassman Borlasa.

Plebe year brings plenty of fond memories and also lots of nightmares that we can still vividly recall up to this day although this time we look at it on a lighter perspective. We will never forget our laxities, the scrutinizing eyes of our upperclass men, almost unbearable punishments, unending compliances not to mention the Friday nights and Saturday inspections and parades. But no amount! We survived and we are standing today as proud members of PMA "MAKATAO" Class of 1989.

Let me walk you through memory lane for us to reminisce the days of the past. Two of our mistahs broke the jinx in the CCAFP when Cdt Don Bajao and Cdt Paul Mendoza, who were among those responsible in making our Class Seal, graduated in four years. They may not be the first or the only ones but for sure, their names were amongst the list of those who were able to accomplish that. If you can remember, we were also the last class to experience the Thanksgiving "TABAKO" Day. I am sure all of us got dizzy and could not recall what happened later in the afternoon of that day.

Listed also below are the companies where we spent and "enjoyed" our plebehood, (Hahaha! I guess nobody dares to repeat this stage of our cadetship) although most of us did not graduate from our original companies due to the reshuffling in 1986 and for other various reasons. Surely, one of the reasons for the reshuffling can be attributed to the high dropout (turn-back/



discharge) rate of DELTA, ECHO and FOXTROT companies:

<u>Alfa "INDIANS" Coy</u> - CAV Bayhon PA, CAV Bitong PA, CAV Bihag PAF, CAV Brawner PA, CAV Driz PN, CAV Gohel PC, CAV Mar Licudine PA, CAV Narciso PA, CAV Rayos PAF, CAV Sermonia PC, CAV Tolentino PA, CAV Mao Licudine PA, CAV Dela Torre PC, CAV Caton PC <u>Bravo "BULLS" Coy</u> - CAV Azurin PC, CAV Baliota PA, CAV Caldez PN, CAV Fabricante PN, CAV Geonzon PC, CAV Rosete PA, CAV Santiago PA, CAV Tianchon PAF, CAV Velasco PN, CAV Magpayo PA, CAV Sagun PC, CAV Reyes PN, CAV Caculitan PN, CAV Tuprio PA, CAV Borlasa PA, CAV Paras PC

<u>Charlie "WILDCATS" Coy</u> - CAV Bajao PA, CAV Batang PA, CAV Flores PC, CAV Picar PN, CAV Tagle PA, CAV Solomon PC, CAV Chu PC,





CAV Lalaquil PA, CAV Robles PC, CAV Tampil PC, CAV Val De Leon PC, CAV Oberio PA, CAV Fidel PC, CAV Barotilla PA, CAV Mamawag PA, CAV Blanco PC, CAV Taningco PA, CAV Cordova PA, CAV Borromeo PC

<u>Delta "BULLDOGS" Coy</u> - CAV Alex Luna PA, CAV Rafanan PN, CAV Enriquez PA, CAV Fernandez PA, CAV Bagnus Gaerlan PA, CAV Tan PA, CAV Felicidario PA, CAV Acierto PC

<u>Echo "EAGLES" Coy</u> - CAV Pongos PA, CAV Malayo PC, CAV Barraca PN, CAV Climaco PN, CAV Ramoran PA, CAV Plaza PA, CAV Raymundo PA, CAV Dela Rosa PC

<u>Foxtrot "COOLS" Coy</u> - CAV Cambay PC, CAV Canlas PC, CAV Emil De Leon PA, CAV Gonzales PA, CAV Teodoro PN, CAV Corpuz PA, CAV Lobaton PN, CAV Marcelino PN, CAV Migote PA

<u>Golf "GALLANTS" Coy</u> - CAV Adaci PN, CAV Abellera PN, CAV Asuncion PA, CAV Baluyot PA, CAV Bustamante PC, CAV Sequitin PA, CAV Esmeralda PA, CAV Olay PA, CAV Grajo PA, CAV Arnulfo Luna PA, CAV Doctolero PA, CAV Macasaet PAF, CAV Dela Peña PAF, CAV Piol PN, CAV Desoyo PA, CAV Abet Carlos PN, CAV Peralta PAF, CAV Marquez PAF, CAV Isaga PN, CAV Baldazo PA

<u>Hawk "HUNTERS" Coy</u> - CAV Zuniga PA, CAV Suniga PN, CAV Almerol PA, CAV Torres PA, CAV Ligayo PA, CAV Ferro PC, CAV Mendoza PAF, CAV Abu PC, CAV Legaspi PN, CAV Garana PN, CAV Aurelio PN, CAV Cristobal PAF, CAV Hernandez PN, CAV Charles Gaerlan PN, CAV Sinocruz PC, CAV Uy PA, CAV Cabe PAF, CAV Refran PA, CAV Ricky Carlos PA, CAV Unson PN, CAV Candelario PN

Out of the 115 Makatao graduates (PMA-113, USMA-1, USNA-1) only 49 are still in the active service (PC-10, PA-22, PN-15, PAF-2). Please take note that I used our original Branches of Service as the idea is to bring us back to our cadet days. 51 already bid goodbye to military tension and are reaping the fruits of their pensions (PC-13, PA-22, PN-9, PAF-7) while 15 of our mistahs have joined the Almighty (PC-2, PA-9, PN-2, PAF-2). And as of this date, the class has adopted a total of 44 honorary members, 9 of whom are for oath taking , thereby having a total strength of 159.

Every beginning has an end. It is nice to ponder our plebehood once in a while that brings colorful and dark memories. Now that we are at the edge, we can proudly stand with our heads held up high that we survived and for the past 30 years, MAKATAO has done its share in service to God, Country and People while living up to the values of our beloved Alma Mater - Courage, Integrity and Loyalty. Long live MAKATAO! Stay safe and healthy everyone.





And hallow my sabbaths; and they shall be a sign between me and you, that ye may know that I am Yahuah your Elohim. –Ezekiel20:20 KJV

Updates from the last Bugo-bugos in the PNP...

Maeng "Lolong" Yu officially took over the helm of the PNP Aviation Security Group on October 14, 2021 with TDCO PLtGen Israel Ephraim T Dickson as Presiding Officer. Also, Matthew Baccay formally assumed post as the new Regional Director of PRO3 (Central Luzon) effective November 1, 2021. The turnover ceremony was presided over by the Chief, PNP PGen Guillermo Lorenzo T Eleazar. Just recently, PBGen Belli B Tamayo was designated as Officer in-Charge, Directorate for Personnel and Records Management on November 8, 2021.

The PN TD92 Chapter hosted a Testimonial Shootfest in honor of Manny

Bello and Noel Rodriguez who recently bowed out of the service. The activity was a welcome fellowship among 132nd NOQC Alfans who have not seen each other for over a year due to the present pandemic. Dado Caluya's stories are always fun to hear even for the nth time already! Lloyd Casis, on the other hand, started his MNSA last October as the last Panday-to-be of the class. He is also the Class President of RC57, the best MNSA class for Academic Year 2021-2022 according to Aldrin Cuna. All the best in your course, mistah.

For the PCG, Art Abu has been promoted to Vice Admiral and hopefully, will take on the helm of the guardians of

our coast soon. Jojo Ramos received his second star and is now a Rear Admiral while Mon Lopez and Joeven Fabul both received their coveted first star as Commodores of the PCG. Congrats, mga mistah!

On the PA update, allow me to highlight an AFP mission to the likes of Saving Private Ryan. On 10 November 2021, the AFP sent one (1) Airbus C295M on a flight mission to Hanoi, Vietnam to medically evacuate our mistah Col. Al Sendaydiego from Hanoi to Manila. Al was the former PhilDAFA to Vietnam from 2018-2021 and the Dean of the Military Attachè Corps Vietnam in 2021. Weeks before the end of his tour of duty as a military diplomat, he unfortunately suffered stroke. Considering the critical condition he was in, plus the pandemic restrictions and the challenges in travelling back home, the AFP sent a compassionate flight to bring Al back home...true to the dictum "leave no man behind!" Kudos to TEAM AFP!

Finally, we are just a few months before we all see each other again at the Borromeo Field on our 30th Homecoming in February 2022. Let us all stay safe, strong, and covid-free for this yet another milestone in our Class! May God bless and protect us all! Mabuhay and Tanglaw-Diwans!!!

Tanglaw-Diwa Class of 1992...GOD first. /CGA'92







"For with God, all things are possible" – Mark 10:27

As vanguards of the state, *PMA Kaakibat Class 2001* will continue to serve our nation with courage, devotion, passion and steadfastness. Class call current updates:

Navy Group:

NAVY KAAKIBAT group is unceasingly traversing its Sail Plan to accomplish each undertaking while adjusting sails to combat hurling winds of the pandemic. For now we congratulate Warren LOPEZ - for his Command badge and Wowie Olaso for Kahusayan award and PMC Best Batallion 2021.

Frontliners of the Seas - Raymund UMBAC - D, FTG; Joy TAÑAG - D, NAVMETOC; Ariel TORRES – AF1; Warren LOPEZ - Director, FMPC; Ted CEREZO – D, F3; Jinggoy RUIZ – CO, Manobo (LC297); Manny PANTALEON - CO, HSU LCF; Jowel DE VERA – CO, BRP Heracleo Alano (PC376); Marco SANDALO - CO, BRP Iwak (LC289); Rowene COLITA - CS, FTDC; Jess PILAR – CO, BRP Ang Pangulo (ACS25); Romeo MOSUELA - CO, BRP Subanon (LC291); Paul HECHANOVA - Ex-O, BRP Jose Rizal; and CAPT PHILIP Plaza - CO, (PS36). NAW you see them flying above the skies - Ariel COLOMA - IG; Keith MARQUEZ – CO, NASEG60; Mickey



SIMEON – CO, MARPATCON32; and Dennis RESUELLO – CO, LUPS31. Cyber-Security – Henry MABBAGU - CS,NICTC. For the MARINES: Rowan RIMAS – AC of MCS for Operations MC3; Prisco TABO - ExA, VCOM PN; Al POLA - CO, MBLT-2; Tino MASLAN - CO, MBLT-5; Wowie OLASO CO, MBLT-7; and Cliff BASCO – Ex-O 9th MARU. While the rest: Alfred CAYABYAB -C4, NLC; HPN guys - Kris ILARDE, Exo, N2 and Marissa LIBRANDO-MANGAHAS (N9), Joe MARCELO Chief PBDB N10, Bryan VALDEZ (J8); Imee BUTAC-MARIÑAS – NIC 1; Jomel Panes - PSG; Flor MURITO - UN Peacekeeping; Antonio BOSCH - GSC, USA; PCG - Nelson TIMBANG ongoing GSC, AFPETDC. Private and public quasi group: TAMBA - CPG Property Mngt SM PHI; PEREZ - Country Sec Manager of Multinational SC Co; ELUMBA - Country Sec Mngr of Global SC; FAJARDO PRETILA - Australia; ROSOS - US; while BABANG, PONTEJOS, DAQUILANEA, LABORTE are on their respective companies.



Air Force Group:

To all who have finished their Command and General Staff Course, Congratulations. For those who are still burning their oil lamps-keep going. Updates on the positions of the Kaakibat PAF Group: For graduation CGSC 69 -Medroso, and Aguhob; Castro - CGSC Korea, De Leon - ACSC USA; Gavilan -C, AFPIMAC; 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 - Cmdt, 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 ARCEN (Lipa); Hallara - CO, 6thARCEN (Zamboanga); Baquiran -CO, 4th ARCEN(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, Penaflorida, Caronongan, Vasquez, Carandang, Macarubbo, Fabic, Asis, Anonat-Daniels, Matias, Ariola, Bajesta and Rosete.

Army Group:

Congratulations again to CAV GLADIUZ CALILAN for graduating his Battalion Commander tour of duty with flying colors and for being nominated for Cavalier Award (Army Opns). He is currently the G3, 5ID.

Following are Army Kaakibat whereabouts:

Battalion Commanders of Infantry and Special Operations units: Aris ANTONIO – 29IB; Lemuel BADUYA – 95IB; Jelson BUYUCCAN – 75IB; Paeng CAIDO – 6SFBN; Harvey GERNALE – 3SFBN; Juls

MUNAR – 66IB; Benjie CADIENTE – 33IB; Iko SASING – 4IB; Ven NOCHE – 44IB; Olick SALAYO - 11IB; Jason ESTRADA - 12IB; Erwin CARIÑO – 15IB; Ally DEPAYSO – 47IB; Nelson MICO – 22IB; Ric DAYATA – 4SRBN; Manny DEGAY - 43IB; Battalion Cmdrs of Civil-Military Operations units: Rey TAQUEBAN - 12CMOBN; JP BALDOMAR - 6CMOBN; Jerome CABIGON - 9CMOBN Battalion; Cmdrs of Support and Service Support Units: Perci ALCANAR - 2SigBN; Odi BARRIENTOS - 4SigBN; Joe PERLAS - 10SigBN; JV PULMANO - 2SSBN; Earl PANGANIBAN- 3SSBN; Mokha ABDULLAH - 2FSSU; Army Units: Romar MARVIDA -Deputy, APMC; Homer ESTOLAS – Deputy G3, 6ID; Mike RAYMAN - Chief, FACDO; Jason DOMINGO - EXO, 1Mech Bde: Glen APRESTO - CS, AVNR, PA; Lamcel CARANGUIAN - GM, PA PROFUND; Don FRIVALDO – Commandant, TAS: Chris Jacon CORDERO - GSMO, FSRR; Cons CAHAYON – G2, 3ID; Cheng REAÑO – G7, 7ID; Mario BAUTISTA - G2, 8ID; TJ DALANGIN - 8ID; Sid VICENTE - G3, 7ID; Francis RUGAYAN -G1, SFR(A); Rino GUDA – G3, SFR(A); Gen IGNACIO - G4, SFR(A); Angel VALENZUELA - Chief, DPM, 11ID; Ben RAMOS Jr - EXO, 2SFBN; Evelio ILANGA - 3ID; Jerold JALE - 4ID; Cris MUGOT- Dep G1, 4ID; Mark CABUNOC- EXO, RFA WesVis; Henry GUILERMO – ALDEC, TRADOC; Jess JUMAWAN – Fire Bde, HHSG, PA; Stephen ENCARNACION - 6ID; Peewee SOLOSA - AIR; AFPWSSUs: Nini SOLAMO - CO, Presidential Escorts, PSG; Mags MAPALAD - CO, Presidential Guards, PSG; Frank GARCIA – Chief, OFM, PSG; Ron TORCELINO - Chief Opns, SIF, ISAFP; Lazaro QUIGAO -Commandant, Peacekeeping Opns School, AFPPKOC; Jason PANALIGAN – CS, AFPCES;



Naz AROJO - Head, RDDD, SITS, ISAFP; Mariglo RAMOS – Asst Manager, GHQ PROFUND; Fara ASLKALANI-CANDELARIA – PMA; Vangie MARCELINO-ESPAÑOLA – PMA; Richard AGOJO - OJ2; Ray DELIMA AFPSOCOM; Nante OCCIANO – DIF, ISAFP; For graduation, CGSC Class 69: Rye VILLAR; Vic VILLANUEVA; Rowel TABAS; Orly RAMOS; Ian HAMLAG; Romil CALERO; Manny DIASEN; William SABADO; Reggie COLOMA (Attempting to retire) They (CGSC 69) are being supervised by: Joel DELMENDO - Head, Admin Dept, CGSC and Ron DESINGANO - JC1, AFPETDC. OFW (posted as MILOBS, UNMOGIP): Alfred SAN AGUSTIN and Bert BATINGGA. Foreign Service: Mongkol KHOM-ARWUT Thailand Army Kaakibats on civilian/ business sector: Arbern ABIVA - enjoying retirement; Angel ARANETA - U.S. of A; Joseph ARRIOLA – somewhere in QC; Aldrin BALDONADO - somewhere in the south; Paulo BUSOG - busy sa business; Alex CABALES - enjoying retirement; Gomer DELAROCA - Corporate world; Julius ESPIRITU – enjoying retirement at the same time working again; Mel ESTACIO – near Manila Bay; Mario HIDALGO - enjoying retirement and hosting Western Visayas Kaakibat gatherings; Rithcie MABALOD somewhere in NAIA; Ron MALCON - busy sa security; Jemer PAMPLONA – busy din; Antero PRADO - busy sa ports; Bry PUNCIA – mas busy; Warjam TAYABAN – corporate security; Ronnie VENTO - somewhere in Central Luzon.

More power KAAKIBATs, we rise as ONE.

JUNIUS N ZULUETA President EMIL G LEYBA Secretary

Are you planning to go places these holidays with your loved ones, or would you just like to travel alone to escape the hassles and stress of this pandemic? This might be useful to you.

If you are near Camp Aguinaldo, CAV Aguedo - AFPPDO; DND Boys- CAV Marvin Aquino, CAV Ercilla, and CAV Ibay; CAV Batchar and Nuestro - OJ3; CAV Perez -OCSAFP; CAV Javier - AFPPS; CAV Sapalo - OVCSAFP and CAV Cayton are very much willing to entertain you. If you are running low



on fuel (gasoline or diesel), no problem! CAV Lapinig- OJ4; CAV Richard Gomez Sarsagat and CAV Valdez, both from JTF NCR, are there to rescue. Feeling hungry because it is already time for breakfast, lunch or dinner? Do not think twice! Go to AFPCOC and use the magic word- CAV Ramdel Velasco! Or if you want a more cozy, elegant, or romantic place to eat? Go to CAGC! CAV Castillo and CAV Raterta are waiting for you. Are you wondering what is inside the maximum-security compound near the GHQ main building? Grab the once-in-alifetime opportunity to tour that facility and enjoy the hospitality of the following mistah: CAV Glinmar Fernandez, CAV Mabborang, CAV Jalandoni, CAV Carvajal, CAV De Jesus, CAV Duazo, CAV Mangay-ayam-Leoncito, CAV Pacheco, and CAV Romano. Just remember that when you enter that compound, taking of pictures is strictly prohibited. Do not attempt to take life! You are indeed being watched all the time. Before leaving GHQ, pass by AFPCES because CAV Ochoa will be generously giving you gift items and huge discounts on grocery packs. It would also be nice if you go to the 51st Engineer Brigade

at Libis and experience first-class engineer hospitality by CAV Malaque, CAV Andaya, and CAV Yuson.

When you pass by Taguig City, be sure to make a stop at Fort Bonifacio. Most of our mistahs assigned there are very accommodating and "galante." Especially the APMC Majors-CAV Aguilar, CAV Retumban and CAV Labiao; CAV Angeles, CAV Guevarra and CAV Buada of OG3, PA; CAV Asistores and CAV Carandang of OG8, PA; ASCOM boys- CAV Corpuz and CAV Manigbas; CAV Del Prado-IG, PA; CAV Denamarca and Romero-ASR; CAV Futalan and CAV Teniedo-OG1, PA; CAV Von Ryan Gomez-OSAGS; OG5 Majors- CAV Ibones, CAV Maguida and CAV Nelvis: CAV Lavacan and CAV Sorima- HHSG: CAV Mallare-AHRO: CAV Paiel- 9PED and CAV Tagros-CMOS. For concerns on your pay and allowances. look for CAV Cañon-FCPA. Need additional or extra fuel? CAV Antonio and CAV Guitering, both from OG4. PA, have the solution. Should you desire to be briefed on the threat situation of the place you are going or have security concerns, CAV Lingat-OG2, PA and the ever dependable mistahs in AIR are there to help- CAV Cuenca, CAV Florentin, CAV Manandeg-Yllanan, CAV Pilones and CAV Resurrecion.

Of Course, Maragtas Airforce Group will be very much disappointed if they learn that you went to GHQ and HPA without visiting them at Villamor Airbase. Mistahs assigned at HPAF- CAV Ampo, CAV Langwas, CAV Gemilyn Mendoza, CAV Palecpec, CAV Reas, CAV Senon, CAV Tabbu, and CAV Zulueta have your back all the time. You may also contact CAV Manas- 220th Airlift wing if you want a VIP flight. They can assist you to avail of the military flights to your destination. If you want to fly with the President, talk to CAV Alibasa,



CAV Belleza, CAV Caboteja, CAV Conseja, CAV Galiza, CAV Omay, CAV Respicio and CAV Soria-Conseja of the 250th Presidential Airlift Wing. Just don't forget to coordinate with the mistahs in PSG- CAV Agbing, CAV Lopez, CAV Paulino and CAV Yaos. If you wish for realtime surveillance or monitoring, CAV Gotoc of 300 AISW knows what to do.

Should you decide to spend your vacation up north, you may take the DAU exit or Clark exit and have your shopping spree at Clark. CAV Arellano- PAF Logistics Training Center will be happy to escort you. If you are already there, do not miss the rare opportunity to have a close look at our new FA-50 fighter jets at Basa Airbase. Do not think twice! CAV Bautista, CAV Maquiling,



CAV Mario Mendoza and CAV Mojica of the 5th Fighter Wing will not disappoint you.

As you continue your trip, you have the option to go to Tarlac, Nueva Ecija, and Bulacan. The following mistahs have already prepared your arrival honors. TRADOC- CAV Cinco-Arrizabal, CAV Comia, CAV Dy, CAV Gabor, CAV Gonzales, CAV Talattad, CAV Yasay and CAV Manding; Armor Division-CAV Maynard Fernandez; SFRA- CAV Abay and Lapiguera; LRR- CAV Cortes and CAV Murillo; AAR- CAV Kilakil and CAV Mejia; 7ID- CAV Sison; Army Aviation Regiment- CAV "Kumander" Dela Cuadra, CAV Laab, CAV Ladaga and CAV Ramirez. As a trivia, our class is the record holder for the most number of Army Aviators. FSRR- CAV Bauding and CAV Oropel.

Finally, you will be reaching your final destination up north. Either you go to Baguio to experience the cool climate or go to Cagayan for crocodile watching along the Cagayan River. Please include in your itinerary visit to our mistahs in PMA and 5ID for a guided tour. PMA- CAV Araiz, CAV Esguera, CAV Gabatin-Jalandoni, CAV Padeo, CAV Jubilan and CAV Cañoneo-Carullo; 5ID-CAV Cafugauan, CAV Casaclang and CAV Collado.

On the other hand, should you decide to go south of Luzon, the following are waiting for you. Just give them a call. 2ID- CAV Deazeta and CAV Malidom; SOLCOM- CAV Bonayao and CAV Mongado; 15th Strike Wing in Cavite- CAV "Tangkad" Dela Cuadra, CAV Matalines, CAV Tagabuan, CAV Cyrus Aquino; AETDC at Lipa City, Batangas- CAV Bullan, CAV Dela Peña, CAV Ello, CAV Estoesta, CAV Lavadia, CAV Manalili and CAV Ratunil and in Bicol Region 9ID- CAV Bongyad, CAV



Depay and CAV Kalang-ad to include CAV Masedman- 5FSFO.

When in Visayas, you will regret it if you will not call the following mistah: 8ID (Samar and Leyte)- CAV Escote, CAV Angelo Gomez and CAV Velez; VISCOM (Cebu City)- CAV Galanza and CAV Obina-Añasco; 3CRG- CAV Martinez; 3ID (Iloilo)- CAV Llanes and IS-VATG-TRADOC (Bohol)- CAV Cabagnot.

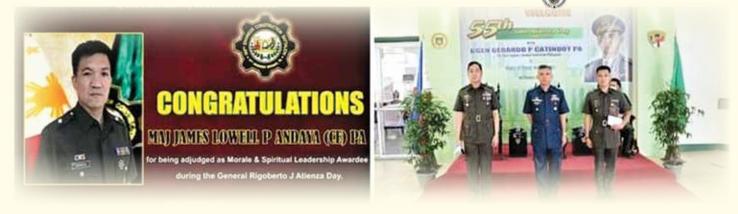
In Mindanao, hindi magpapahuli ang ating mga snappy mistahs. Northern Mindanao: 4ID- CAV Orcullo, CAV Pegalan-Beran, CAV Precioso, CAV Soriano, CAV Unabia-Fallar and CAV Venturina-Malaluan; 4CRG- CAV Linao, 10FSSU- CAV Cruz-Resurrecion. Southern Mindanao: 10ID- CAV Bangoc, CAV Dida, CAV Lamosao and CAV Sarausas; 11FSSU- CAV Ferdinand Mendoza; AD- CAV Maglalang; EMC- CAV Beltran; TOWEASTMIN- CAV ANAUD and 701st BDE-CAV Ragos. Central Mindanao: 4 Mech Bn-CAV Camitan; AD- CAV Mondia; 6ID- CAV Java and 1BCT- CAV Suaybaguio.Western Mindanao: 1ID- CAV Dagpin, CAV Fallar and CAV Palafox and 9FSSU- CAV Robillos.

For those who would spend their vacation abroad, CAV Joss Aquino-Australia; CAV Bacani-USA and CAV

Bellosillo and CAV Ramos-New Zealand are waiting for you.

Suppose you want to ride our new Blackhawk helicopters or just want to have a picture or guided instructional tour of the aircraft. In that case, the following mistahs assigned with the 205THW are there for you-CAV Bacierra, CAV Custodio, CAV Dela Cruz, CAV Hierco, CAV Morales, CAV Patacsil, CAV Rusel, CAV Tadeo, CAV Villamin and CAV Zate.

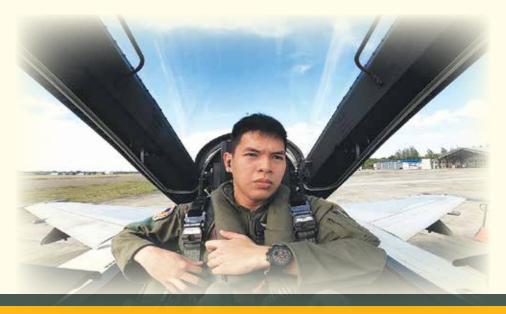
Before we end, let us congratulate our mistahs who have once again distinguished themselves. May we find inspiration in their achievements for us to also excel in our respective fields for 2022. GSC Australia-CAV Yarte and CAV Campos-Damian; 22k-CAV Magamay, CAV Moldez, and CAV Tidor; Morale and Spiritual Leadership Awardee-CAV Andaya; PAF ALEN Officer of the Year- CAV Ratunil; Medalya ng Kadakilaan Awardee- CAV Jalandoni: CAV "Kumander" Dela Cuadra- hurdled his first solo flight: NG Equipment Transition Course Graduate-CAV Laab; Rotary Wing Transition Course Graduate- CAV Ramirez and new Instructor Pilot of S70i Blackhawk- CAV Hierco. Happy Holidays Maragtas Warriors! Keep safe always. 🎧





PMA CLASS 2015: THE ILLUMINANT RACE

t has been six (6) years since PMA SINAGLAHI Class of 2015 left the hollowed grounds of Borromeo as the newest members of the most prestigious Long Grey Line. They have consistently proven their identity in their respective fields as the **Sundalong Isinilang na may Angking Galing at Lakas, Handang Ipaglaban ang Bayan.** It is innate in every member of the



class the right skills and attitude in the accomplishment of their mission, which is to serve and protect the country. Their designations are manifestations of their excellent service in the Armed Forces of the Philippines. Clearly, the class is collectively proud on the accomplishments of its members.

1LT FELIX NATHANIEL L SANCHEZ **PAF** is one of the Philippine Air Force's pilots. He is on the way of becoming a full-fledged, combat-ready fighter pilot, the road ahead certainly is tough. When in flight, they ensure that all maneuvers are performed, as close to being perfect possible. Having an aggressive as mindset is instilled early in the training - aggressiveness in ensuring the flight remains safe and within parameters thus requiring heightened attention to details and situational awareness. Back on the ground. He also performs his duty as the 105th Tactical Fighter Squadron's academic officer. Being a fighter pilot entails a lot of responsibilities both in the air and on the ground. Staying on top of things is a must to make everything properly managed.

Honored to be among the humble class is an unsung hero of Marawi and a warrior of Sulu, **1LT JASON L HUGO PA** of the 3rd Scout Ranger Company, 1st Scout Ranger Battalion, FSRR, PA. Being a Platoon Leader of an elite force requires great responsibility and accountability. But for 1LT HUGO, knowing that there is a sovereign God guiding him made his platoon to be victorious in all their battles. During the Marawi City Crisis in 2017, he led his team to fiercely assault and engage the enemy's fortified positionresulting them to capture high-powered firearms.

1LT HUGO has been accorded a higher position in the company, he was designated as the Company Executive Officer in 2019. His leadership in combat was again tried when their unit had encountered 30 fully armed Abu Sayyaf Group members under ASG Senior Leader Radulan Sahiron and



Hatib Hajan Sawadjaan in Sitio Tubig Amuh, Brgy. Tanum, Patikul, Sulu. 1LT HUGO ensured to bring his troops in the advantage position then conducted a daring assault, which led them to the seizures of the enemy's defensive position. This made the enemy to scamper and withdraw leaving the dead bodies of their comrades. This decisive engagement led by 1LT HUGO had indeed demoralized the Abu Sayyaf Group, hence decreasing their will to fight.

LTJG ROBERT ROYCE M DE GUZMAN PN is a God-fearing warrior called to serve in the Navy. He became a member of Naval Special Operation Command "the Elite force" regarded as one of the toughest military programs in the world. He performed as an Officer in Charge of NAVSOU4 when adjudged as the "Operational Unit of the Year 2018". He has been known as the Best Seal Team Leader of the year in 2019 done with several operations successfully. During various special operations in Zamboanga Peninsula, his integrity was being tested. He refused the offer of smugglers amounting to Three Million Pesos (Php 3,000,000.00). Indeed, the core values of PMA exist within the life of every SINAGLAHI.

July of this year, LTJG DE GUZMAN represented the country in the prestigious Patrol Craft Officers' Course in Mississippi, USA and graduated with distinct honors. "Those who trust God and depend on Him will be guided and provided," he said.

Amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, the PMA SINAGLAHI Class of 2015 has conducted Relief Operations for the severely affected families in Cagayan due to typhoon Maring. This project is initiated by the Navy group in partnership with United Architects of the Philippines, Sangguniang Kabataan of Sanchez Mira, Natarnaw nga Agtutubo ti Sanchez Mira, Local Government Unit of Sanchez Mira, Task Force Lingkod Cagayan and 20th Marine Company, Marine Battalion Landing Team- 10/ Naval Task Group Fleet-Marine Cagayan last 21 October 2021 with 720 families as beneficiaries under Barangay San Lorenzo, Sta Isabela, Villa Ciello, and Barangay Progressive.

Today, they continue their journey powered with passion and excellence. The class is dedicated as they steer their course towards success. Surely, they will give all due credit to the Alma Mater, the Philippine Military Academy and to God Almighty.



"Be strong and courageous, for the Lord will be with you wherever you go."

BGEN CARMELITO G BELTRAN '58 02 Nov 1933 – 18 Aug 2021

Former Commander of PAFSECOM, Cav Beltran passed away on 18 August 2021 at the Veterans Memorial Medical Center. He was buried at the Libingan ng mga Bayani



on 30 September. He left behind his wife Carmenia with who he had one son. Carmelo.

CAPT RAMON T MONTINOLA '68

30 July 1944 - 06 Sept 2021

Cav Montinola passed away on 06 September 2021, few weeks а after he celebrated his 77th birthday. He was an outstanding, loving and caring father and



extremely loyal to his beloved wife. After resigning from the Army, he went to food production, piggery, poultry and invested also on real estate. He left behind his loving wife, Baby, five daughters, five sonsin-law, 11 grandchildren, two grandsonsin-law and two great granddaughters.

CDR ROMEO M ENRIQUEZ '67

18 Nov 1945 - 07 Sept 2021

Cav Enriquez died on September 2021 7 in Corinth, Texas, USA. He left the military service early and later worked in L3 Communication Corporation in USA. He



is married to the former Fredeswinda Cruz with whom he had three children: Catherine, Ryan and Rica.

COL PAUL BRONSON D CIANO '93 18 Sept 1970 - 08 Sept 2021

Cav Paul Ciano, a member of PMA Class 1993 passed away on 08 Sept at the age 50 due to heart failure at the Baguio Medical Center. Wake was held at the **Baguio Memorial Services**

and was laid to rest at the Pyramid Memorial Park, Kias, Baguio City. He was survived by his wife Melania and four children: Paul Vincent, Paul Bronson Jr, Jullana Rose, and Therese Isabelle.

COMMO ROLANDO R RICAFRENTE '81 07 Feb 1957 - 09 Sept 2021

Cav Ricafrente died on 09 Sept 2021 of heart failure and pneumonia Grace the Divine at Medical Center. Gen. Trias. Cavite. He was the former Commander

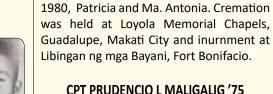


of the Coast Guard Marine Environmental Protection Command. After retirement he worked with Bureau of Customs as District Collector in the Port of Limay. At the time of his death, he was a Security Consultant at Manila Polo Club. He left behind his wife Julieta and seven children: Christian, Zandra, Marc, Michael, John, Mirthel and Ramon.

BGEN PRUDENCIO B REGIS SR '51 23 Oct 1925 - 13 Sept 2021

Cav Regis passed away on 13 Sept at the Veterans Memorial Medical Center due to acute respiratory failure secondary to pneumonia, he was 96. His last position held in the AFP

was as Commandant, AFPCGSC. He and his wife were blessed with seven children: Prudencio Jr, PMA Class 1975(+), Jhoeih,



CPT PRUDENCIO L MALIGALIG '75 28 Apr 1952 - 20 Sept 2021

Renato, Rogelio(+), George, PMA Class

Cav Maligalig died on 20 September 2021 in Los Banos, Laguna due to a lingering illness. He was survived by his wife, Maria Renelle Maligalig and children, Jon Paul, Ian Albert and Marc Christian.



Class president Raul Gonzales led the Makabayans in commiserating with the bereaved family. Necrological services held on September 22, 2021 were aired via live TV streaming.

COL RUDY T GULIGADO '75

27 May 1948 - 25 Sept 2021

Cav Guligado was released from this life on 25 September 2021 after succumbing to COVID 19. On 29 September 2021, a virtual memorial service was held at the Libingan



Ng Mga Bayani memorial chapels. On September 30, 2021, the ashes were interred at the LNMB following a mass and military honors.

Cav Guligado was survived by his wife, Cynthia, daughters Angeliene Sofia DG Roxas and Angelica DV Guligado from previous wife, the late Tonette, and son Angelo DV Guligado.

BGEN JESUS T DIZON '51 25 Dec 1926 - 27 Sept 2021

Cav Dizon passed away on 27 September 2021 at the age of 94. He joined the 20th Battalion Combat Team, Phil. Expeditionary Force to Korea as a Forward Artillery Observer.



After his Tour of Duty in Korea, he was designated S1 ATU, RTC-PATC from 1953-54. He then went to become Battery Commander of C Battery, 12th Field Artillery Battalion, 3ID from 1955-57. Afterwhich, he became an Officer-Instructor at PASC from 1962-63. Other notable designation and assignments were AC of S, G1 and later on G3 of the Phil. Civic Action Group Vietman from 1966-68; SMA to the Undersecretary for National Defense from 1968-69; Chief of Staff of the Fire Support Battalion, 1ID from 1971-72 and as the Inspector General, AFP from 1972-78.

For his Korean war service, he received Korean Campaign Medal, United Nations Service Medal and the Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation Badge.

Cav Dizon was finally laid to rest at the Libingan ng Mga Bayani last October 2, 2021. He left behind his loving wife Heliodora with whom he had five children: Omar, Erwin, Portia, Sharon and Barbara.

BGEN FELICIANO M GACIS '54 17 Nov 1928 - 27 Sept 2021

Cav Gacis died on 27

September 2021, he was 92, the oldest among PMA Class of 1954. After retiring from the service, he became Undersecretary of National Defense. Inurnment was on 1 October at the Loyola



Memorial Park, Marikina. He is married to Lourdes with whom he has three children: Rommel, Omar and Charmame.

COL ROGELIO S LUMABAS '53 09 Dec 1929 - 03 Oct 2021

Cav Lumabas died in his house at San Carlos Heights, Baguio on 03 October 2021, he was 91. He was a former Dean Corps of Professors and Head Academic Group, PMA and a recipient of



PMAAAI Cavalier Award in 1978. He is married to the late Demetria Lumabas with whom he has five children: Joy, Hope, Faith, Charity and Noel.

BGEN AMANTE S BUENO '54 07 Jan 1933 - 06 Oct 2021

Cav Bueno is the youngest member of Class '54. He succumbed to heart attack and kidney malfunction at the Capitol Medical Center, Q.C Wake was held at Army Mortuary Center, Fort Bonifacio and interred on 12 October at the LNMB, Fort Bonifacio.

From the Phil Army he transferred to the Phil Constabulary and headed various units in PC. Then

he joined the PHILCAG in Tay Ninh, Vietnam. He also became AFP Attache in Bangkok, Thailand; Deputy Commander of Constabulary Regional Command in San Fernando, Pampanga where he was designated Acting Mayor for 20 months. Lately, he was the President of Trace Alarm & Security System, Inc.

He is married to Gloria and they are blessed with seven children: Madge, Mike, Maya, Manjie, Jerry, Tess and Gino.

CAPT VICTORIANO C BUAQUEN '67

21 Aug 1942 - 08 Oct 2021

Cav Buaquen died on 8 October 2021 in Baguio City, after spending some time in the USA. Cav Buaguen joined the Phil. Navy and started his career as a Mess and Supply Officer aboard a PN ship.

He went through the normal service pattern of command and staff positions in the Phil. Nany and later in the Phil. Coast Guard until he retired with the rank of Captain.

COL RAMON EMMANUEL L MARTINEZ JR '69 30 Nov 1945 - 12 Oct 2021

Cav Martinez passed away on 12 October 2021. He was a loving father, doting grandfather, loyal friend, respected military officer, and a good and faithful servant of the Lord. He



graduated with the highest rating in Military Efficiency and was number 1 in Ordnance and Electrical Engineering. He has an MBA degree from AIM and an Awardee of NDCP. Most of his years in his career were spent in DND retiring as USEC. Upon retirement, he was focused on Church Ministry spreading the word of God most especially among military personnel. (More on Cav Martinez on page 33 of this issue of Cavalier Magazine.)

CAPT MARIO B ANTONIO '66

25 Oct 1942 - 27 Oct 2021

Cav Antonio died on 27 October 2021 at the hospital due to heart problems. He joined the Navy after graduation in March 1966 but left the military service early to



venture in the proverbial green pastures in the Middle East. He is married to Irene, together they had four children: Mark, Marvin, Marlon and Marianne.

BGEN BENJAMIN G CRUZ '57 18 Sept 1931 – 14 Nov 2021

Cav Cruz passed away on 14 Nov 2021 due to Cardio Pulmonary arrest at the Perpetual Succour Hospital, Cebu City. Wakes were held at St. Peter-Imus, Cebu from 14 Nov to 16



Nov and at the PA Mortuary, Libingan ng mga Bayani from 18 Nov to 19 Nov. He was finally laid to rest on 20 Nov at the Libingan ng mga Bayani. Last position held was as RUC3 Commander. He left behind his wife, Adelaida and children: Ana Monina, Ana Melinda, Ana Lorraine, Carlos (+), Ana Lois and Ana Cruzzette.

PBGEN REYNALDO I BERROYA '69

11 March 1947 - 15 Nov 2021

Cav Berroya, Light Rail Transport Authority (LRTA) administrator and retired police general passed away on 15 November, he was 74.



After retirement,

Cav Berroya was appointed as the Administrator of LRTA in 2017, was general manager of the Metro Rail Transit Line 3 (MRT-3) in 2013 and served as undersecretary and assistant secretary of the DOTr. He was married to Inday with whom he had two children, Liza and Baya. (More on Cav Berroya on page 34 of this issue of Cavalier Magazine.)





ost of us grew up in a time when Septembers usher in a familiar and joyful excitement,

A time when the succeeding days will see flocks of shoppers, going about looking for gifts to be given,

A time when our nights will become increasingly chilly, albeit, more lively A time when we literally counted the days off, all in hopeful anticipation for that one special day

When we are with the people that we love most, doing the things that we like most.

Today, we live in a time when being physically close no longer evoke a feeling of warmth or security

We now live in a time and place when our traditional gestures of love and respect can bring illness instead

When our Septembers are merely cold, and the lights that we see seem a little less bright

A time when we can no longer ascertain anything beyond tomorrow.

While the manner by which we celebrate this season may have changed, the message that it brings remain:

That this season is about LOVE.

A kind of LOVE that remains steadfast, a kind of LOVE that never change

A kind of LOVE that compelled our God to send his only Son to save mankind. A kind of LOVE that reaches across life and even beyond death.

May this season not be about what we can or cannot do, but rather, about how we can relay the message of love.

This season, let the reach of our love extend beyond quarantines and closed borders

This season, let the power of our love survive even this global pandemic This season, let the warmth of our love reach the people we love most.

Merry Christmas and a Better New Year to all!

CAV AMÁDO/T ESPINO, JR '72 Chairman & CEO, PMAAAI AY 2021-2022