



The

CAVALIER

COURAGE INTEGRITY LOYALTY

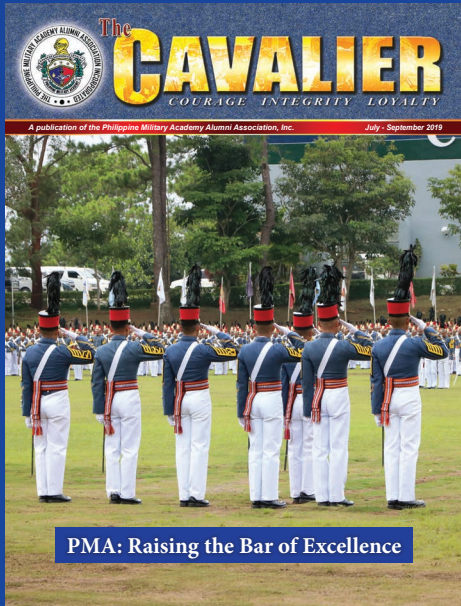
A publication of the Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association, Inc.

July - September 2019



PMA: Raising the Bar of Excellence

ABOUT THE COVER



PMA: Raising the Bar of Excellence

Philippine Military Academy is very much optimistic that it will remain as one of Asia's premier military training institutions.

PMA will always be a revered Academy and will continue to produce sterling leaders in the future generations to come. It will continue to raise the bar of excellence in all aspects of educational requirements to produce professional military officers and leaders of the Republic.

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The CAVALIER magazine is a professional journal published quarterly by the Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association Inc., 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 Armed Forces of the Philippines or any other agencies of the Philippine Government unless otherwise specified by the author.

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

Readers may now view the Cavalier online at www.pmaai.net

Send your letters to:
Editor, The Cavalier PMA Alumni Center,
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e-mail address: pmaai@yahoo.com
Some articles have been edited to meet space requirements.

Printed by:



GPV Printing Ventures Inc.
73 Kalayaan Avenue Diliman, Quezon City
(02) 922.05.32/34
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FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S DESK

CAV RUFO A DE VEYRA '70

The Fourth Class System: Front and Center

In 2001 when I reported on my first day of work as 48th Superintendent of PMA the only document on my desk was a Class 1 punishment award for hazing; more than two hundred touring hours, 6-month confinement to quarters and demerits given to secondclass Cadet De Veyra. My receiving staff did their homework all right expectant to decipher how a new and embarrassed superintendent with a record, would handle the recurrent problem of hazing.

Yes, Sir. I am a certified hazer! It was actually a downgrade from a more debilitating award of DISMISSAL from the Academy. This triggered images of my mother and my UP classmates tendering a hasty mixed-biscuit *despedida* at the College of Law canteen. But for some miraculous turn of events, the Battalion Board composed of, bless their souls, Tactical Officers then Capts Jose Sembrano (PC) and Filoteo Arevalo (PA), reversed the award a day later. Only then did the stream of images leading to my entry to the Academy as a new cadet two years before vanished. What a relief!

But what led me to this? Like other cadets, I walked into a sub-culture that sustained it, or at least won't make it leave. As new Fourthclass Cadets (Plebes) we were born into the Fourthclass System that demanded no less than total subservience to the rest of the Cadet Corps for one year. Unquestioned obedience was the norm and new cadets are expected after a time to be *"can take."* By that we mean that he should have enough regimen to receive physical, mental and emotional pressures confidently – things that eventually lead to abuses.

My case for example started without any discernible *"red flags."* As secondclass cadet and table commander, I started noticing the extraordinary attention being given to a Plebe (who shall remain anonymous) by most upperclassmen (yearlings) during *"evening mess"* (dinner). After hearing enough, I ordered the Plebe to *"fix his plate"* (stop eating) and *"start reciting"* (recite from memory) *"Plebe knowledge"* with the admonition to *"wait for me in your room after this."* That served as signal to the upperclassmen that I was taking charge from then on. It did not help that I rotted in my Written General Review (WGR) in Mechanics that morning. Almost immediately, the dinner table turned into a graveyard.

Back in his room with just the two of us I asked him why upperclassmen were ganging up on him. He blurted out familiar and dismissive excuses when we as Plebes would turn for comfort. And that, prompted me to shake him up - physically.

Looking back, it was not exactly my proudest moment, and neither did I relish a second of it to this day.

The Plebe was absent from reveille the following day and the rest is history.

This personal experience illustrates a situation that could go wrong many times over. A confused plebe, an almost absolute power over another individual, a less than diligent Tactics Group, a Plebe Detail member clueless about his own psyche or that of his Plebe, emotional and physical state of preparedness, readiness to obey, etc.

Or can we use a paradigm shift? What does it really take to achieve its mission, the Plebe Detail? Are we on the right track? Could it be that we have just been chasing rainbows? Is it really followership as much as it is self-centeredness; in being mentally and physically prepared for a rigorous life of a soldier-leader or following and following, without thinking? Or a bit of both? And when do we shift from one to the other?

I do not have the answers but based on the foregoing we are indeed exposing both Fourthclass and Upperclass cadets in unnecessary risks most times. Unfair to them and unfair to everybody. Sooner than later it could lead to fatal mistakes.


So hazing has to stop, at all costs. And I mean FULL STOP!

PMAAAI Initiates a Board of Inquiry

And that is why on its September meeting your Board commissioned an inquiry into how to STOP hazing. As we speak, we are predisposed to assign Cav Edilberto Adan '72, former PMA Superintendent as Chair as he had volunteered for the job. He has 55 days to finish the job and render a report to PMAAAI for submission to the SND/CSAFP/PMA. Thereafter PMAAAI shall monitor the situation and render judgement on its implementation as an interest group and make the right people know about it.

Ninja Cops

The events that unfolded in the Senate that shook the PNP as an institution and its personnel can only strengthen it in its aftermath but only if the lessons learned from the drama could be implemented judiciously. The issue strikes at the very core of PRRD's war on drugs. It is between right and wrong. For how can it even be expected to work if its implementation came close to what the public learned during the investigation? Therefore, performance and structural audits must continue to be conducted by higher authorities like the NAPOLCOM and the DILG.

The conduct of those from our ranks during the hearings, whichever side we view it from, deserve our commendation, sympathy and support. No less than due process however, should be afforded everyone with the presumption of innocence until proven guilty. And those found guilty should be made to face the law as no one is above it-whether you're from our ranks or not. 



SUPE'S REPORT

CAV ALLAN FERDINAND V CUSI '86

Reflection and reformation towards a new PMA

Protecting the People; Securing the State” — that is the reason why the Cadet Corps of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (CCAFP) are molded into military professionals with the highest standards so that they can ably protect our people and secure our country from all forms of threats. The gravity of this purpose and the meaning that goes with it are being internalized by every Cadet as they progress in the Academy.

Such purpose and meaning should always be rooted in the ideals of courage, integrity and loyalty — developing honorable men and women who do not lie, cheat, steal nor tolerate those who do; molding the future leaders of the AFP that this maritime nation can depend upon. It is always in the best interest of the Academy to live up to this very special task, whatever it takes.

The mission of the Philippine Military Academy is to instruct, train and develop the cadets so that each graduate shall possess the character, the broad and basic military skills and the education essential to the successful pursuit of a progressive military career.

But in my mind and heart, I always wanted to change the PMA mission, from *“to instruct, train and develop the cadets”* to *“instruct, train, develop and inspire the ca-dets”* so that each graduate shall possess the character, the broad and basic military skills and the education essential to the successful pursuit of a progressive military career. Including the word *“inspire”* to the mission of the PMA entails approaching the task of molding the future leaders of the motherland from an entirely different perspective. I did this because back then, I had to motivate and inspire not only the cadets but also myself for I always believed that I cannot truly lead the cadets or my men when I cannot lead or discipline myself. This attitude I have carried even when I was no longer assigned in PMA — always striving to be a constant source of inspiration, strength, and pride to my Alma Mater.

Leadership, character development among the cadets should reign supreme above all other consideration. In line with developing the intellect and the physical being of our cadets, character development should go hand in hand. Yet, the Academy is not for the faint-hearted. We make warriors here, but they are warriors with heart and soul.

I also believe that the cadets should see and experience outstanding role models up close and personal not only amongst themselves but more so from their tactical officers, civilian instructors, mentors, from the whole PMA community to include

its alumni. *“It takes a village to raise a child”*, they say, unless the PMA alumni accept this responsibility, this burden, then I’m afraid, all is lost.


Declaring an all-out-war against hazing is merely a start. It is not enough that we go against hazing, we should end it once and for all. Glamorizing violence and maltreatment should be stopped. Hazing does not have and will never have a place in the Academy.

The challenge of totally eradicating maltreatment in the academy is a burden that not a single leader cannot bear. It is a burden that is bigger than the rest of the PMA community combined. It is a burden that must be carried by all PMA alumni and all officers in the AFP.

The Academy needs the commitment of the PMA Alumni and the Officer Corps of the AFP to lead our Cadets by example. Our example is the most powerful leadership tool to institute change in the CCAFP and in our country as a whole. We are looking towards the day when PMA will institute major positive reforms in the Academy and transform it into a place where inflicting unnecessary pain and humiliation is no longer a barometer for strength and courage.

The cadets will naturally follow and emulate those they consider as their idols. And more often than not, these are the officers and other key influencers whom they see and interact with in their immediate environment. That includes every personnel assigned at PMA and the alumni. Hence, we should develop good habits and create a healthy routine for ourselves that the cadets could emulate. If the PMA seeks to develop *“warriors with a heart and soul”*, we ourselves should strive to become that. We must walk our talk. We should be the best example for our cadets. We must all lead by example.

Instituting reforms in the Academy will never be a walk in the park. It is not an easy journey. It won’t happen overnight. But it is always worth doing, worth pursuing - for our future generation, our country and people, with the single desire of honoring God above all.

Finally, as echoed by our Chief of Staff, AFP LTGEN NOEL CLEMENT, we must always bear in heart and mind that being a good soldier and a good leader requires more than endurance and tolerance of pain. Rather, the yardstick we must employ is one that is anchored on principle, sense of justice, and love of and service to our country and to our fellow Filipinos. 



EDITOR'S NOTE

CAV ARVIN R LAGAMON '92

Living out the heart of the matter, Living up to our Alma Mater


In the words of American fantasy author, Leigh Bardugo, *"The heart is an arrow. It demands aim to land true,"* can we truly define what the Academy stands for in our lives.

Having passed through the greatest pillars of military education, we are expected to have imbibed the values of courage, integrity and loyalty. Sworn to serve the Filipino nation, we know that we have earned the admiration, of the keen eyes that have always been watchful of our every move. In many instances, we have manifested that the way we were molded have been influential in the praises and recognition given to us. On the other hand, this same aspect of our existence have also been questioned and it is in these instances that we should go back to our core, to that very heart. It is then time to re-examine that heart, the Academy, its values and how our ideals have been tested in what we call the *"real world"*.

I am sure that you will agree that through time, our display of courage has not only been tested in combat and in the battlefield but also in being able to hurdle other moral dilemmas and challenges in our lives. In the Academy, we have gained positivity that *"each Saturday will just add to our past"* and so we strive to survive the everyday grind – the rudiments of academics, physical activities and compliances. All of us has a story to tell of how the practice of *"foresight"* kept our positivity throughout life's ups and downs, and that is our everyday display of courage.

Defined as a value closely related to honesty and moral uprightness, integrity, is in my opinion, the most tried of our core, of our hearts. In the profession that we have chosen and in the environment upon which we thrive, we are given choices that may force us to compromise integrity. While some, under circumstances, have succumbed to this, I believe that a good number of us still upholds the essence of integrity in all our actions. It is not easy being honest and upright, but it is more difficult influencing others to do the same. Personally, as long as we uphold our principles and live by our sacred oath as soldiers, then our integrity is still intact.

We know our loyalties and we determine who to give it to, which perhaps, makes this value most natural. Those who have stayed in the service have pledged to stay loyal to the Flag, and to their oath as the guardians of democracy. Those who went to prosper themselves in other fields have likewise remained loyal to the flag and served the country by pursuing their passion.

Our hearts, the Academy, has armed us with sharp edges that have propelled us to make our mark. This has also given us the aim so that we can be where and what we want to be. And from the view of an archer, the aim changes but not the arrow. To this, our goals and visions may have changed, but it should not change the values that the Academy has instilled in us. The challenge therefore is to make our hearts known because it is our Alma Mater that matters. 



CAVALIER NEWSLINE

CAV ROSALINO A ALQUIZA '55

LtGen Clement appointed AFP chief of staff



Clement

LtGen Noel S Clement '85 has been appointed by the President as the new AFP chief of staff, replacing Gen Benjamin R Madrigal Jr

'85 who retired from the service. Clement used to be the area commander of the AFP Central Command based in Cebu.

RAdm Cusi '86 assumes as PMA Supt; BGen Brawner, commandant of cadets

RAdm Allan Ferdinand V Cusi '86 and BGen Romeo S Brawner Jr '89 have assumed as PMA Superintendent and Commandant of Cadets, respectively,



Cusi



Brawner

replacing LtGen Ronnie S Evangelista '86 and MGen Bartolome Vicente O Bacarro '88, who both resigned for delicadeza following the unfortunate hazing

incident that resulted in death of a plebe.

Cusi was earlier designated as PN vice commander, while Brawner was brigade commander in Maguindanao and Marawi war veteran.

LtGen Rey designated NolCom commander

MGen Ramiro Manuel A Rey '87 has been designated new commander of the AFP Northern Luzon Command (NolCom). He used to be the commander of the AFP Special Operations Command (SoCom).



Rey

The other AFP area commanders are: LtGen Gilbert I Gapay '86, SolCom; VAdm Raul V Medina '86, WestCom; LtGen Felimon T Santos '86, EastMinCom; and LtGen Cirilito E Sobejana '87, WestMinCom.

LtGenSalamat appointed as MWSS administrator



Salamat

Retired LtGen Emmanuel B Salamat '85 has been appointed as the new administrator of the Manila Waterworks and Sewerage System (MWSS), replacing retired PLtGen Reynaldo V Velasco '71 who moved over as MWSS chairman. Salamat used to be commander of NolCom before he retired.

LtGen Gloria assumes as TDCS, AFP

MGen Erickson R Gloria '88 has assumed as The Deputy Chief of Staff, AFP and was subsequently promoted to LtGeneral. He was formerly the deputy chief of staff for personnel, J1, AFP.

The following are the new chiefs of GHQAFP joint staff: BGen Adriano S Perez Jr '88, deputy chief of staff for personnel, J1; Commo Alberto



Gloria

B Carlos '89 (USNA) deputy chief of staff for logistics, J4, AFP, replacing MGen Pio Q Dinoso III, who was reassigned as commander of 8thInf Div, PA; MGen Adrian D Sanchez Jr '86, deputy chief of staff for communications electronics and information system, J6; and Commo Ramil Roberto B Enriquez '88, deputy chief of staff for retirees and reservists affairs, J9, AFP, replacing RAdm Samuel Z Felix '86 who optionally retired.

RAdm Adeluis S Bordado '88 has assumed as the new commander of the AFP Education Training & Doctrine Command (AFPETDC), replacing MGen Elvin B Velasco '85 who retired from the service.

MGen Aquino designated as Army vice commander

MGen Reynaldo M Aquino '86 has been designated as the Army vice commander, vice MGen Rivaldo B Limoso '86, who retired.

The following are the new commanders of the following Army divisions: MGen

Arnulfo Marcelo B Burgos Jr '88, 2nd Inf Div; MGen Pablo M Lorenzo '86, 5th Inf Div; MGen Diosdado C Carreon '87, 6th Inf Div; MGen Pio



Aquino

Q Dinoso III '88, 8th Inf Div; MGen Carlito S Vinluan Jr '88, 11th Inf Div; and MGen Robert C Dauz '88, MechInf Div.

MGen Valenzuela assumes as vice commander of PAF



Valenzuela

MGen Pelagio R Valenzuela '88 has assumed as the acting vice commander, PAF, replacing MGen Nicolas C Parilla '87 who retired from the service.

MGen Glicerio G Peralta '89 is the new chief of air staff. He is the former commander of the Tactical Operations Command. Replacing him as the new TOC commander is MGen Joselito B Ramos '88, former commander of the Air Education Training & Doctrine Command (AETDC).

BGen Ferdinand M Cartujano '88 is the new commander of the AETDC. Col Teofilo R Bailon Jr '91 has replaced Cartujano as AETDC deputy commander.


PMGen Corpuz designated CIDG commander

PMGen Amador V Corpuz '86 has been the commander of the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (CIDG) of the PNP since last year. PCol Jonnel C Estomo '92 is the commander of the PNP Anti-Kidnapping Group (AKG).



Corpuz

The following are the chiefs of the PNP directorial staff: PMGen Lyndon BG Cubos '86, DPRM; PMGenTimoteo G Pacleb '86, DI; PMGen Emmanuel Luis D Licup '87, DO; PMGen Edwin C Roque '86, DL; PMGen Jonas B Calleja '87, DPL; PMGen Elmo Francis O Sarena '86, DIDM; PMGen Reynaldo G Biay '86, DRD; and PMGen Cesar Hawthorne R Binag '87, DICTM.

PMGen Rolando B Felix '85 and PGen Celso I Pestano '88 are the heads of the Directorates for Integrated Police Operations (DIPO) in the Visayas and in Southern Luzon, respectively. /raa 

ADJUTANT'S BULLETIN



Nominees for Cavalier Award 2020

• Cav Edgar B Aglipay '71
Chairman, Awards Committee

The search for the 2020 Cavalier Awards for the outstanding regular members of the Association is now on its second stage of deliberations. From the initial screening of the different chapters (Army, Air Force, Coast Guard, Navy, National Police and the Business, Industry and Retirees) a total of 33 Cavalier nominees had been recommended for deliberation. They will be evaluated not only on their manifestation of Courage, Integrity and Loyalty, the epitome of values that Peemayers hold dearest but also that each candidate must have performed excellently in his chosen field.

The Awards Committee is calling on all alumni and other interested parties to provide further inputs attesting to the character, excellence and qualifications of the nominees. These information will help the Awards Committee to come up with the final list of principal and alternate recommendees for each category of award who truly represent the highest ideals of the Academy in terms of outstanding accomplishments and deserve the utmost respect of fellow cavaliers. The nominees are as follows:

Command and Administration

BGEN LOPE C DAGOY '87
RADM LYNDON F LATORRE '87
MGEN FRANCO NEMESIO M GACAL '88

Staff Functions

PMGEN LYNDON G CUBOS '86
PMGEN ELMO FRANCIS SARONA '86
CAPT CHRISTOPHER T VILLACORTE '92

Special Operations

LTCOL RONALD M BAUTISTA '95
CDR JOHN A BARRAMEDA '98
MAJ MARION B CAYAT '02

Army Operations

LTCOL SAMUEL G YUNQUE '95
LTCOL PALMER M PARUNGAO '94
MAJ MARK ANTHONY U RUBY '03

Air Operations

COL PERFECTO R MAGALONG '95
MAJ APOLONIO JOHN C PULGAR '04
MAJ SONNY BOY R CABALQUINTO '06
MAJ MICHAEL B RAVAGO '06

Naval Operations

LTCOL FRANCIS JULIUS B BUYUCAN '98
LTCOL ASHLEY NAGUE NASTOR '00
LTCOL RAMIL DE CHAVEZ HOLGADO '00
LTCOL ROWAN L RIMAS '01

Police Operations

PBGEN JOSELITO T ESQUIVEL JR '88
PBGEN ROLANDO B ANDUYAN '90
PCOL ROMEO M CARAMAT JR '92

Coast Guard Operations

CAPT CHARLIE Q RANCES '93

Private Enterprise

LTCOL BERNARDO F FABULA '85
CDR MARK GLENN D MILLAN '93

Public Administration

PBGEN ROMEO M ACOP '70
PGEN PANFILO M LACSON '71
COL GREGORIO B HONASAN '71
PBGEN LEOPOLDO N BATAOIL '76

Alumni Affairs

VADM ARISTON V DE LOS REYES '71


Special Field

CPT ROMERICO C CARBONELL '80
RADM MIGUEL JOSE S RODRIGUEZ '80

The PMAAAI also confers the **Lifetime Achievement Award** for those who have rendered 50 years of distinguished, outstanding, exemplary and unblemished service to the country and the **Outstanding Achievement Award** to those who presently occupy the positions of AFP Chief, PNP Chief, PCG Commandant, PA Chief, PAF Chief, PN Chief, Senator, Speaker of the House, Cabinet members and Ambassadors.

The Awards Committee members are:

- CAV VIDAL E QUEROL '73, BIRC
- CAV RAYMOND DP CARBONELL '09, PA
- CAV JESSELITO L CASTRO '98, PNP
- CAV GILBERT C VILLAREAL '98, PN
- CAV KEN KIAT-ONG '09, PAF
- CAV ROLANDO LN PUNZALAN '89, PCG

The committee is most happy to receive comments and information to make the selection more thorough. Inputs may be sent to PMAAAI Alumni Center through at pmaaaai@yahoo.com. The nominees chosen by the Awards Committee will be deliberated on and confirmed by the PMAAAI Board in its meeting in December 2019. 

PN CHAPTER SHEDS LIGHT FOR YOUNG CAVALIERS' CAREER PATH

• Cav Douglas S Defeles '09
PRO, PMAAAI-PN



The Naval Inspector General Cav Nathaniel Y Casem '87 hands over a plaque of appreciation to Mr. Francis Kong, with PMAAAI-PN Chapter President Cav Caesar Bernard N Valencia '90.



Our revered speakers RADM Samuel Felix AFP (Ret) former J9 (2nd from Left), GHQ, Ms. Grace Sumbillo of Pamilya Muna Pilipinas (PMP) (Center) and Mr. Francis Kong (4th from Left) during the Ethics and Professionalism Forum.

Fort Bonifacio, Taguig – The Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association Incorporated – Philippine Navy Chapter (PMAAAI-PN) conducted several character-building activities to shed light like a beacon to the newly reported members of PMA MABALASIK Class 2019 in the Philippine Navy. These 72 young Ensigns of Fleet and 2nd Lieutenants of the Marine Corps attended the series of forum to include the Ethics and Professionalism Forum with Mr. Francis Kong and Empowering Women in Uniform Thru Life Balance.

Ethics and Professionalism Forum with Mr. Francis Kong

Weeks before the PN Chapter's Annual General Assembly, the Chapter held a leadership forum to jumpstart their naval career in coordination with the Philippine Navy thru its Staff for Personnel on July 10, 2019 at the Acero Hall, Marine Barracks Rudiardo Brown (MBRB), Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City which was attended by the newly reported officers and a number of junior officers assigned in PN units in Manila- Cavite Area. Major General Nathaniel Y Casem AFP '87, Naval Inspector General graced the occasion on behalf of FOIC, PN.

The forum was bannered by prominent speaker Mr. Francis Kong who is one of the country's leading and most sought motivational and leadership speakers. In that forum, Mr. Kong emphasized the differences between the generations and the needed skills appropriate for leading their subordinates in the accomplishment of their respective tasks. Leadership transcends beyond generations and as young leaders their skills shall make them adaptive to suit the given scenarios. The half-day event which was attended by 230 PN personnel, featured two other speakers who shared their life experiences and leadership insights to the young officers.



Mr. Francis Kong delivers his talk to the Philippine Navy young officers.

Ms. Grace Sumbillo, PhD of the Pamilya Muna Pilipinas (PMP), shared her ideas

on the topic "Lead Yourself Before Leading Others" and Rear Admiral Samuel Felix AFP (Ret), former J9 AFP, spoke on *Leader's Family Life*.

Empowering Women in Uniform Thru Life Balance

A week after, the Chapter hosted the first ever female cavalier-centered forum. It was a whole day seminar workshop entitled "Empowering Women in Uniform thru Life Balance" held last July 17 at Philippine Navy Golf Club, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City. This activity reached out to female cavaliers especially in guiding them on personal, career and family choices based on life experiences sharing from seasoned female cavaliers.

Featured in this workshop was the lecture and demo of the main speaker Ms. Daphne Oseña Paez, a professional TV host, author and entrepreneur, who shared her interesting life experiences as well as pieces of advice on balancing a family life and a successful career from a civilian perspective.

Likewise, included in the workshop was the demo of Ms. Anj Medalla-Yeo who shared her knowledge on the basics of make-up applications and provided tips



Ms. Daphne Oseña Paez, a professional TV host, author and entrepreneur, shares her thoughts about empowering women.

on how to wear make-up while in uniform the natural way, and Ms. Jinggay Juliano Durian Iglesia on finding one's personal style.

Most relevant amongst the topics for young female officers were the sharing of insights from prominent female naval officers' Cav Martinez '97 and Cav Domine '98, who also shared life experiences on managing career and parenting tips in balancing family life while in the military service.



Ms. Anj Medalla-Yeo demonstrates proper make-up application.

TESDA Technical Vocational Education and Training

As a segue way and the first among the Chapter projects was the conduct of the Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) in partnership with Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), wherein cavaliers were given 25 slots for scholarship for the Bread and Pastry Production National Certificate II (NCII).

Cavalier dependents, as well as the PN cavaliers themselves, underwent weekend training at the designated TESDA training facility. They were enrolled in bread making and designing of pastry products.

This nine-week training culminated in their skills assessment last June 25,

after passing the assessment certifying them as Chefs and meriting them with three certificates to include Bread and Pastry Production NCII, Certificate of Completion for both Bread and Pastry Production and Entrepreneurship Program.



Fun experience of the scholar trainees during the actual pastry decorating session.



Female cavaliers and cavalier dependents enjoying the bread making hands-on classes.



Newly recognized Bread and Pastry Chefs and their finish products after the Skills Assessment last June 25, 2019.



Female cavalier participants with the President Cav Cesar Bernard N Valencia '90 during the closing ceremony of the program.

PN Chapter Annual General Assembly 2019

Topping the series of events of the PN Chapter was the Chapter's Annual General Assembly 2019 held last July 23, 2019 at 2nd Floor, PNGC, Bonifacio Naval Station, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City.

Earlier that day was the ceremonial reception of members of PMA Class 2019 thru laps of swimming and various calisthenics. It is the chapter's symbolic rites of passage for the young bloods joining the long gray line in the Navy, no

less than the President himself Cav Caesar Bernard N Valencia '90 supervised the ritual.

At night, the venue was a tight and compact area at the PNGC crowded with significant attendance of 354 cavaliers from Philippine Navy, grouped according to their companies in the Cadet Corps. Topping the largest number of delegates came from the Hawk 'H' Company followed by a number of attendees from the reigning Jurado Cup 2018 champion Echo 'E' Company.

The program started with a roll call of cavaliers from the eight companies of the Corps which was filled with laughter as newly reported cavaliers from each of the companies drew attention with their genuine jokes from the Corps.

The 72 members of the Mabalasik Class of 2019 was formally presented to the PN cavalier family with a simple oath-taking ceremony. Then, it was followed by an oath-taking of company marchers who were also people responsible for the preparation of their respective companies for the Jurado Cup and for dissemination of major activities of the association.

After the ratification of board resolutions of the Chapter, attendees were enthusiastic about the President's Report as to how the association has been from the previous years. This year's report included the projects during the leadership of Cav Eugenio V Hernandez '89 as scheduled events changed to adopt the new calendar year of the Cadet Corps.

Lastly, the highlight of this activity was the message of the PMAAAI-PN Chapters Adviser and at the same time the Flag Officer in Command, Philippine Navy Cav Robert A Empedrad '86.

His remarks tackled on the current issues affecting the Corps of Cavaliers not



Cav Valencia '90 and the members of the Board during the PN Chapter Annual General Assembly.

only in the Navy but in general, and that a few have lost their way and engaged into undesirable practices. In the presence of officers, he reiterated his guidance of ingraining the core values of the Alma Mater – Courage, Integrity and Loyalty (CIL) as the beacon towards achieving meaningful service in the AFP and beyond.

It was a worthwhile reminder for the young ones to chart their careers following the traces of the core values. He asserted

that a cavalier would never be wrong with this attitude in mind.

It was a night of merriment and a recollection of the good memories during cadet days with mistahs, upperclassmen and underclassmen. The venue was filled with ambience of assurance that young cavaliers should confidently do their jobs as the cavalier family in the PN are always at their back pushing them towards excellence.



Cav Valencia '90 delivering his President's Report to the Chapter.



Seventy-two (72) members of PMA Mabalasik Class 2019 being formally welcomed by the PMAAAI -PN Chapter Family led by the FOIC, PN Cav Empedrad '86.



The FOIC, PN and PN Chapter Adviser Cav Robert A Empedrad '86 encouraging every cavalier to always put in heart the PMA Core Values of Courage, Integrity and Loyalty.



Marchers of eight CCAFP companies were presented and took oath as representatives of their respective companies.



AN APPEAL TO THE ALUMNI

(From a civilian instructor)

Dear Sirs and Ma'am's,

First, allow me to briefly introduce myself. I am Ena Luga, a part-time civilian instructor at the PMA. Unlike my dedicated colleagues who have been in PMA for a decade or more, I have only recently started teaching in PMA with a 2-year hiatus prior to this Academic Year. My students have been mostly fourth class cadets, and I have been grateful for my time with them even when I end up exhausted from trying to keep them awake in class.

I have not always dreamt of becoming a teacher, but I later realized the impact a teacher can have on her/his students. As such, teaching at PMA is not only a job to me, but a rare privilege to contribute to the molding of this country's - and MY - future leaders. It is with this mindset that I enter the classroom.

Whenever time permits, I try to learn about my students - who they are, what their thoughts are, and the things they go through. And I try to go beyond our lesson, and go into what I think is more essential for them to learn beyond the academic requirements... and that is the transmission of ideals and principles that my parents have instilled in me.

My father has taught me the following, as he has learned from his dad: **Courage** - it is not only found in the battlefield. Courage is doing what is right AND standing up against what is wrong.


Integrity - it is going beyond unity within a class or an organization. It is what is done behind closed doors. In the context of the CCAFP, it is what is done when there is no upperclass/tac-o/oc roaming around. **Loyalty** - it is not loyalty to a particular individual or organization, but it is being loyal to what is right, true, and just.

With these principles, I try to correct misconceptions and malpractices expressed in my classroom. And I am sure I am not the only one.

Unfortunately, despite our zeal as civilian instructors, we will never have the same impact on cadets as you, the alumni. We remain outsiders, because despite our various affiliations with PMA (being a wife/child/sibling/cousin/grandchild/parent of cadet/s and/or alumni, and being in PMA for decades more), we will never be a part of your organization. We did not go through what you went through inside the barracks. As such, we will never fully comprehend the complexities of cadetship at the PMA.

It is knowing and accepting these facts that I, as an outsider part-time

civilian instructor, humbly appeal to you, the alumni, to recognize your continued contribution to the molding of cadets. Even without personal interactions, through various social media platforms, they listen to you. They take what you say as truth - as the standard. They take their cues from you.

In relation to the recent death of Cadet Dormitorio as a result of maltreatment, one of several already in the history of PMA, I beg of you to make a strong, bold, and clear stand against maltreatment in the Corps. Otherwise, this practice will continue to be perpetuated inside the Academy because cadets look up to you, their upperclass, who have undergone such hardships and have made it through. If, for any reason, you cannot send a strong message to the cadets that this practice is outrightly wrong and unnecessary to their training, then may I suggest that it just be removed from the regulations to stop the confusion arising from the duality of what is being taught to them in principle and in practice. To those who have made a clear and bold stance against maltreatment, thank you. 

Respectfully,

Ena



Points to ponder in seeking solutions to end hazing in PMA

A cadet died. The Philippine Military Academy is once again in the limelight and under scrutiny. Suddenly everybody is an expert. But the reality is, nobody knows anything. Except for a few of us who had the privilege of entering as boys and girls and left as men and women.


Let us get a few things straight. There is no hazing in PMA. The Anti-Hazing Act is an act regulating hazing and other forms of initiation rites in fraternities, sororities, and other organizations. There are no initiation rites when entering PMA. Therefore, hazing does not exist. But there is maltreatment. It is defined as cruel or violent treatment of a person. And we define it as doing anything that causes discomfort to a person. And PMA does not tolerate maltreatment in any form and it imposes a hard punishment for the violators. Many has been separated from the service for such violations.

Now, there is no justification for what happened to Cadet Dormitorio. He died because of the acts of irresponsible individuals who took things too far. They should suffer the consequences. But it is not fair for anyone to throw dirt at our beloved institution. You say we end the culture of violence and cruelty. You say we change how we do things in PMA. Before we get carried away by our emotions, let take a step back and listen. The Philippine

Military Academy by the name alone is a military institution. People volunteered to undergo training in the academy not to become doctors, lawyers or engineers. People go there to be trained not only as soldiers but as warriors. And I tell you ladies and gentlemen, war is anything but cruel and violent. Our enemies do not treat us kindly. Our enemies are brutal and the battlefield is unforgiving. War in its truer sense is barbaric. That's why we do not send doctors, lawyers or engineers to the battlefield. We send hardened warriors. And PMA trains its leaders. How can we lead these warriors if we do not undergo the toughest of training and live through the harshest of environment? The life of a warrior is not for everybody. It is not for the weak. Our mission is simple. Protect the country and people. In order to do that, we have to be superior than our enemies. We only have to think of ways to win. And for all those who never experienced battle, please do not try and educate us about what kind of system works. The culture, tradition, and training that I had in PMA kept me alive in the battlefield and at the same time prepared me to make the ultimate sacrifice when the need arises. And that sense of duty did not spring from a single classroom instruction. It was developed until the day I received my diploma.

What happened to Cadet Dormitorio was sad. And I am angry at the perpetrators. If need be, they should hang for their crime. But no one has the right to target PMA. You cannot put the blame on the institution the produced men and women who to this very moment are fighting our enemies so that you can live freely and continue posting irresponsible comments in social media. For all of you who did not pass through Borromeo Field, you do not know the essence of plebehood, the motivation of a yearling, the responsibility of a cow and the fulfillment of a firstie on graduation day. You know nothing. So just stick to the issue at hand. So that you can continue to post comments and be relevant in social media.

The fact is a cadet died. The perpetrators were apprehended and awaiting their fate. If you want to cry out for justice then by all means cry out loud. If you need to spread anger, then be angry with those who took Cadet Dormitorio's life. If you have spurn hate then go ahead and hate the perpetrators. But you have no right to drag our institution into the mud. Remember, you are all still sleeping under the blanket of the democracy that we provide.

Editor's note: A post in the viber from a Cavalier. 



A Vanishing Tradition: MILITARY TIME

• Cav Fredelino S Bautista '66
(A Reprint)

PROLOGUE

This treatise is meant to bother our conscience, to revive a dying passion inculcated by our elders and mentors – time consciousness.

Tempus fugit

In the blink of an eye, today will be tomorrow; the future will be past. In this technology-driven world, everything happens so fast. In modern management thought, time is considered a resource, an important one. Once spent like money, it will no longer be recovered through return on investment or resurrected like decrepit equipment through a life-extension program. Its wise use is considered an indicator of efficiency and effectiveness, a measure of good management.

It is widely held that it is the armed forces which values the doctrine that time is of the essence. No other institution places so much importance on the time factor. Military time is a value, a trademark of the man in uniform, a time-honored tradition. In the first place, the armed forces is known to be rich in traditions. Respect for superiors, esprit de corps, graveside honors for the fallen, ceremonies for many occasions, parades and reviews and many more – these are traditions that did not just emerge from a vacuum.

They were developed and nurtured over time. One explanation is that they were nurtured in training institutions by cadets, young men who wanted to establish a culture of their own in a highly regimented environment like the PMA, OCS and even the ROTC of the olden times. These institutions were handled by young trainers who were also products of more advanced training institutions which were already rich with traditions. Eventually, the trainers and their graduates became the leaders of the armed forces where they in turn introduced these traditions in the ranks of the regulars.

BITS OF NOSTALGIA

The PMA has become the show window of rich military traditions that presently exist in the Armed Forces of the Philippines. Who, among those who passed through

its portals, will forget the mad scramble down three floors of slippery stairways at breakneck speed, with dress coats a-flying and still unzipped and made it on time for attention call for reveille at the formation area, the recitals of news, guard detail, menu and the plebe knowledge at the mess hall, the wearing of the cadet cap by an unsuspecting femme, the trip down rocky trails to the kissing rock, the dunking of firsties during graduation week, the boodle fight after taps under cover of darkness?

In all of these occurrences in the life of the cadets, to be on time for any formation is a must. It is ingrained in them, becoming second nature, an instinct, so to speak. Cadets are trained to be time-conscious to the minute. Perhaps this is the reason why the early Tac-Os made plebes double time or to trot and memorize the plebe knowledge *“What time is it?”* They have to be at the right place at the right time every time – from early reveille up to being inside their bunks at the last note of taps. Woe to the one who is late or is absent in a formation for he receives a demerit. At the end of the year, excess demerits may mean being turned back to the next lower class for failure to live up to the norms of conduct, or dismissed if combined with other deficiencies, like failure in an academic subject. Note that the enforcement of time schedules is a duty of the cadets themselves, by those in the Chain of Command or those performing guard duties who are honor bound to report violation of regulations while performing official functions. Military time, in its pure sense, therefore, has its true meaning in the Academy.

Alumni, then and at present, are at the helm of the armed forces. They have refined and entrenched in its ranks many Academy traditions (including boodle fight and dunking). Of these, the most important, though debatable, is the concept of military time, a tradition which has earned the respect and admiration of civilians.

THE PRESENT: Review of Tactics

Sad to say, military time in the armed forces seems to be disappearing. When

was the last time you attended a military activity, a parade or a conference, for instance, which started on the dot? What caused the delay? The guest of honor who arrived late? The commander who waited till everybody was around? The traffic or some unforeseen events? Of course there were reasons, or excuses. It is hard to understand, why the armed forces where the value of time is built in its systems, is no longer obsessed with the same fervor for time consciousness as during the old days.

In non-mission essential and routine activities, failure to start on time may not have tragic results. Probably, grumbling or dissatisfaction. But combat is the *raison d'être* of all armed forces. Its mandate is to fight and to win battles and wars. In this arena, the time factor is vital. To emphasize this point a glimpse at some tactics lessons will be helpful. Consider the following:

“First Division attacks 250600 August; secures high ground form Hill 600 (GC 3984) to Hill 850 (GC 4325); on orders, continue attack to the east to secure Malvar Town (GC 6065)”.

Any military professional who knows his salt, one who has gone through the basic, advance and CGSC courses, will easily recognize above paragraph as a mission statement of a division operation order. Note the time: 250600 August. It means a lot.

The figures 250600, is the Time of Attack (On a bigger scale, parallel to D-Day, H. Hour, June 6, 1944 during the invasion of Normandy, France. It is a very vital control measure, as important as the Objective (Principle of War). This is the precise time that the leading elements of the attacking force must cross the Line of Departure (LD). The LD, is the last covered stretch of terrain, recognizable on the ground, after the Assembly Area, before the Objective. (More lessons in tactics.)

If the Time of Attack is not synchronized and followed, the following catastrophic consequences, may result:

-The flanks of the main attack will be exposed, if the units assigned to secure

them, will not be there on time.

-The unit designated as reserve, will not be around to reinforce or exploit a situation, if it is not emplaced in its designated area, as scheduled.

-The supply trains, if too far from the right place at the right time, will not be able to resupply ammunition. Assault forces carry only one basic load in their bodies. The rest are in the trains.

-Attacking forces will not be covered by supporting artillery, naval or air fires, at the zone of action if they are not delivered at the right time, making them vulnerable to intense defensive fires which have not been neutralized. Worst, the attacking forces will suffer casualties due to friendly fires, if these are not lifted at the prearranged time.

And there are many more possibilities that may occur if the time factor is neglected. Casualties will be high and unacceptable. The operation may result in disaster. To the commander, this is a disgrace. His career may be put in jeopardy. Military historians will write about the failed operation long after it occurred. New generations of military students pursuing career courses in the training institutions will stumble upon the names of the commanders and their units and remember their failures.

LESSONS FROM HISTORY:

Military campaigns and operations are documented, whether they are failures or victories. Take the case of the amphibious landing of Gen. McArthur at Inchon, Korea in 1950. The UN Forces were already pushed to the sea at Pusan, defending a small perimeter at the southeastern tip of the Korean Peninsula. If Pusan would be captured the UN forces would lose the war. Logic dictated that Gen McArthur who commanded the UN forces should conduct the amphibious landing in this area, to relieve the defenders. Instead, he ordered the landing far north at Inchon, southwest of and near Seoul, just below the 38th Parallel which was already controlled by the North Koreans. But the timing of the amphibious operation must be precise – the movement from the ship to the shore of the assaulting forces must be exactly at the time of the high tide so that the assault boats would be brought to the shore. If not, they would be stranded three miles away to the sea where they would be sitting ducks and at the mercy of artillery fires of the enemy.

The rest is history. The amphibious landing was successful. The UN forces at

Pusan were relieved and the North Koreans thereat, with their lines of communications and supply lines cut off from Seoul were pushed back. Seoul was retaken. The North Koreans were pushed back across the 38th Parallel. This was an epic operation still glorified by American military students up to the present. Gen McArthur's prestige as a war hero became higher (He could have been a Presidential candidate, except for one mistake). He did not wait for the right time to push the war farther north and defied the orders of his Commander-in-Chief. (But this is another story).

If the Inchon landing was a classical victory for the UN forces, the retreat to Dunkirk of the British and French soldiers in June 1940 during World War II was a debacle, if one looks at the number of



lives lost and POWs taken by the Germans. Some military analysts however, say that Operation Dynamo, which was the plan for their evacuation to Dover England, was a success. Around 400,000 allied soldiers were eventually evacuated to Dover, England just across the English channel in spite of artillery bombardments and attacks by the German Air Force (Luftwaffe). Again, timing was a key factor. What could not be explained was why Hitler halted the blitzkrieg of the dreaded German Panzer divisions toward Dunkirk when it was only a matter of time when the entire British Expeditionary Force would be annihilated or captured. The delay meant the loss of an opportunity to defeat the British. Perhaps, if he did not, he could have destroyed the bulk of the British Army and the French forces and this would have turned the tide of World War II. The Luftwaffe could have inflicted more casualties, had they exploited fully the time the allied forces were mired

in open, unprotected areas in the harbor of Dunkirk. On the part of the British, the decision to retreat to Dunkirk was delayed by the British High Command. The rescue vessels, mostly civilian watercrafts which would evacuate the British and French soldiers came, but they were at the mercy of the Luftwaffe and German artillery. Again, this debacle or triumph is still remembered in military schools today. As a tribute to the British however, the evacuation of Dunkirk was a testimony of the heroism and the patriotic spirit of civilians who volunteered to participate in the evacuation. (This is also another story.)

THE WAY AHEAD:

As stated in the beginning, this paper is meant to bother our conscience, in the hope of reviving the dying passion for time consciousness. If it elicits reactions or arouses pangs of guilt, then it has achieved its purpose. It is addressed to all who want change for the better but specifically singles out commanders, decision makers, VIPs invited as guests of honor, presidents and chairmen of the board presiding over conferences.

Military time, must be restored in the armed forces as a tradition, as a standard operating procedure. True, there are still institutions where observance of time schedules is generally enforced, like the PMA, OCS, and other educational and training institutions. Let them be the models for others to emulate. But this time-honored value must not stay there only during training – it should spill over to other areas even to the civilian sector, simply because in the bigger environment, the time factor is equally important in its daily grind.

Time flies. Let it be, but let us all make the best out of this bit of eternity. As stated in Huainanzi, a Taoist Classic – *“opportunities are changing ceaselessly. Those who get there too early have gone too far, while those who get there too late cannot catch up... Time does not go along with people... Time is hard to find and easy to lose”*. (From the Book of Leadership and Strategy: Lessons of the Chinese Masters).

This is a challenge. The alumni must once again lead the way – by setting the example.

Editor's Note-This article was first published in the July-August 2009 issue of the Cavalier Magazine. 



CHALLENGING the Status Quo

• Cav Jaime S De Los Santos '69

On July 19, 2016, I wrote a column under “MAP Insights” entitled “General’s Impressions of the Commander-in-Chief.” Three years after his assumption into office, his popularity and trust ratings are still high. The results of the mid-year election further prove that he is a force to reckon with. Destabilization moves to emasculate or unseat him never materialized. In that article, I cited two significant qualities that he projects: charisma and political cunning. Both remain to be the foundations of his staying power. His charisma continues to inspire and has developed goal congruency with the majority of the Filipinos. With political

cunning, he changed the parameters of the game. He built change and flexibility into the system. He addressed his agenda to the conditions of his time. He challenged the status quo.

According to Howard Schultz, “Any business today that embraces the status quo as an operating principle is going to be in a death march.” Past administrations rarely challenged the status quo. Advocates of the status quo want everything to stay the same. They argue that it creates stability, and say that change is disruptive and harmful. They benefit from keeping things as they are. They grow rich and powerful from the status quo.

Two institutions that are on the receiving end of Duterte’s ire are the oligarchy and the church. The oligarchy has great capacity to impose its will in society, often exceeding the boundaries of acceptable norms. Oligarchs scheme at every possible opportunity to feed their insatiable craving for wealth and power. Time and again, they blocked reforms that were meant to diffuse their power and influence. Duterte has been a recipient of their rejection and hatred. Even before he took over, these elites consolidated their power against good governance. Duterte entered the Presidency with little wherewithal to counter the political

arsenal of the oligarchy, yet three years have since passed and only minor dents are visible on his mandate. Presidential charisma and sincerity were a match to the dubious and high-handed display of arrogance and hypocrisy. He retaliated many times, even with foul language. It never boomeranged because the masses love to hear tirades against oppressive people, especially if it affects their lives considerably. The privileged class got a dose of their own medicine.

Nations must have religious foundations. To make it relevant, it must be incorrupt and sincere. This has not been the case in history. Religion has, rather, exploited the weaknesses of mankind. Past presidents courted the Catholic hierarchy and other religious groups; meanwhile, the clergy has a penchant for privileges and material gifts, and the importance bestowed on their position gave them the mindset and impression that they are an indispensable class. They dictate the standards and norms of morality for the citizenry to follow, promised prosperity and perpetual happiness in the afterlife which are extraneous to reality. Initiatives to work hard are exchanged for prayers and hopes. The Church has always used the pulpit to denounce leaders, used it as a platform to criticize government. As a result, the congregation is brainwashed and exploited. The Church has installed three presidents by invoking Divine Providence as a reason to justify a change of leadership, even defying constitutional provisions.

When Duterte started neutralizing their excesses, that resulted in the gradual emasculation of their authority and influence, they used the pulpit to decry

and even wish him death. The role of the Church must be confined to the religious requirements of society. Duterte put the religious sector in its rightful place.

When change threatens the status quo, interest groups will not give up their positions easily. Duterte has been branded by the oligarchy and the church as the enemy of order and stability. He has always been a ready target. Success in challenging the status quo, therefore, rests upon a foundation of critical mass — competence and experience are not sufficient to follow through. Building a powerful guiding coalition to neutralize challenges to the status quo can be bloody and messy. Challenging the status quo has given rise to coups and revolutions as well as the emergence of rebels and heroes.

Duterte took calculated risks. The first thing he did to solidify his position was to bring the military and uniformed sectors to his side. When the military was consolidated, the rest of the bureaucracy, legislative branch, judiciary, and the citizenry shifted to his side. It became a bandwagon for change.

The military has been a stabilizer in the power play of various interest groups. There is a misconception that the salary increase was a trade-off for their loyalty. Beyond the monetary component, we have a Commander-in-Chief who manifests a shared vision and purpose with the military and police. This is the greatest strength that neutralizes all attempts at destabilization. Identifying himself as one of them, he brings the message of purposive leadership. The decisive leadership that he always projects seals their unconditional loyalty. What alternative can you give to the fighting


men? Who provides all the leadership qualities that define victory and success? Some Presidents did not identify with the warriors because they projected effeminate leadership that even bungled major military operations.

The enlistment of colonels and generals in government has provided it with the attributes of discipline, leadership, and selflessness. With their experiences and professional upbringing, they are the only ones who can claim readiness to sacrifice, life, and limb for the country. Only the weak and insecure despise military values.

Duterte neutralized the excesses of media, not being coerced or threatened by the threat of press freedom. He impressed upon the journalists the importance of humility and objectivity.

He is both loved and feared, but he is always prudent in asserting his constitutional prerogatives. He does not hesitate to chop off heads, and is uncompromising in corruption. He has, at times, instilled calibrated fear to demonstrate his seriousness of purpose. The minority, envious and wishing to restore their lost power and prestige, tried to cross the line. Insincere intentions masquerading as love of country can never succeed.

By disrupting the status quo, presidential leadership invited new, innovative solutions to problems. It has put into place new systems and processes, reducing bureaucratic red tape and waste of resources.

Challenging the status quo and building a powerful coalition are the major factors that will ensure the completion of his term. The naysayers wishing him ill-will will just be wasting their time. 



This article was published in the Business World on September 9, 2019.

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Successes and Defeats in Defense of Military and Uniformed Personnel (MUP) Pension System Part II: The Future Challenge

• Cav Ariston V Delos Reyes '71

A. Introduction

1. It being Part II, the paper is a sequel to that published in PMAAAI's The Cavalier Magazine March-April 2019 issue which covered the efforts of stakeholders to resume MUP Pension Indexing to prevailing base pay rate. This paper enumerates recent developments in the implementation of the Pension Indexation and discusses the challenges if ever a bill will be filed to make the MUP Pension System contributory. It is also intended to keep the stakeholders informed on issues and information regarding the MUP Pension System.

2. The paper posits that it is unconstitutional to enact a new pension system that will make the military pension contributory because AFP retirees are veterans whose benefits are mandated by the 1987 Constitution to be funded by the government.

B. Recent Developments in the Implementation of MUP Pension Indexing to Prevailing Rate

1. Pursuant to Joint Resolution No.1 S 2018, the MUP Pension Indexing to the prevailing rate commenced in June 2019 and is already in place. It is only a matter of time that all arrears from 1 January 2018 onward will be paid by the government. It may be recalled that on 2 May 2019, the Chairman and CEO and the President of PMAAAI jointly wrote the President through the Secretary of National Defense which among others, recommending that the President order the OIC, DBM to generate funds to implement Pension Indexing in 2019, even in the absence of approved budget for the purpose. Contrary to customary position of DBM, Senator Lacson advised that the President is authorized, under the Constitution, to order the payment of Pension Indexing by utilizing unused funds. The President ordered the payment after the DND favorably endorsed the letter in two separate letters, one for

funding of Pension Indexing for the AFP and another on amendment of Executive Order No. 201. Hence, by 15 June, the AFP retirees already had, in their personal bank accounts, the adjusted monthly pension.

2. The Chairman and CEO, PMAAAI in his letter to the President through the Secretary of National Defense dated 2 July 2019 recommended the amendment of Executive Order No 201 S 2016 to recompense the MUP, active or retired, for wrongful loss of benefits due them in 2016 and 2017. The letter was actually a follow through to the previous three letters of the Confederation of Uniformed Services Associations (CONUSA) to the President from 2016 to 2017 as mentioned in the PMAAAI letter on 2 May.

3. Likewise, in another letter to the President through SND dated 2 July 2019, the Chairman and CEO, PMAAAI recommended that the President endorse to Congress and certify as urgent bill a Draft Bill entitled "*An Act Rationalizing the Retirement and Disability Benefits of Military and Uniformed Personnel*" in order to rectify the disparity of retirement and disability benefits for the MUP as follows:

3.1. Authorize pension indexing to prevailing rate of base pay in the active service for Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) personnel who retired after effectivity of RA 9993 in 2010;

3.2. Increase maximum pension for the military from 85 to 90 percent in order to be at par with that allowed for the uniformed personnel of the DILG and the PCG;

3.3. Allow the military and coast guard retirees to receive in advance and in lump sum their retirement pay for the first five years to be at par with the entitlement of DILG uniformed personnel;

3.4. Allow the retirement grade for CSAFP and Chief PNP at SG 31 (one rank higher); and,

3.5. Adopt the provision of Section 35 of

RA 8551 (PNP Reform and Reorganization Act of 1998) in order to provide for physical disability benefits that will apply to all MUP.

4. The series of letters from the PMAAAI signifies its recent engagement in advocacy to promote the general welfare and common interest of the MUP. This is laudable and is a positive development that will be much appreciated by the MUP, active and retired. It may also serve as an example for other associations to engage in MUP-related advocacy through the chain of command in order to promote their morale and welfare, discipline, professionalism, and ethical standards in the service, to name a few. This advocacy was an offshoot of an agreement between Cavalier Rufo De Veyra, Chairman and CEO, PMAAAI and Cavalier Edgardo Aglipay, Chairman BIRCI for the latter to support the PMAAAI's Strategic Planning and Investment Committee. Cavalier Aglipay then organized and headed a team named "Voltes 5." The members are Cavaliers Ariston Delos Reyes, Alejandro Flores, Vidal Querol, and George Piano. Among the issues being addressed by the team is the MUP Pension Indexing. The PMAAAI letter on 2 May was the outcome of the Voltes 5 brainstorming with Cav De Veyra during the breakfast meeting at the residence of Cav Aglipay on 1 May (Labor Day).

5. Considering the above developments, it may be considered that sufficient measures have, thus far, been undertaken by the government and initiatives made by MUP stakeholders to ensure the proper implementation of existing laws on MUP retirement and disability benefits.

C. The Future Challenge: Any Bill to Make the MUP Pension System Contributory Will be a Problematic Situation

1. Making the MUP pension contributory has long been advocated by

the DBM and other government financial technocrats. The present system is non-contributory, meaning that members do not contribute to their pension while in the active service. Hence, their pension is funded through annual appropriation. The proponents cited *“huge budgetary implications”* as the main reason to require the MUP while in the active service to contribute to their retirement through monthly payroll deduction, as in the case of civilian government employees who are members of the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS). The government pays its counterpart contribution to GSIS.

2. The advocacy was reinforced by a projection in 2012 that by 2017, the military pension would exceed the pay of those in the active service which actually turned out to be a wrong projection. Yet, they persistently consider changing the system from a purely financial point of view and without due consideration to its adverse effects on the morale and future recruitment of military and uniformed personnel.

3. The total cost of MUP pension for 2019 (indexing included) is about P116 Billion or about three percent of the national budget benefiting more than 220,000 pensioners. Taken as is, the amount may be large but not really, when compared with P95.3 Billion worth of vetoed line items in the General Appropriations Act which the President considered unconstitutional or not included in his priority programs.

D. Approach to Save MUP Pension System from Being Made Contributory

1. All pension systems that are non-contributory should be the subject of reform and not be limited to that for the MUP only. The non-contributory pension systems such as those of the judiciary and constitutional commissions should likewise be reviewed. Otherwise, the reform will be discriminatory to the MUP.

2. An alternative pension system may be recommended for the retention of all non-contributory pension systems but will be indexed only to cost of living adjustments or annual inflation rate as may be determined by cognizant government agency. This is practiced by the United States Government that applies to the salary of its federal employees and pension adjustment for retired military personnel.

3. However, should the planned reform of MUP pension system to make it contributory persist and be filed in Congress, then the military pension system should be excluded and should remain non-contributory and indexed to prevailing rate of base pay because it has constitutional and legal bases.

3.1. Section 7, Article XVI (General Provisions) of the 1987 Constitution provides that “the state shall provide immediate and adequate care, benefits, and other forms of assistance to war veterans and veterans of military campaigns, their surviving spouses and orphans. Funds shall be provided therefore. . . .” One of such benefits for the veterans which the government has already been funding since 1936 is the non-contributory military pension. Thus, an enactment that will make the system contributory and ultimately stop funding for it will be unconstitutional.

3.2 Commonwealth Act No. 1 (S 1935) effectively established the military pension system as non-contributory and for which it initially allocated P300 Million for 1936 and such amount or amounts annually appropriated thereafter.

3.2.1. Section 97 provides budgetary items for pay and allowances of personnel, including the specific provision for *“amount or amounts annually appropriated for the pension and retirement fund for the army”*.

3.2.2. Section 98. Appropriation of Funds for 1936 provided P300 Million for the pension and retirement fund (including P200 Million for the retirement fund of the Constabulary). It is apparent that such fund would serve as the *“seed money”* that should have been built up and augmented through the years through annual appropriation.

3.3. The other non-contributory veterans’ monthly pensions include old age pension upon reaching age 65 (RA 6948 S 1990) and total administrative disability pension upon reaching age 70 (RA 7696 S 1994).

3.4. Pursuant to RA 6948 S 1990 as amended by RA 9396 S 2007, all retired military personnel are considered veterans.

3.5. The non-contributory AFP pension system is similar to and patterned after that of the United States Armed Forces except that the latter is indexed to cost of living adjustments (COLA). In the case of the AFP, Presidential Decree No.1638 S 1979 granted pension indexing to the prevailing base pay rate. Years later, the military pension system was adopted for the other uniformed services which all turned out to be even more generous as maximum pension for PNP, BFP, BJMP (RA 6975 S 1990), and PCG (RA 9993 S 2010) is 90 percent. The maximum pension for the judiciary and constitutional commissions is 100 percent of pay and allowances (RA 9946 S 2010).

4. The framers of the 1987 Constitution included the provision on benefits of veterans to be funded by the government and was subsequently ratified by the citizenry. It may be considered a

gift of the Filipino people to soldiers who serve the country and retire with honor and devotion to duty, and when called for, even at the risk of life and limb. The soldiers perform multifarious tasks as enumerated below.

4.1. They are in the forefront of national defense and internal security operations.

4.1.1. During World War II, though ill equipped and lacking in preparedness, they fought gallantly against the Japanese invaders in Bataan and Corregidor; suffered the death march then continued fighting the war through guerrilla warfare. At present, though still with limited capabilities, they occupy islands in the Kalayaan Island group to show the flag and our determination to defend our territories.

4.1.2. They have been engaged in anti-dissident campaigns against the Hukbalahap, Kamlon uprising, CPP- NPA, MNLF, MILF, ASG, BIFF, and others.

4.2. They undertake United Nations peacekeeping missions. They fought in Korea in the 50’s when a total of 7,420 military personnel were deployed with 114 of them killed in action and 229 wounded. They had also been deployed in Vietnam, East Timor, Liberia, Haiti, and Golan Heights.

4.3. They perform non-military tasks such as humanitarian assistance and disaster response; building of roads, bridges, and school buildings in far flung areas; election duties; and even law enforcement when called for.

In order to perform these multifarious tasks, they are on duty on 24/7 basis without overtime pay, and usually, in places of assignment away from their families. They do not have security of tenure. They are not only covered by the revised penal code but also by the more stringent articles of war under the military justice system in order to instill military discipline.

E. Conclusion

1. Making the MUP pension contributory and allowing non MUP pension systems to remain non-contributory will be discriminatory to the MUP.

2. An enactment to make the military pension system contributory is unconstitutional.

3. Maintaining all non-contributory pension systems (MUP and non MUP) as they are but indexed to annual inflation rate will be a more acceptable policy option.



A Soldier's Expression of Gratitude and Tribute to the Senate

• Cav Ariston V. delos Reyes '71

(Below is the author's e-mailed letter to the Senate President with copy furnished to all other senators, timed just before the end of the 17th Congress when some of the senators who supported the MUP pension indexing were outgoing, including Cavalier Gregorio Honasan '71. The MUP pension indexing to the current base pay rate has been implemented for military retirees in June 2019.)

1 June 2019

Honorable Vicente C. Sotto III
Senate President
GSIS Bldg., Financial Center
Diokno Blvd., Pasay City

Dear Senator Sotto:

As a retired soldier, I have the honor to express my sincerest gratitude to the Senate for its support to the pension indexing to prevailing rate for the retired military and uniformed personnel (MUP), in a way that I believe is unprecedented in the history of Philippine legislation.


Firstly, on 15 December 2015, you put into motion the recall of the Salary Standardization Bill 2015 from its approval during third reading back to second reading to support, instead of suspending, the MUP pension indexing. All senators present unanimously approved your motion. Had the Senate not made that last-minute change of position, the retired MUP would have been indefinitely deprived of what is due them and that would definitely be detrimental to their morale.

Secondly, during the plenary session on 13 December 2017, all the 20 senators present voted for a joint resolution that supported pension indexing. Prior to that session, you, with Senators Honasan and Lacson teamed up and coordinated with the Lower House to ensure that a joint resolution allowing pension adjustment would pass for approval by President Duterte.

The MUP pension indexing will benefit more than 220,000 pensioners, about 89 percent of whom are enlisted personnel and equivalent ranks. While as of this writing

the much-awaited pension adjustment has yet to be funded, it is all right with me. The mere thought of how the Senate, all the way, supported MUP pension adjustment convinced me that somehow, someday, I should thank the Senate.

Finally, attached is my paper "Successes and Defeats in Defense of the Military and Uniformed Personnel (MUP) Pension System." It was published in the March-April 2019 Issue of The Cavalier, the magazine of the Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association, Inc. (PMAAAI). Its two annexes provide details on how the Senate supported the pension indexing in 2015 and 2017 as mentioned above. Please consider it as a soldier's humble tribute to the Senate. The military and uniformed personnel, active and retired, now and in the future ought to know; the people ought to know - we have a good and independent Senate.

MABUHAY ANG SENADO! 

Very respectfully yours,
Ariston V. delos Reyes
Vice Admiral AFP(Ret)

NOMINATION FOR PMAAAI MEMBERSHIP

Pursuant to Article II, Section 3C of the Amended Bylaws of the PMAAAI, all members of the Association are hereby informed of the nomination of the following persons for PMAAAI membership:

For Honorary Membership:

BGen Peter Suchianco AFP (Res) - Distinguished himself as a philanthropist by the numerous medical and dental missions he initiated together with like-minded individuals and the Reservist unit where he belongs and have gone to as far as Sulu and Tawitawi and other areas bringing with them medical and dental professionals. A lawyer by profession, he joined the Judge Advocate General's Service in 1998.

Dr Philip Paul R Fortuno - After he graduated from Singapore Armed Forces Officer Cadet School in 1995, he was commissioned to the regular force of the AFP and was subsequently assigned to the First Scout Ranger Regiment, Special Operations Command, PA. Dr Fortuno is currently working as a risk management and community development professional. He is a recipient of various military awards and decorations over the course of his active military career. He authored and published the bestselling book "NO MAN LEFT BEHIND: A Story of Valor in the Battle of Marawi," and just recently, he co-authored and published another inspirational book "THE RESCUE: God's Amazing Grace."

Senator Vicente "Tito" C Sotto - He is at present a Senator of the Republic of the Philippines and the current Senate President. Also recognized for his invaluable contribution to the military, police and other uniformed personnel organizations.

Atty Ulysses T Sevilla - A highly respected government bureaucrat, and a member of the Board of Directors, Philippine Reclamation Authority from 7 November 2016 to present. A part-time consultant of The World Bank, BGC in 2014, former legal consultant of Public Estates Authority Tollway Corporation. Presently, he is the Vice President for Luzon, UE Law Alumni Association.

Atty Lamberto T Tagayuna, CPA - Respectable lawyer and widely-known philanthropist. From July 2002 to present, managing partner, Tagayuna Panopio Escobar Law Firm. Presently the President/Board of Directors Blue Star Construction and Dev't Corp.; Director and Treasurer, Sison Tagayuna Construction and Dev't Corp.; Project Director, Solanaland Development Inc.; Director and Legal Counsel/Corporate Secretary Clarkhills Properties Corp.; Director and Treasurer, Aurora and Zobel Property; Legal Counsel, ESP Collection Agency; President and Chairman of the Board, Tagayuna Healthy Organic Products Inc.; and Trustee/Legal Counsel and Corporate Secretary, Tahanan Ng Pagmamahal Children's Home Inc.


Mr Ricardo S Murillo - Successful businessman-entrepreneur. Owner/President of Agrotech Agriculture Products, Inc., and Chairman of Soiltech Agricultural Products Corporation.

Mr Antonio L Ilagan, CPA/LLB - Formerly an Assistant Manager of PCI Bank and Consultant/Practicing Accountant to various private corporations. An active member of various civic organizations and past President of Rotary Club of Makati Buendia and former Assistant Governor and District Chair Rotary District 3830, Makati.

For Associate Membership:

Mr Lester B Gastala - A former PMA cadet and was honorably discharged. In 2007, he got his Professional Program Degree specializing in Information Technology Project Management in AIM. Currently, he is the Vice President, Information Communications Technology of the University of Southern Philippines Foundation. He established good relations with all the members of PMA Class '95 and even to other PMAAAI members. He is also working with the PNP Cyber Crime Unit (RACU7) for the issuance of warrant of arrest to cyber sextortionists victimizing young students.

Major Jose R Lumawag III PAF - a former member of PMA Class 1995. Discharged due to academic reasons on 1 February 1993. He entered the Philippine Airforce in the grade of Sergeant and while in service, he continued his Bachelor's Degree in Aircraft Maintenance Engineering at the Philippine State College of Aeronautics at the Villamor Airbase, Pasay City. In 2000, he took up Air Science 43/Probationary Officer Training Course (POTC) administered by the Air Reserve Command, was commissioned as 2LT and called to Active Duty in March 2004. Currently, assigned at 300th Air Intelligence & Security Wing (Prov), designated Director for Logistics & Deputy Group Commander of 302nd Maintenance & Supple Group.

Any comment pertaining to their nomination as honorary and associate members may be sent to the PMAAAI Secretariat, PMA Alumni Center, Camp General Aguinaldo, Quezon City. 

From Natural Warfare to Spiritual Warfare

• Cav Manuel E. Mariano, Jr '75

(This article was published in the Oct 2, 2016 issue of Business Mirror)

When I retired as a soldier in 2009, I asked myself, what have I accomplished in 38 years of service that have contributed to the improvement of peace and order situation in my country? I would recall, as an Infantry officer, I was trained to defeat the enemy by sound battle tactics, naval supremacy and air superiority. These concepts and ideas were ingrained in me in military schools in Basic, Advance and Command and Staff Courses. I was made to understand, security and development were all that is needed for the survival of this nation and the improvement of the quality of life of the people. At present, our country is still faced with the problem on the proliferation of syndicates peddling illegal drugs and the issue on extrajudicial killings against the law enforcers. Allowing these groups to win over us would mean the rule of Anti-Christ or Satanic forces. This article entitled, From Natural Warfare to Spiritual Warfare, is another story about a journey of life and of faith. Comparing this situation in Paul's time, this is also a battle of the flesh and blood for the survival of the Republic of the Philippines against the Marxist rule, and also against its dismemberment by the Moro terrorist groups in the south. Sad to note, even after nine years in retirement, nothing much changed in the life of the majority of the Filipinos. These politicians of ours, still prioritize debates on who is doing right or wrong instead of addressing the widespread sufferings of the majority.

Sometime in 57 A.D., the Apostle Paul, in his epistle to the Ephesians, told them to put on the Armour of God so that they can take their stand against the schemes of the Devil. He explained to them that, our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. (Eph 6:12). Was he thinking outside the box? Probably he was but with the inspiration of an unseen God who is our Creator and Savior.

What is this struggle all about? To whom is Paul alluding to? How did he know about these evil spirits? He, being an anti-Christ, initially persecuted the followers of Jesus Christ immediately after the Messiah's crucifixion, burial and resurrection. However, his unbelief in


Jesus Christ took a toll on him and paid dearly for his indiscretion. On the road to Damascus, a voice from above believed to be Jesus, talked to Paul and commissioned the latter as his Apostle to the Gentiles to spread Christianity. He went to Asia Minor, now Turkey, and planted churches thereat which became the core of the first Christians. His 13 Epistles or letters to these churches formed 50% of the New Testament detailing topics on how to live as Christians. For writing these books which contained the teachings of Jesus Christ and about a theological doctrine of God in three Divine persons, he was tagged as the inventor of the Christian religion.

It was in Ephesus where Paul spent three years of his Ministry, as this place being the 4th greatest city in the world that time next to Rome, Alexandria in Egypt, and Antioch in Syria was the hub of world civilization in the First century. As described, it was the gateway to Asia and a highway to Rome and it was full of wizards, sorcerers, witches, astrologers, diviners, and fortune tellers and the home of the pagan god Artemis or Diana of the Greek Mythology. Just imagine the difficulty of putting up a Christian Church in this city full of false teachers with false doctrines and beliefs. Satan really was in control of the world and truly spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ and talking about spiritual warfare in a metropolis setting of this strategic city was an uphill battle.

In a natural warfare, the Bible says, the world is under the influence of Satan and this evil spirit is unleashing fiery darts to men and nations; and these are in the form of greed, selfishness, adultery, fornication, lasciviousness, Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, sedition, envying's, murders, drunkenness, revelling, etc. No wonder, you see all these fiery darts unleashed to us everyday as read in the social media and the effect of which are criminalities, terrorism and wars. To our military mindset, again the interplay of physical forces like our tri-service armed forces capabilities displayed in the form of men, money and material resources is very evident in our campaign/strategic plans, oplans/opords and even day-to-day reactions to defeat our threat groups.

On the other hand, in waging spiritual warfare, our offensive and defensive

weapons are the armour provided by God which include: The sword of the spirit which is the word of God, the shield of faith, the helmet of salvation, the breastplate of righteousness, the belt of truth, the feet shod with the gospel of peace. This is the reason why God the Father sent his only begotten Son to this world to destroy the works of the Devil. How about inputting these in our strategic studies for consideration? Once again, the mindset of the separation of the Church and State has to be reconsidered and studied deeply. There is no separation of Church and State in defeating the wiles of the devil but satan is cunning enough to apply to us the concept of divide and rule and we are succumbing to his ploy and appears to us he is winning. Come to think about it. Such things as political warfare, economic warfare, geographical warfare, electronic warfare, etc. are forms of this natural warfare designed by the rebellious mind-set of the devil from the beginning of the creation of time, space (Heavens) and matter (Earth) by an eternal God who has no beginning or an ending, the Great Architect of this perfect Universe and has already condemned man in the past during the days of Noah by drowning everybody. This time, that condemnation will come in the form of being thrown into a lake of burning sulphur for eternity.

Simply explained, in spiritual warfare where the battlefield is in the inner being or souls of man, the struggle is from within man itself. Meaning, in defeating Satan's offensives, it has to begin in us individually. This is well articulated in the song, "Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me," and this is demonstrated by Jesus Christ himself in the temptation in the mount by rejecting Satan outright. 

Cav Manuel Mariano Jr '75 is a graduate of a Doctorate in Ministry at the Farcorners International Theological Seminary (FITS) under its Spoudazo Program with his dissertation entitled, "The Separation of Church and State and the Effect on the Contemporary Filipino Society Today". He earlier graduated with a Masters in Public Administration major in Organization and Management at the Western Mindanao State University (WMSU) in Zamboanga City.



PRODUCING TOP GUNS AND GLOBAL FILIPINO THROUGH NCC

*(Remarks of Cav Johnny M. Sanchez '55
during the National Computer Center Alumni Reunion,
Melbourne, Australia)*

My beloved NCCians,

I am with you tonight, for we have always been ONE in spirit from the day you entered the portals of National Computer Center (NCC).

I will be 100 in 13 years and I feel great that I am among the lucky ones who live life to the fullest as it should be. I feel even luckier because I am still at it at 87 – up and about - trying to make a difference among our less fortunate kababayans, who sadly remain to be many – but that is another story.

Tonight is special as I will share with you a revelation that took me almost a lifetime to discover. It is about the pursuit of my dreams that shaped my life's journey into an exciting roller coaster ride, winning and losing some along the way. I have worn many hats with some forgettable ones. Through it all, I will tell you why NCC is the best thing that ever happened to me, except of course – my dear wife and my family.

I was born in the small island of Lubang, Mindoro Occidental. As a young boy, I longed for the big cities to break the doldrums of island life. I was lucky to study and graduate from the PMA. I naively thought then that I could make my mark and change the WORLD, having gone through the rigors of plebehood and four

years as a cadet. I started out by joining the Air Force and learning how to fly. I found out that flying a plane was limiting to my grandiose plan. So, I opted to be one of four who joined the Army Rangers and volunteered for Sulu. This was a far more exciting island – with daily, deadly skirmishes that left me as the lone survivor of the four. Yet, Sulu and my ensuing years in the Army brought me nowhere near my dream of changing the world. I quickly realized that I had to narrow this to doing something great for our country.

It was years later that I saw the chance when then Executive Secretary Alejandro Melchor (ESAM) tasked me to set up the National Computer Center. It was perfect, since NCC was within the inner circle of the most powerful President we ever had, and I could help him – through ESAM and NCC – make the country “great again.” I knew nothing of computers and I also had to set up NCC from nothing. The first thing I did was to call on Mrs. Arcega and her small team of psychologists to design a tough hiring process for NCC. I was right, for within a short time, NCC had some of the best and the brightest among the Filipino youth at that time, many of whom are here tonight – no longer young but still among the brightest. Not only that, they turned out to be one of the most highly dedicated workforces the Government

ever had, then and EVEN NOW. I am sure many of you still recall the days when we worked 3-4 days straight, making NCC our second home. You might also vividly remember the late-night calls to report to NCC or working through weekends and holidays. And rather than hearing complaints in the hardest of times, I often saw instead boodle fights or instant mini parties while we worked all through the night when the rest of Camp Aguinaldo and the city had long slept. I also remember how we were mobilized during disasters, notably with Typhoon Yoling and the rice crisis of 1974. We worked non-stop in several shifts to provide the President and relevant agencies with 24/7, live stream information to ensure the proper emergency response. We were ahead of our times as we set up an on-line, real time information system with Malacanang when this was just on the drawing boards of the IT industry. NCC also nursed the birth of the National Disaster Coordination Center (NDCC), the predecessor of all risk management agencies we see today, as we housed and staffed its command center during those heady days. Yet once again, my big dream of helping mold the “New Society” was not to be. The “EDSA Revolution” that ironically was triggered by NCC also caused its eventual demise and the end of my lofty goal.

Still, the PMA plebe in me did not give up, I simply lowered my sights again and returned to the island I left for those grandiose but impossible dreams. I told myself: if I could neither change the world nor the Philippines, I surely could make a change in this tiny island – my beloved Lubang. Indeed, I did. What I saw on my return, was the same Lubang that I left as a boy 60 years since. In fact, there was so much decay from years of neglect, corruption and apathy. I eventually served 15 years as Mayor and was able to make remarkable changes: building or renovating schools, rural health centers, roads and bridges, a modern pier, the airport and even the now famous “Onoda trail.” I made the Lubang LGU a copy of the efficient and service-oriented NCC and empowered the community to be part of my governance structure with zero corruption tolerance. Before I even finished my term, Lubang became one of the top model municipalities, not only in Mindoro Occ. but for the whole country as well. In the Manila NCC reunion a few years back, I was able to proudly show some of you the transformed town of LUBANG.

And now I wish to tell you a revelation that only dawned on me when I started working on my speech for tonight’s reunion. As I dug deep into the times we spent together at NCC, I started asking myself. *“Did I really fail in my dream to change the world?” “When the time comes for taking stock of my life, will I be unable to say – I made a difference beyond my beloved Lubang?”*

I then realized that few hundred NCCians have held and continue to hold reunions in the US, in Canada, in Australia, as the one you are holding tonight here in Melbourne. I also know a few other NCCians settling in Europe or somewhere in Asia. From those mini parties at NCC, you now hold grand reunions somewhere in the world like jetsetters. I saw in all these gatherings the consistency of a sea of beaming faces of success and prosperity and I am sure that this must be the case for the NCCians bonding here in Melbourne tonight. This is living proof that the vast majority of hundreds of NCCians have made good and have “ARRIVED” elsewhere, literally and figuratively. You have carried the NCC brand all over the world which made you among the “TOP GUNS” of Global Filipinos.

As TOP GUNS and as Global Filipinos, there is the likelihood that you have made a difference at improving the lives of someone, somewhere, It may be as simple as having that someone punch an ATM key; or pay utility bills; or answer a mobile phone or do any of the daily mundane chores that humans do. It could also be a complex as stock market computers making buy or sell decisions, or guidance systems for a missile launch or navigating a satellite in space. It might even be far different from the IT world. Still, you somehow must have made and continue to make changes for the better among many lives, wherever you are now. The connections maybe subtle and hardy felt but are linked in any case. And all these were made possible only because sometime in the past you have gone through NCC’s portals as among the best and brightest of your days.

It welled on me that I had a hand in building those portals, making possible the gathering of ‘techie eagles” that later flew from their NCC coops to make their global

marks. I can thus claim that your success is also mine and that every time your work impacts on someone, somewhere – even how remotely – then I am ONE with you in making a difference. So, tonight I congratulate you once again with the wish that you will continue to carry the NCC brand as far and as long as you can. It is a good brand that makes us all proud. I also want to thank you for helping me achieve my dream of making a difference – far beyond my beloved island of Lubang. MOST OF ALL. I wish to thank you for the final awakening that after all, it was never about ME or US. It is about pursuing the broader vision of being of Service to Others with no thought of Reward, Fame or Recognition. This is the true NCC spirit and the most fulfilling, for this is what’s life all about! Thank you and GOD SPEED. 🙏

JOHNNY M SANCHEZ PMA ‘55
 Founding Managing Director,
 National Computer Center (NCC)



Cav Sanchez with his wife.



Cav Sanchez with his wife and grandchildren.



CLASS CALL

Oh, proud and bold you stand

Bright beacon of the land...

...May thy sons ever be men

of integrity, courage and loyalty...



MIGUEL M VILLAMOR

President

JESUS T DIZON

Historian

For a change, I will start with the “Morning Report” of Class ‘51, the “BANAT” Class, instead of posting it at the end. “No change”. Survivors - ten “origs” and three Associates. All disabled. Average age-92, but with a strong will to reach 100. NIL on class activities except the monthly fellowship meeting of the first four post war PMA classes - ‘51, ‘52, ‘53, and ‘54.

The sad news. The wife of MGen Delfin Castro (Ret), Corazon Trinidad Castro, died on 16 July 2019. We condole with Delfin and his family and pray that God will bless her soul and give her rest.

In my earlier contributions to THE CAVALIER MAGAZINE, I wrote a long poem entitled “Waiting, waiting, waiting...” which I dedicated to each member of the PMA First Four classes. That poem reflects what and where we are now. It also expresses our mixed feelings of joy, pain and anxieties as we wait, just wait, for the end of our journey. I compare our status as having reached an open plateau, so expansive, so fearsome as to cause some hesitancy in moving on. And so, we pause to gather new strength, only to overcome by the depth and breadth of our lifetime memories. Remembering is a gift of therapy. It enables us to reconcile with ourselves as we recall the plusses and minuses in our lives, if we could have done better, if we had given more of ourselves to others, and if we had lived a life consistent with and adhering to the ideals of our Alma Mater - Courage, Loyalty and

Integrity. However, I would like to think that all of us, without exception, had given our country more than what is expected from its citizens.


Sunday, 26 May 2019 was a special day for me. It was Graduation Day of the PMA Class of 2019. I vowed to watch on TV the ceremonies from beginning to end. I do this every year to re-live the first milestone in my life, of having successfully hurdled the grind and groan of a highly regimented cadet life. This must be the common feeling of every member of each graduating class.

I set back the time to 17 February 1951. The graduation of Class ‘51 was advanced by one month from the traditional March Week because of the urgent need to deploy lieutenants in the anti-dissent campaign. It was a joke, but it was true, that there were more Colonels than Lieutenants at that time. I was there 68 years ago when I would finally leave the long gray line to start the life of a professional soldier. Graduation was mixed emotions. As we threw our caps into the air to signify success and freedom, we would feel a deep sense of gratitude and pride to belong to a most revered institution. Silently, we pledged an unwritten covenant with our Alma Mater to serve our country, unconditionally, offering our lives, if need be, to keep our country forever free.

The graduation ceremonies for Class 2019 were impressive as expected. Except for the size of the Cadet Corps, which has expanded to a brigade, there were few changes in the graduation ceremonies since 1951 when the first post war class was graduated, perhaps out of the richness of its traditions, that had to be preserved for posterity.

What impressed me more from this 3-hour ceremonies were not the form

but the substance as articulated by the topnotcher of the class, now *Ensign Dionnem Mae Umalla*. Thus, I coin a beautiful verse “*All mine to give*” to describe her speech. This line is not mine. It could come from a poem, a song, a title of a movie or from anyone’s essay or speech. It was this “soul” of her Valedictory address that touched me as most alumni listening to her must have equally felt. She was passionate. She exuded and evoked a profound sense of gratitude to her Alma Mater and rekindled in us our love of country and sense of nationalism. She challenged her classmates to pledge the same. It was a message straight from the heart. It was “all mine to give” to my country, my country.

This is the shortest article that I will contribute to THE CAVALIER. I can only pray that within my lifetime, I shall see my country fully free with a responsible citizenry and unselfish leaders committed to the common good, not to their personal interests. We exhort our people to pray and work for peace and prosperity in our land. We are a nation lacking of a deep sense of love of country and identity. We lack national discipline. We are more concerned with our rights and privileges but not our responsibilities. We do not accept defeat in our choice of leaders; hence, the adversarial climate that prevails under a new administration and thereby prevents our country from moving forward. We do not appreciate success. We are addicts to the crab mentality. We are a rich nation. We have enough for all. But GREED has dominated our psyche and national endeavors. Yet, we are a Christian country mandated by God to love our neighbor as ourselves. Sorry, this is not a homily but a frustration. 

- JT Dizon



In 1951, the Classes of '51, '52, '53, and '54 occupied the newly constructed PMA building in Loakan, later named Fort Gen Gregorio H Del Pilar. Initially, we had to fetch water in a creek for our use until the water system was operational. The parade ground was being bulldozed.

The third floor housed the cadet barracks. Cos A and B were on the right wing; Cos C and D on the left. Classrooms were on the second floor. The barber shop, cadet store, visitor's room, facilities and offices occupied the first floor.

We initiated the construction of the Sundial and Fountain. On the mountain slope we identified a protruding rock as the Kissing Rock. Those were the days.

Last month, we observed our 65th anniversary. The '54 families with children and grandchildren converged at the Antipolo Hill top mansion of Mante and Glo Bueno for a whole day party. The mansion has two swimming pools and a wide function room. In spite of the remoteness of the place, the event was well attended.

The Buenos did not spare anything to make the occasion memorable. They even hired the Angono Children's String Band to provide music.

We noticed, among others, the presence of Boing Ecarma (with mother Lyn) and Nold Depapakibo, our star ranked sons. Boing is '54's first born child. All members of Class '54 are his ninongs. Nold belongs to Class '84. He commanded the 2nd Army Engineer Brigade in Leyte. Being a 2-star general, he outranks Dad



Pike. At home, who salutes whom?

Adjie Espinosa and Malou managed to come.

Cresing Santos and Inday Muñasque, whom we have not seen for years, showed up. So with Lydia Santos, Teng Elvas and Lorna Lomongo. The daughters of '54, Elsie Ramos, the Guillem sisters, Vick, Net, and Jing were present.

Pike Depapakibo, Joe Sorreta, Sammy Ramos, Gopeng Gorospe, and of course Mante composed the core group of the anniversary.

Noy Gacis, a once in awhile attendee, accompanied by son Rommel, came. Dony Guzman could not attend. He was confined at home with a busted knee. He should have a third leg, if he does not already have one. The Germans are inventive.

And we have the "far aways" - Cabby Cabinian, Gene Duque, and Butch Moreto in U.S.; Mezach Corpus in Laoag, and Balle Ballesteros in Pagadian.

We had lunch at the events hall. Mante reproduced our plebe pictures in individual frames and posted them on the wall. As he pointed at each picture, he described the person's idiosyncrasies and peca-dillos, to the amusement of the ladies.

In the afternoon, Father Eugene Cañete celebrated mass, a fitting conclusion to a '54 class reunion which could be our last. We are all in the sunset of our lives. Our oldest, Noy Gacis, is 90. In a few months, Joe Sorreta will reach that bar.

It is a part of an inevitable process wherein everyone will fade away to return to the bosom of his Maker. In a few more years, we will just be two pages in the PMA Alumni Register.

We went home each with a bottle of wine with the '54 seal in front and the names of '54 members at the back. Mante said it's from his winery.

Let's toast to that!



PEDRO "Rex" "Pete" "Jun" Resurreccion, Jr

Rex had not been attending our monthly PMA First Four get together. For two years, he underwent dialysis 3x a week. On April 3, his brave heart finally gave up.


His remains were cremated at the Loyola Memorial Chapel with Sammy Ramos and Gopeng Gorospe condoling with Tita.

I recall visiting Rex at his home while we were lieutenants. At the anteroom was a pool table. He must have been a good pool player. He introduced his four kids - Jim Jim, May May, Ging Ging, and Jun Jun. Jim Jim is now with NICA; May May with COA. Ging Ging looks after the family. Jun Jun who belongs to PMA Class '95,

resigned early and became a businessman.

Rex started as JO, then Company Commander of the 24th BCT. He transferred to 9th Inf Bn as Asst S3. From the army, he moved to the PC, C1 Div, then to the Statistics Div GHQ. Back to the Constabulary, he became Deputy Regional Commander, RECOM 4, Lucena City.

Like us, he was a little bit hard of hearing. When a subordinate asked for gas allowance, he would answer "Ano?", discouraging the guy.

He retired as Deputy Chief PC for Police Matters. May he rest in peace. 

- Gopeng



On class activities

The class held its July affair at the Golden Sky Restaurant on Sunday, the 21st. It was hosted by the 2nd gen male members, with Anthony Alcaneses managing the affair. He arranged for a priest to say mass and a blind musician to provide music. He also had a TV set for us to watch live the Pacquiao-Thurman fight. Unfortunately, there was no cable TV, so we had to forgo earlier with the mass as it would conflict with the time of the fight.

Those present from the class were Buddy Mison, Johnny Sanchez, Muni Munoz, Rene Tanseco and Ros Alquiza. From the ladies were Grace Alcaneses, Sally Arceo, Ione Mison, Ondette Munoz, Lolit Parado, Vangie Rivera, Pilar Sanchez, Mila Tanseco and Gigi Zaide.

From the 2nd gen were Jomari and Grace Alcaneses, Anthony and Lisa



"From left: Zeny de Guzman, Gigi Zaide, Sally Arceo, Ione Mison, Grace Alcaneses, Lolit Parado, Vangie Rivera, Fely Ecarma, Mila Tanseco, Joven Cordero and Letty Jotie."

Alcaneses, Veronica Alcaneses Pantig, RJ and Teena Alquiza with son Cito, Didi Parado Baladad, Grace Cordero, Elmer and Gemma Cordero Ibus, Alan and MJ Munoz, and Dindin and Joan Rivera.

Before break up, members of the class were given bags of pomelo as give away from Anthony, representing the hosts.

The next class affair was held on Sunday, 25 August at the usual venue at the Golden Sky resto hosted by the August birthday celebrant Ros Alquiza.

Present other than the host were Buddy and Ione Mison, Johnny and Pilar Sanchez, Rene and Mila Tanseco, Rene and Arfeli Ecarma, Porfing Santos, Grace Alcaneses, Sally Arceo, Joven Cordero,

Letty Jotie, Lolit Parado and Vangie Rivera.

Among the 2nd gen members present were Jomari Alcaneses, Aaron Allanigue, Avi, RJ and Teena Alquiza, Elmer and Gemma Cordero-Ibus, Levy and Binky Regalado-Ordenez, Dindin and Joan Rivera, and Didi Parado-Baladad. From the 3rd gen were the Alquiza grandkids, namely: Alexis, Oliver, Louise, Justine and Cito.

Anthony Alcaneses sent in boxes of mangosteen from Davao which were given away to the 1st gen members. Many thanks to Anthony.

The class held its September affair on Sunday, the 15th, at the same venue, the Golden Sky resto, hosted by Buddy Mison, birthday celebrant of the month.

Present from the class were Grace Alcaneses, Ros Alquiza, Sally Arceo, Joven Cordero, Zeny de Guzman, Rene & Fely Ecarma, Letty Jotie, Buddy & Ione Mison, Lolit Parado, Vangie Rivera, Porfing Santos, Rene & Mila Tanseco, and Gigi Zaide.. From class 2005 were Geraldine Hallar-Matienzo, Robert Rodrigo, and Jun Sumayo.

From the 2nd gen were Jomari Alcaneses, Aaron Allanigue, Avi Alquiza & sons Alexis and Oliver, Robert & Leah Arceo-Plucena, Gemma Cordero-Ibus, Annette, Pinky & Nikki Ecarma, and Didi Parado-Baladad.

Anthony Alcaneses provided the music, and again sent in boxes of Davao pomelo as give away to members of the class and widows. Thanks again, Anthony.

Visit and lunch with the Alfabetos

The class and their ladies visited the Alfabetos at their home in Blue Ridge A, Quezon City on Wed, 21 August 2019, but their house could not accommodate the visitors, so they moved over to the nearby PMA Alumni Center in Camp Aguinaldo, where they continued with the fellowship and savoured the packed lunch and pancit brought by the class.

Maudie, who was hospitalized in October last year following her accident at home, which resulted in head injury and now recovering at home, and Betong who



"From left: Porfing Santos, Ros Alquiza, Rene Ecarma, Buddy Mison, Jun Sumayo, Gerardine Matienzo, Rene Tanseco and Robert Rodrigo ."



"Standing: Rene Tanseco and Ros Alquiza. Seated from left: Buddy Mison, Betong Alfabeto, Johnny Sanchez, Maudie Alfabeto and Ione Mison."

undergoes hemo-dialysis twice a week have been unable to attend our monthly class gatherings and we have missed them. By the way, both of them are August birthday celebrants, Maudie on the 10th and Betong on the 21st. We wish them both a happy birthday and their speedy recovery.

The visitors, namely Buddy and Lone Mison, Johnny and Pilar Sanchez, Rene and Mila Tanseco, Grace Alcaneses, Sally Arceo and Ros Alquiza, were already having lunch when Betong, accompanied by his son Von, arrived past 12 noon. Maudie in a wheel chair arrived much later.

Class 55 Foundation activities

The board of trustees of the Foundation held its meeting on 9 Sept 2019 at the Charter House, with the following trustees present: Buddy Mison, Johnny Sanchez, Ros Alquiza, Rene Tanseco, Grace Alcaneses, Sally Arceo, Bing Miranda and Binky Regalado-Ordonez.

Among those taken up was a resolution authorizing 2nd gen regular members of the Foundation medical assistance based on actual and necessary medical/hospitalization expenses not exceeding P75,000.

The financial documents were formally turned over to Bing, the new treasurer.

/by Ros Alquiza



After more than a month of no-golf due to the summer heat, the class golfers held a pow wow at the EDSA Saisaki on 9 May 2019 to be updated on various happenings affecting the 22 surviving members of the class.

Our bionic man, Levy Malto underwent his 8th surgical operation, the record breaker of the class (with Mon Farolan trailing behind with seven), that caused his few days confinement at the Manila Doctors Hospital to replace the battery of his Pacemaker that had been embedded in his right breast for the past 20 years for the purpose of synchronizing and assisting his heart beat. To cheer him up, his eldest daughter, Rowe Pangilinan, already a high-level executive in the Federal Reserve in Washington D.C. had provided him a copy of their office memo directing that

all papers going to the top boss shall pass thru her office. The new battery installed is the 3rd costing PHP 300,000 that is good for another 10 years - up to 2029, by which time, the class expects that he may be the lone survivor at the age of 97.

Mon Farolan appeared for lunch and was immediately confronted with his 6 May 2019 weekly column in the PDI for his write-up on Ms. Joy Belmonte, the mayoralty candidate of Q.C. It was revealed that her mother, the late Betty Go Belmonte was the classmate of Mon at the UP High School and whose name, the street where Mon's residence (now Belmonte Ave. and formerly Happy Valley Road) was named after. At the next week boodle fight at the Reyes Bistro at the Promenade in Greenhills, on 16 May 2019, Mon was congratulated for the victory of Joy, their new mayor of QC, vice Bistik Bautista, the comedy actor who ruled as mayor of Q.C. for many years.

Romy David joined the diners a little bit late and looking like Marlon Brando in the Godfather, bulky but still mentally awake to all the stories being told around the dining table. At his turn, he withdrew and open his cell phone to show the action photo of his mestezong apo sa tuhod (the father is Irish). The handsome boy, a little bit look alike of Davo but with more prominent caucasian features is growing up with his family in Boston, Mass., USA.

Ching Corachea, the class prexy, reported that his roommate of five years, Ralph Mangonon is now bedridden under a caregiver while Rod Ordoyo is confined strictly for movement inside his room. Both mistahs are suffering from the aftermath of strokes that befell them some years past.

The class congratulates Ben Magalong for having been elected as Mayor of Baguio City, in the recently held mid-term elections on 13 May 2019. Ben Magalong of Class '82 is remembered by the class golfers for having footed their lunch bill at their chance encounter at the Din Tai Fung Resto at the Global City a few years back when he was the Senior VP for Operations of Steel Asia, one of the country's biggest steel mills. He left the high paying job to run against the old politicos of Baguio and won — quite a feat to adore.

Great News! The most expensive resort in the world costs USD 100,000 a NIGHT. Musha City in the Bahamas owned by David Copperfield costs USD 42,000 a night. Necker Island, Richard Branson's private Island resort in the British Virgin Islands will set you sick at USD 77,000 a night. But Banwa Island in Palawan, a new

resort in our very own PHL costs USD 100,000 a night.

After golf on 23 May 2019, Ching Corachea hosted lunch at his favorite resto, the Gloria Maris at Greenhills where he ordered lots of live steamed shrimps that go very well with beer. To thrill the diners further, live steamed Lapu Lapu and other mouth-watering dishes were served to make it a day for his mistahs.

Boy Paiso, now preferring to be called ACP (Augustus C. Paiso) to fit his 85 years of age, postponed hosting a lunch at the Vikings, Podium on June 6 to June 13 due to his surgical operation at the Medical City to excise a troublesome boil at the terminal end of his digestive tract. He showed his mistahs a photo of the extracted pigsa with every bodoo squirming at the sight.

The 85th birthday of Olac Lazo was a formal dinner affair tendered by his family at the Aloe Room, 9th Floor of the Marco Polo Hotel at the Ortigas Business Center on 22 June 2019. The affair was moved from May to June to await the arrival of his siblings from the states. About 60 guests were there to cheer Olac, the king of the evening, who was seated at center stage to be entertained by the various presentations of his apos. The Emcee was no other than his daughter Angelique, a veteran and well known TV personality.

Mon and Penny Farolan treated the class golfers and their ladies to a lunch at the Mango Tree, 7th Ave., BGC on 27 June 2019 with an array of Thai dishes for a change — from the usual Chinese or buffet style dishes. The favorite subject of connivance is the recent increase of pension that is most welcomed to increase the frequency of the boodle fights being held to negate the boredom of no-work-no-play attendant to very old life.

Due to so much fetes that marked Romy David's 85th birthday, his wife Pili decided for him to give the almost forgotten treat to the class golfers and their ladies, a sumptuous Japanese lunch on 4 July 2019 at the Kimpura Resto at Greenbelt V Makati. Pili reserved two Tepanyaki grill tables for her guests to savor at its finest, Angus steaks, prawns and oysters grilled smoking hot for every one's delight.

ACP (Paiso) repeated his lunch treat for 17 old but still bold eagles kono (two classmates from the PAF Flying School, Rene Barrientos and Sisoy Narciso), the active golfers of Class 57 (Eddy Ermita, Rene De Villa, Jardi Jardiniano and George Templo), his three other golf foes (Mon Ray Mapa, Ben Lim and Ed Hernandez) and the class golfers (Romy David, Mon

Farolan, Mel Goyena and Levy Malto) at the Podium on 10 July 2019 to show his eldest daughter, Antonia and her British husband who are in town, that ACP is not at all lonely but still very much alive, kicking and enjoying treating his friends repeatedly at the Podium.

The raging six-years golf fight between Classes '56 and '57 after in limbo for over a year, resumed on 15 July 2019 at the PNGC with the remaining four golfers from each class (started originally at 9 for '57 and 8 for '56). At Tee Off time at 7a.m., Levy Malto of '56 failed to make it due to a sudden painful stiff neck. With the best 3 of each class to score, the 35th golf fight ended with the following scores: For '56 - Paiso-100; Goyena-102; Corachea-114; or a total of 316. For '57 - Eddy Ermita - 100; Jardiniano -101; Rene de Villa and George Templo -106; or a total of 307 and a win by 9 points. Of the 35 golf games, CI '56 won 19 vs. CI '57's 16.




DIONISIO S TAN-GATUE JR
President
TAGUMPAY R JARDINIANO
Secretary

BAKUNA MO SAGOT KO

The Class 57 Brats Association sponsored a day for the Origs to be told, for once, to sit down and show their arms, but for injections contra Flu and Pneumonia, courtesy of Veterans Memorial Medical Center staff led by Brats President, Dr. Gigi Ledesma Perreira.

The processing stations were well laid out and procedures by the staff were fast and flawless. The Origs and their spouses were treated to a lunch after the "ordeal." Three cheers for VMMC!



DINNER-DANCE AT ONCHIE'S "WEAR NAVY"

Onchie Mendoza's invitation says: "Come in Navy" at the UCPB Building in Makati City. But of course, all the navy guys were very much at home. Vic Buenaventura came in his all-white navy dress with white shoes to match. Dance music never stopped. Seen dancing the night away were Lito Doria and Bernie. Vic Buenaventura and Belen, Jun Tan-Gatue and Solita, George Templo and Marianne, Mila Javier and the perfect host Tammy Mendoza. Long Live the Navy!



ED STILL “SWINGING AT 84”

At the huge Philippine Marines Hall in Fort Bonifacio, Ed Ermita celebrated his 84 birthday with relatives, friends and Class 57. The logo says it all “Swinging 84.” The band of young singers, played nostalgic music. The celebrant hopped from table to table in his usual cheerful mood. Everyone enjoyed the reunion, the Origs with their usual stories “When We Were Plebes.” 🇵🇭




CARLOS L AGUSTIN
President
NICETO A FESTIN
Secretary

JEROME ROMMEL OCHOCO

We were saddened by the news of the demise of Romy’s son ROMMELOCHOCO (Captain, PN) on 19 June 2019 after some health issues. Jojo Comendador passed the word based on info from a Viber Group and further clarification from Rommel’s wife Liezl that Rommel collapsed in his bedroom, hit his head and was unconscious when brought to the VLMC where he later passed away early in the morning, after a cardiac arrest. What was shocking to many was the fact that Rommel and Liezl joined the Class 1959 brats dinner hosted by the Abaya brothers just about ten days earlier, and visibly enjoyed during the reunion

The wake was held at the Loyola Memorial Chapel from 19 to 22 June, and inurnment made after cremation on Sunday 23 June at the nearby Manila Memorial Park. On 24 July, the class held a lunch meeting with Pete Baraoidan (who visited from Colorado Springs) at the Elks Club, Corinthian Plaza, at Paseo de Roxas in Makati. Pete stayed longer in Laoag as he settled some personal matters in Ilocos Norte. He left for the United States that



Eddie Garcia, Del Abaya and Chuck Agustin during wake with Rommel’s dad, Romy.

evening too, so he missed seeing Romy Ochoco, who had left earlier for Hong Kong.

A few classmates and kids joined the 40th day mass on 28 July for Jerome at the Manila Memorial Park, after which lunch was held at Max Restaurant on Sucat Road. 🇵🇭



Nick Festin, Jess Alcorido, Chuck Agustin and Jackie Desquitado with Pete Baraoidan (24 July)



Nestor Lim hosted a Grand Reunion of Gooney Bird pilots of the Philippine Air Force last July 17, 2019 at the NIU Vikings Restaurant in SM Aura, BGC, Taguig City. There were 37 attendees with six of them former Commanding Generals of the PAF. Beautiful memories of flying dangerously in the pre-jet era dominated the conversation. There were no GPS, no ALS. In godforsaken rural areas we navigated by dead reckoning which means that if the pilot makes a mistake, he is dead. The C-47 was unpressurized which means you fly through weather six months of the year. The cockpit crew sometimes had to wear raincoats in the cockpit !!!

A reminder to old pensioners (that's us). If you are 70 years old and above, you have to renew your PGMC and PVAO records every six months. Orly Salientes was recorded as "Dead" in the PGMC records for failure to update his records. It is quite a hassle to put your name back. So please update your records before your birthday and six months thereafter.

Kenomar. We are the only country in the world that requires a Certificate of No Marriage over and above the marriage certificate in order that the wife can claim her pension benefits. This came about because our young and healthy OFWs in the Middle East who connive with each other to live as husbands and wives there using Recto (fake) marriage certificates.




Cohabiting with somebody not your spouse in KSA is a capital offense.

Many years ago Cav Ross Alquiza put out a primer on what a wife should do in case her husband dies. I have actually helped the wives of three classmates who died. They had no idea about what monetary claims due them from PVAO, PMAAAI, PAF MRS, PAFACAA Mutual Benefit System. "Abuloy" from AGFO, investments from different military savings and loans associations, etc. You can get a copy from PMAAAI.

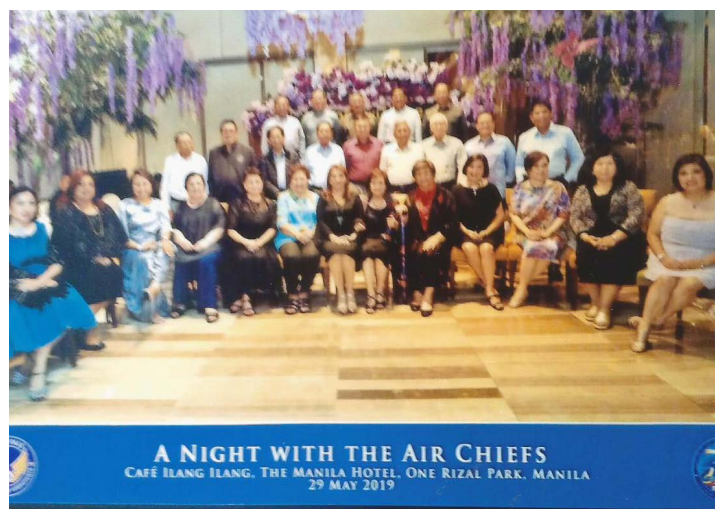
Orly and Inday Salientes treated the PMA Excom for lunch with the arrival of Leny Balbas from the USA to fix some

papers of Jun B for her to claim benefits due her last August 6 2019 at the Rustan East Café. I think it was their 52nd wedding anniversary.

As you can see in the accompanying picture, two PMA 60 members are attending the annual A NIGHT OF THE AIR CHIEFS held in Manila Hotel. In the PAF history we are the only class from PMA and PAFFS who have two PAF commanding generals.

Beginning July-August-September 2019 issue the Cavalier Magazine will revert back to the quarterly issue. 

/ Loven C Abadia





Class 62 Second Quarter Socials at World Buffet, Dad's Kamayan, EDSA Greenhills.



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

Second Quarter Socials

The second quarter socials and class bonding was held on a Monday, 3 June, at Dad's World Buffet at EDSA Greenhills, Quezon. This was hosted by the second quarter birthday celebrants particularly Al Lumibao, Roger Luis, Benjie Valenton, and Boy Abadia who was not able to make it as he was still recovering from his illness. Dad's, Kamayan, and Saisaki Resto is well-known for their excellent food and world buffet, as the name implies, took us around the world of food. Al, the designated OPR, made sure the classmates and their ladies and other guests enjoyed. He and some classmates sang favorite oldies with the house musicians. With the band accompanying us in singing the "Happy Birthday song," Roger and Al (Benjie had to leave earlier) blew the candle from their birthday cake. During the socials, Al proposed that interested members of the class go on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. The suggestion was enthusiastically

received and Tito Rimando, Al, and Mau Soriano were tasked to plan this activity. At the end of the gathering the class had their group picture to commemorate the event. Classmates and guests who attended the socials were: Nano Mariano, Mon Rodriguez, birthday celebrants Al and Roger (and Casey) and Benjie, Quintin and Luz Alcudia, Divine and Marian Divinagracia, Manny and Becky Salimbangon, Will and Chiquita Cruz, Joel and Rio Hinlo, Ray Logan, Gerry and Baby Kagaoan, Felix Tong, Paco Atayde, Freddie and Methy Filler, Ernie and Hazel Dauz, and Maura Soriano.

Class Meetings and the Holy Land Pilgrimage

The class had a series of meetings to discuss class activities. Class president Nano asked the third quarter birthday celebrants to host the third quarter socials. Manny Salimbangon was designated the OPR. During one meeting, Nano asked Ray to reconsider reassuming his position as the class secretary. With Ray's busy family business schedule somewhat eased, Ray acceded to the request of the class president and resumed his duties as class secretary. However, it was decided that the services

of Rose Blaquera of AGFO, who acted as the interim secretary, will be retained to man the office of the class secretariat. She continues to accept and disseminate information and notices of the class.

The other important activity taken up during class and committee meetings was the class pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Attendance during these meeting included everyone interested in going to the Holy Land including ladies. Al Lumibao invited several travel and tour agencies to present their tour plans and costs. After several meetings, the group finally chose 305 Travel and Tours for the Holy Land Pilgrimage. Some of the specifics are: The Holy Land Pilgrimage will be on 7 November to 17 November. It will involve visiting three countries – Jordan, Israel, and Egypt. The cost per person is \$2,350.00. This is inclusive of roundtrip airfare, transportation, medical insurance, hotel expenses, breakfast, lunch, and dinner during the tour, guides, and many more. Among those who have decided to go on this tour are Quintin and Luz, Tito and Heidi and daughter Kay, Evelyn Maniago, Al Lumibao, Ray Logan, Maura and daughter Leika. Still deciding are Manny and Beth and Joel and Rio. Baby David and Lita Pacheco have also expressed their interest to Maura.



Class 62 after offering mass at St. Pio of Petrelcina Centre at Cucina di Francesco.

Class Offers Holy Mass at Philippine Centre for St. Pio of Pietrelcina

Upon the invitation of Ramon Rodriguez, Class '62 were the mass offerors during the noon Saturday mass on 27 July. In attendance were Nano who had just recovered from illness, Tito and Heidi and Kay, Gerry and Baby and niece Martina, Felix and Zeny Tong, Maury and Ophelia, Quintin and Luz, Freddie and Methy, Divine and Marian, Rene Motus, and Mau. After the mass Mon Rodriguez anointed the group individually. Later Mon treated the group to lunch at the Cucina di Francesco also at the Centre area.

Farewell to Jose "Von Rami" Ramiscal

Early this year, the class learned that Rami has been taken ill. Classmates had wanted to visit him when we visited Boy Abadia at V. Luna but he was out or at the doctors. With his birthday and Olga's falling during the third quarter, he and Olga and the rest of the third quarter birthday celebrants as hosts were making plans for the event already. Alas, won't be around any more on his birthday on September 13 and will just be joining us in spirit when we will have our socials because Von Rami passed away from a lingering illness last 17 July. He lay in state at the Santuario de San Jose Church at Greenhills. Relatives and friends and priests, classmates and their ladies, fellow PMA alumni and former colleagues in the AFP paid their last respects to him. Close friends like Amaury, Budge and Alma, Nani, Freddie, and Gerry Flores who flew all the way from Iloilo were almost always around during the entire wake. Necrological services were held on Monday night, 22 July. His grandchildren Bea, Lia, and EJ related to the audience what a kind and sweet lolo Rami was. His children Chris and Pipoy also spoke about their lives with their father. The eldest son Toto gave the response in behalf of the bereaved family. Classmates who recalled their days with Rami gave vignettes and anecdotes. They were Nani Jover, Boy Abadia, Amaury Evangelista, Budge Madamba, Gerry Flores. Tito Rimando spoke for the whole



Olga Ramiscal with classmates at the PA Officers Club after Von Rami's burial.

class in behalf of class prexy Nano who was recovering from illness. Rami was borne to the Libingan ng mga Bayani on Tuesday 23 July. He was accorded military honors upon arrival, thence the military cortege smartly moved to the gravesite. After the rifle salute of three volleys, the bugler sounded a mournful taps and the Philippine flag was undraped from his coffin, passed around to the pall bearers including classmates who acted as honorary pallbearers and then offered to Olga in recognition of General Jose S. Ramiscal's faithful and honorable service in the military service. After the ceremonies, Olga invited everyone for lunch at the PA Officers Club. Rami left behind his beloved wife Olga Carado Ramiscal and their three children Joel, Christine, and Jose III and three grandchildren Bea, Lia, and EJ.

Farewell to Pablo S. Poticar

Just before Rami passed away, Rupert Palisoc informed the class that our former classmate "Potik" Poticar died last 7 July. Potiks of Charlie Coy is remembered as one of the better class athletes. He excelled in track and boxing. He was an engineer and migrated to the States where he established residence in California. He was a great friend to Maury, Benjie, Rupert and other classmates who were in the area. Several years ago when he came for a visit to the Philippines, the class tendered lunch for him at Kimpura in Greenhills. Classmates extended their condolences to his family through Rupert. He was interred at the San Fernando Mission Catholic Cemetery on 16 July. 🕊️

/ JR Rimando



GUILLERMO R RUIZ
President
RENE LEANDRO P EBRO
Secretary

Greetings from the PMA Matindi Class 1963. We have typhoons that induce the "Habagat" weather. It was decided that the Cavalier Magazine will have two more issues for 2019, July-September and October-December. Savings!

Our activities from the Corporate Secretary Logbook are as follows:

03 March 2019

Our mistah Cav Francisco Y Catibayan died after a lingering illness. He was our associate member (original 1963), inducted as class member during our golden anniversary in February 2013 by Cav Ed E. Batenga, Chairman, PMAAAL. Members of PMA Matindi Class 1963 condoled with his family.

11 June 2019

PMA Matindi Class 1963 Board meeting at the PMA Alumni Center, CGEA, Q.C. on 11 a.m., 11 June 2019. Taken

up were schedule for the rest of 2019. Present were Cavs Ruiz, Sibayan, Ebro, Javier and Delgado. Cavs Espejo, Andaya, Mallillin and Manlongat could not make it.

16 June 2019

The Class congratulated the christening of Rafael Joseph, son of Joseph and Au Sibayan, apo of Tony Sibayan, at our Ladies of Remedies Chapel, Don Enrique Heights, Q.C. Celebration was in DEHHA Clubhouse at 4 p.m. Members of the PMA Matindi Class 1963 Board, friends of Tony and members of Tony's family attended the occasion.

25 June 2019

A no-host-lunch was conducted by PMA Matindi Class 1963 at 11 a.m. at the Phil. Navy Golf Club, Naval Station Jose Francisco (BNS), Taguig City. Sixteen members of the Class and ladies attended the occasion. The next no-host-lunch will be in PNGC (BNS), Taguig City again on 25 August 2019 at 11 a.m. We will again have our monthly no-host-lunch in another venue and our schedule Christmas in December 2019. We will inform everybody.

15 August 2019

The 2nd BIRCI Quarterly Fellowship meeting at 5 p.m., Social Hall, Valle Verde 4, Pasig City. Atty. Jeremy Gatdula was

the GOHAS and talked on Conservative Politics: Current Issues and Concerns. All BIRCI members were invited.

Birthday Celebrators

July, August, September 2019


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

July 2019: Judith Valdez – 2, Zeny Salipsip – 5, Dodong Saavedra (+) – 5, Dick Flores – 17, Danny Delgado -21, Jimmy Iletto - 26, and Anabelle Adriano – 26.

August 2019: Lita Mendoza – 2, Ed Batenga -3, Bayani Leoncio – 4, Cora Blancas – 7, Vicky Agaab – 10, Dan Pizarro – 12, Frank Mallillin – 21, and Flor Ebro – 24

September 2019: Yayang Manlongat and Ching Saavedra – 1, Vicky Capada, Rudy Javier, and Reggie Lacson – 7, Art Capada – 8, Filong Pante – 13, Eve Venadas – 14, Monet Ong – 15, and Ding Salipsip (+) – 26.

I will quote again RA 9292, (Institute of Electronics & Communications Engineer of the Philippines): *"A true leader unites people not divide them, do not sow hate... but cultivate love..."*

To all members of PMA Matindi Class of 1963, please visit your PMA Alumni Center, update your records, get your PMA ID card, your PVAO ID card and your PGMC update, for posterity. (18121605) 



8/25/2019 PMA MATINDI (Mga Anak ng may Tapang, Integridad, Nacionalismo, Dangal ng Inang Bayan) Class'63 Get-Together @Phil. Navy Golf Club, Jose Francisco Naval Station



PMA MATINDI CLASS'63
(MGA ANAK ng may TAPANG, INTEGRIDAD, NACIONALISMO, DANGAL ng INANG BAYAN)



8/25/2019 Ladies of PMA Matindi (Mga Anak ng may Tapang, Integridad, Nacionalismo, Dangal ng Inang Bayan) Class'63 Get-Together @Phil. Navy Golf Club, Jose Francisco Naval Station



The third quarter covering July, August and September has not been so active as far as class affair is concerned compared to the second quarter. The class met three times during the second quarter celebrating entry as cadet, incorporation as part of the Cadet Corps and the regular quarterly meeting.

Last June 10, 2019 the class met at Vikings restaurant at SM Aura, Bonifacio Global City to celebrate Incorporation Day for the class as part of the Cadet Corps. It was well attended gathering. Among the class members who attended were:

1. Clem Mariano
2. Rey Reyes
3. Orly Cabanlig
4. Terry de la Cruz
5. Arfs Arpon
6. Garic Garcia
7. Abe de Guzman
8. Jorge Agcaoili
9. Roger Soledad

Clem Mariano took the opportunity to meet the class. During the meeting, there was a thorough discussion on publishing a Class '64 Achievement Book of which Rey Reyes has volunteered as chairman for the publication. Some of the ideas brought about in the contents are achievements and accomplishment of Class '64 in the military as well as civilian life. The publication is intended to be available during the 60th anniversary of the class. It was also agreed that for the remaining period of the year, the class will be meeting August 05, 2019 for quarterly meeting and later part of November or early December for the Christmas Party.

Last August 05, 2019 the class had their regular quarterly meeting at the Vikings Restaurant, Aura Bonifacio drive as the writer was not able to attend, the regular attendees were Clem Mariano, Rey Reyes, Terry de la Cruz, Tony Aguilar, Abe de Guzman.

The class '64 golf club has not been playing due to bad weather. During their last engagement, the group agreed to play every Thursday at PNGC. Garic Garcia

and Arfs Arpon have been designated as Coordinators.

Happy birthday to the following classmates:

1. Jorge Agcaoili - July 4
2. Tagoy Diño - July 25
3. Jimmy Valeros - September 16
4. Santi Bunoan - September 22
5. Rey Reyes - September 30

May you have many more birthdays to come!



GREETINGS FROM THE MULAWINS OF PMA CLASS 1965!!!

There has not been practically any activity of the Class during the period this summer 2019 in view of the extreme weather conditions prevailing - at the onset of summer it was extremely hot and this was coupled by the dwindling supply of water from the two (2) giant concessionaires. They should not be always blaming the lack of rain to fill - up the different dams. There are other remedies which requires investment from their part but it seems bringing out funds for this purpose is too much of the asking. Anyway, all have been affected, the rich and the poor--- *lahat ay di nakakapaligo ng tama*. And after the long hot summer, *katakut-takot naman na ulan* which brought more sufferings due to flash floods and erosions. And for the first time, the province of Batanes suffered tremendous losses in terms of lives and the destruction of their houses and other infrastructures which are not really built to withstand earthquakes.

The only Class activity for the period was a Class get-together buffet lunch at The Podium in Mandaluyong City (or is this part of Pasig? or part ba 'to ng Quezon City?) last June 27, 2019. It was hosted by the April, May and June born Mulawins. For the first time our Mindanao-based classmate, Adolf Borje managed to attend as it jibed with his attendance in their

regular board meeting, as member of the Board of PNOC. And for the first time too, our class prexy failed to join us, as he had to attend to most of the requirements of his youngest brother who happened to be in town. But still as usual, the attendance was good. Those who made it to this class affair not only for the more than a couple of dozens of an array of international cuisine but more for the continued camaraderie, friendship and bonding of the members of PMA Mulawin Class of 1965 and their ladies were: Pat and Baby Duque; Roger and Gloria Bergado; Joe and Janette Lopus; Egay and Dina Velasco; Jomari Solquillo; Rolly Cauton; Bert and Dona Acenas; Linda Perena; Susan Abadilla; Noli and Chit Fabic; Tates and Lynn Nartatez; Jess and Boots Candelario and Rex Robles.

Congratulations to PAT AND AURORA "Baby" DUQUE for achieving a milestone in their lives, their Golden Wedding Anniversary, last June 2019. They had their celebration in San Diego, California USA with their children and grandchildren. Representing the Class of 1965 in attendance were our US-based Mistahs-- Mon and Nory Azurin and Doming and Mimi Habos.

Wishing also a HAPPY BIRTHDAY to all Mulawins and Ladies who are born in July, August and September./epn



PAMBUNGAD

Sa wikang Ingles, may kasabihang "when it rains, it pours." Dahil nagkaroon tayo noong Hunyo at Hulyo ng water crisis, maaaring idagdag "when there is no water in the faucet, it stinks." Ano ba talaga ang mas mainam, maulan o walang tubig. Sabi ng mga ibig magpatawa, "its depend." Pero hindi totoo na may ilang sixty-sixers ang natuwa sa kawalan ng tubig dahil mayroon na silang dahilan upang hindi maligo.

Sa dalawang buwang nakaraan, mabibilang ang mga kaganapang maiiulat sa siping ito ng The Cavaleir. Isa na rito ay ang pagdiriwang ng 50th (Golden) Wedding Anniversary ni Vic at Tita Belo.

GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Isang milestone ang narating ni Vic at Tita Belo noong 28 Hunyo 2019. Sa araw na ito ay kanilang ipinagdiwang ang kanilang Golden Wedding Anniversary. Una muna nilang sinariwa ang kanilang unang kasal sa isang Thanksgiving Mass sa makasaysayang Villa San Miguel, Archbishop Palace, Shaw Blvd. Mandaluyong City. Dito nagkaroon ng "reenactment" ang kanilang pagbubuklod limampung taon na ang nakakalipas. Di na lang na-reenact ang kiss the bride.



Sinundan ang marriage ceremony ng isang Lunch Reception na ginanap sa North Forbes Pavilion, North Forbes Park, Makati City, isang lugar na sa pangalan pa lamang ay makahulugan. Sa dalawang okasyon tulad ng inaasahan, ay dinaluhan ng mga sixty-sixers at mga ginang. Ang mga sumaksi sa kasal at nakipagdiwang – Noli Espejo, Bert at Portia Varona, Pons at Cena Millena, Mars at Patri Cordova, Viusy at Mercy Dauz, Edd at Lil Santos, Roy at Jelly Nicolas, Fred at Paz Bautista, Herc at Margie Galon, Bing Rivera, Sylvia Agudelo, Susan Gador, Tess Reyes, Beth Payumo, Malou Catral, Fe Cuison, Meldy Espina, Edna Gopilan.



ISANG KAKAIBANG LINGGO SA MAX RESTO

Noong 4 August 2019 naman, ay ginawang espesyal ni Bing Rivera ang regular coffee fellowship meeting sa Max Restaurant, Global City. Sapagkat

ipinagdiwang niya noong 2 August 2019 at kanyang nth birthday, ay siya ang "naghost" ng breakfast-lunch sa mga naroon.

Ang mga naroroon na nagustuhan ang mga order na pagkain na specialty ng Max ay ang mga sumusunod: Leo Alvez, Noli Espejo, Fred Bautista, Ben Espejo, Ding Wenceslao, Menong Garcia, Paz Bautista at Sylvia Agudelo. Sabi ni Leo Alvez na nakatira sa Cebu City, ay lumuwas siya ng Maynila upang makadalo sa birthday lunch ni Bing. Totoo, Leo?

tatlo na members – Sylvia Agudelo, Alice Alba at Fe Cuison.

ISANG GABI SA AURA

Noong ika -12 ng Agosto, ilang Sixty-sixers ang nagkatagpu-tagpo sa Barcino, SM Aura. Kanilang pinag-usapan ang Christmas program sa Disyembre at ang balak na ipagdiwang ang ika-75 at higit pa na taon ng mga sixty-sixers. Ang mga nagtapo: Louie Fernandez, Temi Arugay, Fred Bautista, Jacie Aquino at Pons Millena.



BAGONG BUHAY NG VETERANS 66

Marahil alam na ng lahat na mula noong 2002, ay isang SEC-registered corporation ang Sixty-Six Veterans and Associates, Inc. sa pamumuno ni Mistah Charlie Batayola. Ang mga unang kasapi nito ay lahat ng graduates ng PMA Class 1966 at mga associate members. Ito ay isa rin sa mga accredited affiliate organizations ng Veterans Federation of the Philippines (VFP).

Dahil sa kakulangan ng mga taunang dokumento na sina-submit sa SEC, ay narevoke ang registration nito mula noong 2011. Kaya naman, ay nagsumikap ang mga Board of Directors na ma-reinstate and katayuan ng Vets '66.

Dahil sa tiyaga at pagsusumikap ay naibalik ang katayuan ng Vets '66 at isa na itong ganap na SEC - accredited corporation epektibo 21 Hunyo 2019. Ang bagong pangalan nito – Veterans Sixty-Six and Associates, Inc.(VSSAI).

Hindi lamang mga graduates ng PMA Class 1966 at mga associates ang mga kasapi nito. Kasama na mga retiradong mga kawal at pulis, pati na mga widows, tulad ng ibang kaanib ng VFP. Mahigit na 400 ang members ng VSSAI, pero hindi pa lahat ng Class 66 ay miyembro ng VFP, nineteen (19) pa lang. Kailangang magbayad ng P500 a year thru PVAO, deductible sa old-age pension. Sa widows

WENCESLAO IS 76th

Nagdiwang si Ding Wenceslao ng kanyang ika-76th birthday anniversary na ginanap sa Blue Leaf, ASEANA. Ang mga nagsidalo ay makikita sa larawan.

ALAM BA NINYO?

Alam ba ninyo na may Honor Code Monument na pinatayo ng klase (sa pamumuno ni Mistah Louie Fernandez) sa PMA, malapit sa Lopez Hall at bagong Cadet Barracks? Sa kasalukuyan, may idinagdag na arko na may nakasabit na batingaw. Pag may Honor Code violation trial, ang batingaw ay patutunugin. Ito raw ay bagong dagdag na tradisyon. Ang iba pang detalye ay isusulat natin sa susunod na sipi ng Cavalier Magazine.

MGA BIRTHDAY CELEBRATORS

Marami ang nagdiriwang ng kanilang kaarawan sa buwan ng Hulyo at Agosto. Sila ay:

Hulyo - Jimmy Bantolo (25), Rod Clautero (27), Troy Dumadapat (20), Gene Parrenas (10), Ding Wenceslao (4), Cel Espejo (10), Iyay Urgello (11), Patri Cordova (21), Precy Belleza (8), Nora Clautero (28), Lita Javier (16), at Olive Perez (22).

Agosto – Fred Bautista (25), Bing Rivera (02), Alice Ala (15), Portia Varona (22), Sylvia Agudelo (28), Higido Gay-ya (27).

Maligayang kaarawan, senior citizens!



CLASS ACTIVITIES

A. The following were our activities for the May – July 2019 period:

2 June – Our Dimasupil Monthly Forum (DMF) (Lunch) for May was moved to this date. It was hosted by Joy and Noemi Casillan and family at the Heroes Grill, VMMC, Q.C. It was their way of celebrating with the Class the birthday of Noemi (26 May).

23 June – Ross and Mandie Sibal were joined by Hedy Duenas and Abe and Cora Din in hosting our DMF (Breakfast) at Kenny Rogers resto, Resorts World, Pasig City. It was for the birthday of Abe (15 June), Ross (16 June), and Cora (30 June).

24 July – Our DMF (Lunch) was held at Dad’s resto, SM Megamall, EDSA, Mandaluyong City. It was hosted by Pol and Norma Aliac, Lettie Baula, and Jovie and Baby Sales to celebrate with the Class the birthdays of Pol (24 July), Cesar Baula (26 July) and Jovy (28 July).

B. Watch out for our schedule for August 2019, onwards, as follows:

17 August – DMF (Lunch) to be hosted by Sergs and Zeny Austria, Fred and Yoly Encarnacion, Ed and Myrns Espinosa, Vir and Marina Odulio, Mar and Beth Santiago, and Orly and Reem Tucay, at Alba resto, Capitol Commons, Pasig City.

September – DMF to be hosted by

Romy and Merle Odi and family.

October – DMF to be hosted by Aging Alino, Joe and Myrna Andaya, Ching and Papoose Ballecer, Vic and Mely Corpus, Andy and Meds Reyes, and Sammy and Cora Tomas.

November – DMF to be hosted by Cords and Myrna Cordero, Ben and Lea Libarnes, Bernie and Aying Patino, and Vic and Evelyn Villacorta.

December – Remembrance Day, Christmas Party, and Election of Class Officers.

UPDATES ON THE DIMASUPILS

Congratulations to Jun Avenido on his reelection as President of the PMAAA Educational Foundation, Inc. (PETFI) for AY 2019-2020. The Foundation provides scholarships to dependents of deceased and disabled Cavaliers. All Dimasupils are members of the Foundation. The minor children of Orville Gabuna and Diony Ventura are current scholars of PETFI.

We just received the following text from Eve Villacorta: *“After having been confined in St. Luke’s Hospital, QC for almost two months as a result of his second stroke, Vic is now home and on his way to full recovery. Please extend our many thanks to all Dimasupils who in one way or the other prayed with us, helped us financially, and offered love and compassion.”*

Bernie Patino was confined in FEU Hospital, Fairview, QC last March for diabetes. He is now recuperating at home and closely monitoring his still high sugar count.

We remembered the passing-away of our late classmate Orville Gabuna. A

Memorial Mass was celebrated at Cervini Hall, Ateneo de Manila Compound, QC on 22 June to commemorate his first death anniversary.

UPDATES ON OUR FAMILIES

We recently received the following message from Manny Dalipe: *“Now it can be told. Maryrose is cleared of leukemia after one month in hospital while undergoing chemotherapy and blood transfusions.”* Later, he sent the following note: *“Meron pa raw second round of treatment.”* Let us continue praying for the early full recovery of Maryrose.

Bernie Patino and family tendered a surprise party for Aying at Alba resto, Capitol Commons, Pasig City last 3 August to celebrate her 75th Birth Anniversary (2 August) with her family and friends, including Dimasupils and spouses. It was indeed a joyous occasion.

Congratulations to Nanette Austria, daughter of Sergs and Senyang on her recent appointment by Mistah PRRD as RTC Judge in San Pedro, Laguna. She was a City Prosecutor in QC before this new appointment. Sergs was all smiles during the blow-out he gave for Nanette on 18 July at Alba resto, Morato St., QC. The Dimasupils and spouses were there to be part of the celebration.

We extend our heartfelt condolences to the families of: (1) Romy and Merle Odi, on the death of his sister, Lilia Odi Ella, on 16 July in Chicago, USA due to heart problem; and (2) Vlady and Josie Olivares, on the death of his sister, Anna Marie Olivares Paulino, on 16 July in Metro Manila due to multiple organ failure. We pray for their eternal rest in the bosom of our Lord.





BIRTHDAY CELEBRATORS

Best wishes to the following Dimasupils and spouses who celebrate their birthdays in July, August and September: Reina Young (2 July), Vic Laurilla (8), Alex de Guzman (10), Ben Samonte (15), Tita Fragante (19), Romy Villanueva (20), Oying Pinto (21), Mandie Sibal (22), Pol Aliac (24), Glo Parena (24), Archie Balboa (26), Jovy Sales (28), Aying Patino (2 August), Marina Odulio (3), Serge Austria (11), Orly Tucay (16), Mar Santiago (19), Vic Buaquen (21), Vir Odulio (23), Nanding Perez (25), Ed Espinosa (27), Titong Enriquez (28),

Fred Encarnacion (29), Arleen Brawner (2 September), Elen Reventar (2), Lettie Baula (3), Claude Francisco (7), Baby Sales (12), Jake Caruncho (23), Tina Quiambao (27), Romy Odi (28), and Ruby Torres (28).

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

CLASS TRIVIA

Bernie Patino gave the following advice to the Dimasupil ladies: *"This is biblical and you are compelled to follow*

it. The secret to a long-lasting marriage is to listen to your husband because he is always right." They chorused: *"No way! Tell that to the Marines!"*

A company-mate of Bernie asked him: *"Mistah, ano ba ang T-back?"* Bernie answered: *"Noong araw, para makita mo ang puwet, hawiin mo ang panty. Ngayon, para makita mo ang panty, hawiin mo ang puwet. Ang tawag sa bagong panty na yan ay T-back."*

Mabuhay tayong lahat! 🇵🇭



Summertime for most of the classmates mean packing the travel bags so as to get away from the heat waves of Lent and summer. For a lot of the grandparents, destination means going to where the children are located. It was also time to bond with or take care of the "apos" (as others would term it, do some "apostolic" work. And if we arrive in our destination by May or June, then we can also collect some Mother's Day or Father's Day gifts with the proper celebrations. Cris Francisco went back to Georgia after escorting his visitors in the Philippines. Sonny and Luth Penilla went to North Carolina for their annual apostolic work.

Evelyn Erolin visited family in California. Blet Castillo was gone for her yearly tour of the world. Tess Pangantihon joined a tour to the Holy Land and Rome. Someone I think also went to Germany to visit the apo. Art Carrillo went to California to collect Father's Day gifts from the five kids and six 'apos'.

From the USA, Ludy Duque made a quick and silent visit to the country. Vicky Cimatu Addcock came over with her whole family to attend the Cimatu Clan reunion

in the north Ying and Amy Palmos were also in town for a visit starting 12 August.

Bobby Santiago decided to stop the pain in his back whenever he walked. He went under the knife and is now back in his home and learning to walk again without pain. Pat Madayag also had a stench placed in his artery in lieu of a bypass. He is now A-Okay. Tony Siapno had an eye procedure that make him regain his x-ray eyes.





On 07 August, the Class gathered at the SM Aura Chapel for the mass and luncheon





DANTE ZAMORA RUIZ, faded away on 11 June 2019. After going in and out of the hospital several times, Dante predicted his last hurrah by writing a farewell address to all whom he has touched specially to officers, men and women of the Philippine Navy Savings and

Loans Association whom he has served for the last 18 years. Dante faded away nine days after he wrote his farewell address. Julie and family expressed their sincere thanks to PMA Class of 1968 on 20 July during the 40th Day anniversary of Dante.

On 21 July, a board meeting on fellowship was held at the Matikas Hall of the Camp Aguinaldo Golf Club. Updates on the status of Class Funds was made by Alex Costales. It was reported that the co-signatories of the bank accounts are now Art Carrillo and Alex Costales. The Class decided to get together for a Thanksgiving Mass and to pray for good health for everyone. The class chose the Catholic Chapel of the SM Aura in BGC as the venue. While the meeting was supposed to be

KKB, Oskie Cabaron decided to celebrate his birthday by treating all attendees to a sumptuous meal. Not contented with the hearty lunch, Oskie and Gigi gave each one a take home bag consisting of Chicharon and Danggit.

Among those who attended were Rhodie Gazmin, Tess Pangantihon, Evelyn Erolin, Art Carrillo, Willy and Isay Nuqui, Alex and Shirley Costales, Norie and Candy Azcueta, Cris Francisco, Art and Marite Garrido and Oscar and Gigi Cabaron. Reminiscing stories and jokes were told that made everyone laughed boisterously! All of those who attended had fun time that lasted up to almost 4:00 p.m. 



JAIME S DELOS SANTOS
President
JUSTO P MANLONGAT
Secretary

PMA CLASS '69 MARCHES ON!

Proposed Class Donation to VMMC

Pres Jimmy delos Santos sent an email to the Class re "Room enhancement/improvement at VMMC under the name of PMA Class '69" proposing that our Class "consider this as a payback scheme for all the benefits and medical assistance extended by the hospital to some of our



classmates and to all of us in the future".

To discuss details of this proposed class project, a meeting was held with the VMMC Director, Dr. Dominador Chiong

with Dra. Martin and key officials with our Mistahs Jimmy, Tom Lantion, Ike Begonia and Chris Abanes on 29 May.



Photo shows Bataan Gov Abet Garcia (5th from left) handing over the framed provincial manifesto to Lester Lagman. Others in photo are Lester's dad, Ferdz Lagman (4th from left) and members of the governor's office and some close relatives.

Bataan Honors Lester Lagman for Scholastic and Golf Achievements in California, USA!

A grandson of our late Mistah Ferdie and Kaydet Girl Luz Lagman and son of Ferdz Lagman, Jr., Lester had been making his parents and kins so proud by his personal achievements! Just last July, the provincial government of Bataan recognized Lester's academic and sports accomplishments.

Gov. Abet Garcia of Bataan handed over the Resolution No. 292 entitled: A Resolution Commending Mr. Lester Lagman for his Remarkable Achievements and Distinctions last 18 July at Office of the Provincial Governor, Provincial Capitol Compound, Balanga City.

The said resolution was sponsored by SK Provincial Federated President/ Board Member Precious D. Manuel and passed by the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Bataan in their Regular Session last July 8, 2019 to honor the outstanding feat of Mr. Lester Lagman as worthy of emulation and distinction in the Academy of Art University, San Francisco, Callifornia, USA where he received numerous awards in academics as well as in the field of Golf.

Mr. Lagman is a native of Dinalupihan, Bataan, hence, his efforts, academic honors and achievements will serve as an inspiration not only to the youth but as well as to the student community to strive hard in achieving their goals in life.

#SulongKaBATAAN

The Reventars Visit Sorrento, Italy!

Knowing that it was not possible for our three sons and their families to spend Christmas 2018 with us, Emy and I decided to make plans of our own. What a perfect time for us to fulfill our desire to travel to Italy. It has been in our bucket list to see the Sorrentine Peninsula and the Amalfi Coast. Through

the internet, vlogs and you tube, we were able to book flights, hotels, and tours to form our itinerary.

From Houston, we flew to Naples via Frankfurt and Munich. Naples was only an hour away to the Hotel Plaza in Sorrento which became our base for the next few days. Sorrento is a town perched on a terrace like cliff overlooking the sea. It is surrounded by citrus groves and olive



trees. The streets are narrow and some with cobbled stones with picturesque balconies and artisan workshops. As you go down and out of Sorrento, the road widens to the North and opens to view the famous Mt. Vesuvius, a volcano that erupted in 79 A.D. which “froze” the city of Pompeii with ash and lava. Its streets, temples, baths, and market stalls locked in time gave us an amazing glimpse into the life of a typical Roman town over 2,000 years ago. Casts of victims which were immediately frozen depict how quickly the victims perished in this catastrophic event.

The Amalfi Drive is known to be one of the most picturesque drives of a lifetime. It includes the towns of Sorrento, Positano, Amalfi, Ravello, Maiori and a lot more. The roads of Amalfi features hair raising switchbacks and plunging drops to the sea with stunning views of towns and villages with houses perched on top of rugged mountains. The valleys are filled with lemon trees, olive groves and verdant forests.

Positano is a destination known for its pastel colored houses set against cliffs and lemon trees. A tile domed church, a pebbled beach front and steep narrow streets lined with boutiques and cafes make it one of the jewels of the Amalfi Coast.

The Amalfi town is another graceful place. The Cathedral of St. Andrews with

its ornate architecture is a must see. The town displays a cluster of white buildings which gleam like pearls shining along the coast. Villas clinging to the cliffs surrounded by luscious greenery and terraces scaling the mountainside are always an artist’s delight.

Ravello is a resort town set at 365 meters above the Tyrrhenian Sea which is home to iconic cliffside gardens. We visited the Moorish styled Villa Rufolo which offers far reaching views from its terraced gardens which date back to the 13th century. A stroll through the grounds unfolds centuries of history and boasts magnificent works of art.

The Isle of Capri is a chic island and a first-rate luxury playground since the Roman times. It is the most beautiful island in the Bay of Naples. It has attracted emperors, artists, poets, musicians, and revolutionaries for centuries who come for the balmy climate, rugged coastlines, and white-washed villages and the lushness of its hilly interiors. An exciting chairlift to the top of Mt. Solaris gave us a breathtaking 360 degrees view of the Gulf of Naples with Mt. Vesuvius in the background, the Gulf of Salerno, the town of Anacapri, the Isle of Ischia, and the incomparable beauty of the colors of the sea around us.

No wonder the Amalfi Coast is listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It is definitely a sight to see! Add it to your

bucket list! We did...and we came...we saw...and we were conquered! We could not help but praise God for this awesome experience. “Praise the Lord, O Give thanks to the Lord, for He is Good. His Love endures forever!” ///Dan&Emy

Suaviter Birthday celebrators

Birthday celebrators for July, August and September 2019: Inday Tiangco (5 Jul), Juliet Wong (15 Jul), Marilou Abanes (20 Jul), Marle Noble (15 Aug), Menjie Erfe (18 Aug), Mone’ Carranza (24 Aug), Ingging Begonia (27 Aug). Rene Aguda (5 Sep), Dan Reventar (7 Sep), Pacoy Chanco (8 Sep), Benjie Defensor (12 Sep), Vikki Brillantes (15 Sep), Chris Abanes (16 Sep), Jake Duller (22 Sep) and Pol Gange (23 Sep).

My swan song...

Due to limitations my health condition now impose on me, I have requested Prez Jimmy to designate another Mistah to write our Class Calls effective this Oct-Dec 2019 Cavalier issue. Before then, I’d like to extend my sincerest thanks to ALL Mistahs and Suaviter Ladies who contributed to our Class Call articles over the past year or so! Thanks also for your kind and inspiring words...It has been my pleasure and distinct privilege to contribute to this class effort. Hasta la vista, Mistah!



///bingbo’69



The Magiting Cl ‘70 (golfers and nongolfers) met after lunch last Monday, Aug 11, at the Camp Aguinaldo Golf Club. 11 regular and four honorary members were in attendance. Preparations for the Feb 2020 alumni homecoming were taken up.

The following items in the agenda were also discussed, to wit:

1. The Veterans Memorial Medical Center Annex project had started. The Consunjis thru DMCI will be the project contractor; Vic Signey, the project supervisor/coordinator. The project is set for completion by the

1st qtr of 2020. It entails a financing cost of P27M. The VMMC wing will have 12 rooms: 8 regulars and 4 suites. Those in attendance were unanimous in the plan, together with those absent yet fully supportive and unwavering in commitment, to undertake a vigorous fund-raising campaign. This project was conceived last year, with commitment of full support coming from Roy Cimat, Romy Acop, Nesty Carolina, honorary members Bert Tagayuna, Alo Murillo, Tony Ilagan, and Yully Sevilla, PVAO, Bert Lina, and the rest of the class.

The class treasurer, Vic Signey, rendered a report of the funding status of the project. There is surely a substantial shortfall of funds availability. This necessitates a more vigorous fund-raising efforts if we are to see the project reach a successful completion. “Healing from sickness could hopefully be attained in style

and comfort,” the class prexy commented in all sincerity and candor.

2. On the golden anniversary of the class next year, the mas Magitings strongly broached the idea of Gov. Jun Ebdane’s Potipot Island connect by Monday, 16 Feb 2020, after the PMA homecoming. Understandably, no one was too brave enough to get in the way. The locals even expressed their strong support to the idea after hearing Nesty’s convincing testimonial.

3. Additionally, Vic Signey gave an assurance that the regular class members will be booked together at the Baguio Country Club.

4. Other matters: “The class secretary is always short on ideas to contribute to the Cavalier Class Calls. Please help him by feeding him some past or future events that are worthy of publication,” said the class president.





Plans for the Golden Jubilee Celebration of the Matatags

As early as 2018, the class organization under the leadership of Egay Aglipay had started planning for the big event in February 2021, our 50th anniversary. Egay had tasked all the Vice Presidents of the different service groups and also the FBMs or foreign based mistahs. For the uniform and the after-math Committee chaired by Jerry Albano, he had recommended the charcoal colored suit and pants plus another pair of pants colored gray. The former will be worn during the class ball while the suit with gray pants will be worn during the alumni parade. This will be complemented with Havana Hat and gold tie. As this was already approved in several meetings, the Treasurer, Rey Velasco, had already contacted a tailor and the cost was discussed during the 3rd quarter class meeting last 4 August although it was requested that he would negotiate further to lower the cost. The after-math events were spelled out by Jerry. These are activities after the alumni parade that will start two days later. There were tourist sites mentioned to be chosen by mistahs and their ladies like trip to Baler, Palawan, Los Banos, and Tagaytay. They will just choose one. On billeting, accommodations were already reserved at BCC and John Hay Manor. A sort of "assignment" list was already prepared by Dong Tabamo and Rey Rivera who is being assisted by Amba Jun Paynor. Vice President for PAF Group

Boy Castellano is closely coordinating with the Mas-Matatag the coffee table book project. Jinggoy Martinez and Verna Albano already announced the requirements, namely photos of the couple, family picture, and photos of "apos". Boy Caste also requested all mistahs to submit their "untold stories" to mistah Rollie Malinis, our class historian and author of the Book II, via email. This is a painstaking job for Rollie and we appreciate his best efforts in this endeavor. Ang siste, eh maraming magans sa '71 or mahilig mag rally. For the Sunshine Committee of Vice President for the Navy Group Bing Alano, his committee has done a lot in "reconnecting" with our long lost mistahs. Just recently, his group visited mistah Ralph Flores in Angeles City, Ed Mana-ay in Quezon City, Bay Seron and Arpee Santos in Lipa City during the golf sortie of the Matatag Golfers there, and also, the recent attendance in our latest class meeting of mistahs Jimmie de la Cruz and Jess Paredes. Of course there are still several mistahs who are still "MIA" during our fellowships but Bing's committee

is not giving up in locating them. To all mistahs, let us cooperate and prepare for this momentous occasion.

Matatag Class gave honors, appreciation to Mistahs Ping, Greg, and Aris

During the 3rd quarter class meeting last 4 August 2019, the class showed its appreciation to the efforts of our three classmates who worked hard for the lifting of the suspension of the pension indexation with the signing by His Excellency President Rodrigo Roa Duterte of Joint Resolution no. 1 series of 2018. The total MUP pension indexing will amount to at least P50 billion in 2019 and annually thereafter, benefitting more than 220,000 pensioners. By now, all Military and Uniformed Personnel had received their much-awaited increase in pension that started last June.

In his speech, Prexy Egay described the efforts of Ping and Greg as **3 Cs**.

Committed – to all MUP that the indexation be restored and funded;

Consistent – even when their fight was



challenged. When there were attempts to derail it, they did not lose their hearts in accomplishing it;

Champions – they did not stop until they won the war on the restoration of indexation.

On the other hand, Egay described the efforts of Aris as **3 Ps**.

Passionate – For he sacrificed a lot to get the indexation. He spent not only time and money but health challenging stress in defending a cause which was already lost to EO 201;

Persistent – Even when some PMA alumni were toying the idea of giving it up, he


stood his ground and pursued the fight;

Perfect – He is the perfect person to lead the war, he being intelligent and a man of unquestionable integrity.

Fellowships and golf

The Matatag golfers who called themselves Hampas Lupa '71 had fun and laughter during their sorties at the different fairways for this quarter. Individual hostings were done now by benevolent mistahs which was started by Egay at the Summit Golf Course, followed by Rey Acop at the Valley Golf Course, then By Bing Alano at the Hacienda Luisita Fairways,

then again by Rey Acop at East Ridge Golf Course, and lately by Rey Velasco hosted in Southlinks Golf Course . The next host will be Joey at the South Forbes Golf Course on 28 August to be followed on 11 September at the Riviera Fairways to be hosted by all September borne mistahs led by Egay, Dick de Leon, Rex Piad, Tex Balmaceda, and Rene Paredes.

Quote for this Issue: *“Challenges are what makes life interesting and overcoming them is what makes life meaningful”* – Joshua J. Marine/20 Aug 2019 



Warm greetings to all, the Masigasig way.

Here are the updates of class activities for the months of July to August.

3rd Quarter Social/Fellowship:

The 3rd quarter social/fellowship was held last June 15 at Ogbinar Hall, Philippine Navy Golf Club. In attendance were fifty six (56) mistah who availed of free anti-flu vaccines, courtesy of the Class. As planned, it was a low key and simple fellowship without fanfare except for the singing session by Masigasig balladeers.

There was no dancing session we used to have during the previous socials. This was so since we were still mourning the death of Mistah Raffy Vilches. Of course, we had the traditional presentation and greetings to our birthday celebrators for the months of June and July. Incidentally, it was Fathers' Day the next day (Sunday) so Yolly, Alyn and company thought of something different as a tribute to all fathers who were present. The idea was for the ladies to write down in the piece of paper the adjectives and attributes (good or bad) that aptly describe their respective husbands after the exciting and memorable years of being together. That was the game plan. Having done that, Alyn started reading and writing the revelations of the ladies such as: *Makulit, Madaling ma-irritate, magaling magluto, mahilig manood ng basketball, mahina pandinig, mahilig mag garden,*

pikon, caring, magaling magpatawa, understanding, very hot, kuripot, ma-alalahanin, at iba. It was worthwhile to note, that nobody mentioned mahilig sa babae. So it is obvious that we are faithful to our respective Kaydet Girls, he he he. We really enjoyed the idea of Yolly and Alyn. Next time, it will be the husband's time to reciprocate and do the same. With that we thank the Ladies Working group for the success of that simple but memorable fellowship/social. We also thank Manong Ben for the usual pandesal con hamon and bottles of red wine. Thanks also go to Gene and Monying for providing a One Man Band with no expense from the Class fund. Kudos also to the ladies of Working Group led by Alyn Lacerna. Mabuhay kayong lahat.

Class Meeting:

The Class Officers/Trustees met last August 8 at Hole in One Function Room of

PNGC. Also, in attendance were the Ladies of Working Group, Egay and Mila Paguio, Babes Flores and Angie Vilches, who was here to follow up pertinent documents for pension claims and other benefits as a result of Raffy's death.

During the meeting, it was agreed that the 4th quarter social and Christmas Party be held as one special event on Dec 1, 2019. The venue and program will be decided yet during the next meeting. As regard to the 2020 Homecoming, the uniform will be green-apple colored T-shirt to be matched with blue class jacket and black pants. The schedule/program of activities will be finalized later as there are other options open for discussion.

For the visitations and reach-out programs, the Ladies Working Group will to come up with proposals for notification of the Board during the next special meeting. For other matters, Manny Teodosio laid down the concepts on the preparation of the Golden Sword. Relatedly, he was requested to present the plan and costing of the project for deliberation of the Board. For other matters Prez Pol requested Board approval of donating 5k each to the PMAAAI golf tournament and PMA Foster Parents Association respectively.

Class news updates:

-Angie Vilches was in town last August to process pertinent documents with regards to the pension and other benefits due to her. She was ably assisted by this writer in coordinating the availability of transient rooms inside Camp Aguinaldo and in the processing of other claims from PMAAAI, BIRC and OTAG. Pol and Alyn Lacerna treated her for dinner last Aug 18 before she leaves for California on Aug 26.

-The Masigasig golfers held a fellowship golf tournament in Couple Course, Riviera Golf Course last Aug 15. There were losers and winners but the whole idea is more of fellowship and bulahizing session. The last phase of this tournament is on November at PNGC. Let's be there.

-Mistah Babes Flores will resign in October to relinquish the Presidency of BIRC to Espines. This was the agreement during last Annual BIRC General Membership meeting last January. To Babes, congratulations for the job well done. To Espines, congrats as well. We wish you good

luck and rest assured of our full support.

-Starting last quarter of this year, the Cavalier Magazine will be issued on quarterly basis not bi-monthly as practiced before.

Birthday greetings:

The Masigasig family extend its greetings and felicitations to the following celebrators; Aug: Tony Simangan, Edsel Lumawag, Melba Buenaventura, Gil Batestil, Orly Ambrocio, Rosie Rosete, and Olive Oliveros (dec); Sept: Bobby Santos, Elsie Castro, Renee Ignacio, Queck Ebuena, Rudy Aguinaldo (dec), Dulce Bismonte, Suzette Sabado, Pepe Vidad, Freddie de Veyra, Ernie De Leon, Jun Luspo (dec), Leony Narcida, Paco Fuentes and Alex Quirante.

Words to live by:

"Remember, if you ever need a helping hand, you'll find one at the end of your own hand. As you grow older, you'll discover

that you have two hands, one for yourself, the other for your helping others"
...Audrey Hepburn.

Till next class call. Happy reading to all... /oslec. 🇵🇭





Of late, there are not much class activities held by the class except the usual birthday celebrations, golf tournaments, and small group gathering. Here under are the pictorials of the said activities:

I. GOLF TOURNAMENTS

PMA Corps 70-79 Golf Tournament and Fellowship at PNGC on March 13, 2019



(L-R: Willy Garcia, Sonny Razon, Ed Doromal, Rene Rieza, and Lito Gutierrez)



Philippine Military Academy 2nd Quarter 2019 Corps of 70 / Retired Cavaliers Golf Fellowship

Date: May 29, 2019

Venue: Villamor Air Base Golf Course

Tee-Off: 0630H, Shotgun

Awarding: 1200H, VABGC Clubhouse

Mistahs Larry Doria and Tony Ramos golfed with some upperclassmen: Archie Almario 71, Irwin Ver 70 and Rey Rivera 71 on 15 July 2019 in a friendly game at Presidio Golf Course, San Francisco... Of course they lost...That's the right thing to do!

AGCC on 3 Aug 2019, golf bonding on a rainy day: L- R Ricky dela Paz, Willy Garcia, Pons Crucero and Romy Buenaflor.

Congratulations to Mistah Rene Rieza for his second hole-in-one at hole # 11, North Course, Valley Golf Course, Antipolo on 3 May 2019 witnessed by mistahs Sonny Razon and Amy Tolentino.

Congratulations to Mistah Jun Noble for being the 1st Runner-up Class A and Longest putt winner during PSPG-PMA CI 91 Golf at Aguinaldo-June 19, 2019



II. BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS



Birthday celebration of Mistah Dante Jimenez at PNGC on 17 Aug 2019: L-R seated Pete Tan, Jun Noble, Ricky dela Paz, Joe Onchangco, the celebrant Dante Jimenez, Danny Bocobo, Pons Crucero , Lito Gutierrez...standing L- R Manny Carta,Boy Miranda,Sonny Tolentino, Lito Gamit, Roland Rodriguez.



L-R Roland Rodriguez, Damian Caloy Carlos, Roggie Calunsag, Pons Crucero, Dante Jimenez, Lito Gutierrez, Pete Ramboanga, Joe Ongchangco, Boy Bernal, Jun Abueg.

III. SMALL GROUP GATHERING



Nice PRRD fist : L-R Ricky dela Paz,Boy Miranda, Jun Esperon, Pons Crucero, Damian Carlos.



Mistah Oca Mallabo had a buffet dinner with Mistah Romy Mayo at Pechanga Resort and Casino, Temecula, Riverside, LA.




Bonding and chika chika of Marangal CAFGUS at CAFGU Hqs on 3 July 2019: L - R Rody Obaniana, Aji Gutierrez, Gene Cedo, Danny Bocobo, Dante Rillorta, Jun Noble, Pons Crucero, Tato Salud and Lito Gamit.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRANTS

Happy birthday to all July, August, and September celebrants. In the end, it is not the years in your life that count. It is the life in your years. Cheers!

July: 03 - Jack Binuya, 13 - Pete Tan, 22 - Lito Gamit, and 22 - Nick Pasinos.

August: 01 - Pete Cruz, 02 - Rogie Calunsag, 02 - Pons Crucero, 02 - Lito Gutierrez, 03 - Jun Abueg, 06 - Lakay Lagasca, 16 - Nap Concepcion, 21 - Aji Gutierrez, and 24 - Romy Tolentino.

September: 06 - Eugene Totoy Cedo, 10 - Oscar Mallabo, 12 - Allen Querubin, 18 - Joe Barbieta, 22 - Skeet Nano, 23 - Bobby Bayona, 25 - Jun Noble, 27 - Damian Carlos, and 27 - Sonny Razon. 



Small group gathering at AGFO, Camp Aguinaldo July 15, 2019
L-R Jun Abueg, Gene Cedo, Pons Crucero, Aji Gutierrez, Bong Franco, Sonny Razon, Jun Noble, Manny Carta.



“GOOD HEALTH IS THE MOST IMPORTANT THING. MORE THAN SUCCESS. MORE THAN MONEY. MORE THAN POWER.”

The Magilas Class Mid-year Assembly was successfully held last July 17 at the PNGC. In spite of the heavy rains and floods, 32 Magilas gentlemen were present. Highlights of the affair were the

Report by Pres Epoy Marayag, Class Fund status by Treas Carly Divinagracia, BIRCI updates by Director Joey Salvacion, and announcement of future CLASS ACTIVITIES by Sec Cholo Carlos. Four Magilas gentlemen were recognized for reaching the age of 65. They were Sonny Cachuela from “A” Coy, Sammy Narcise from “B” Coy, Rody Maclang from “C” Coy, and Toto Golez from “D” Coy. The four were proudly introduced by close mistahs, and thereafter gave their short inspiring life story and important messages to classmates. As of today, a total of 69 mistahs have reached 65 years old and beyond. A few more are to follow this year and next year.

For the Rest of 2019 schedule of activities, Mistahs **PLEASE TAKE NOTE AND BE PRESENT:**

Magilas Charity Golf tournament on Oct 21 at the PNGC. Tournament Director Ely dela Paz

Christmas party on Dec 8, 2019 at the PA Officer’s Clubhouse. OIC Nonong Cayton

The Magilas Charity Golf Tournament is the biggest fund raising activity of the class having contributed adequately to support class programmed activities for the past several years. Golf Tournament Chairman, Ely dela Paz announced that this year’s event will be held at PNGC on Oct 21. No major changes in tournament rules will be implemented.

Company supervisors are again given solicitation letters for distribution and delivery to prospective patrons. **LET US ALL SUPPORT THIS ACTIVITY PHYSICALLY AND FINANCIALLY.**



Other Magilas Projects and Member's Activities

The Class is in the final stages in sponsoring two VIP rooms at the VMMC . Mistah Pol Bataoil has also sponsored another room in behalf of the class. Finally, we are proud to be part of the high class medical facility that is VMMC. In the future, veterans and retirees will avail of these medical services if needed. Speaking of medical services, Let us continue to pray and support our Magilas mistahs who at present have medical issues. Paji Pajarito and Nat Legaspi. The latest news is that they are responding well to treatments and we hope for their full recovery soon.

Another project initiated by the Board is the investment in two branches of Andok's Chicken. With the help of our generous Mistah Sandy Javier, these two branches are expected to earn profitably and contribute to our class fund.

Till next time Mistahs, Let's all take care of ourselves and be more active in Class activities and discussions. Sabi nga ni Joey, we should make use of these twilight years of our lives socializing with classmates and friends at every opportunity available. More Happy Hours and Birthday celebrations should be enjoyed.


BIRTHDAY CELEBRANTS

Our felicitations to the following Magilas who are celebrating their special day:

JULY: 3-Joe Montelibano, 4- Ramon Punzalan, 9-Raul Caballes, 11- Maning Busa, 16-Nelson Allaga, 22-Licinius Abadiano, 29- Alex Resngit, 31- Jose Gamos

AUG: 1-Ed Acuña, 2-Tony Fontanilla, 11-Nanie Perez, 21-Eppie Comahig, 27-Edwin Ditangco, 30 - Carly Divinagracia

SEPT: 5- Sendong Ferrer, 11- Chris Tanabe, 16- Cholo Carlos, 19- Joel Goltiao, 23- Pete Labiano.

Enjoy your special day and may you continue to be a blessing to others. 





RIC A DAVID JR
Pangulo
VIXI ABAT
Kalihim

**MAG-ULAT!
SERVICE**

1. Dick MORALES is Pres & CEO, Phil Health Insurance Corp. PhilHealth deals with health care financing and is attached to the DOH. [All senior citizens are mandatorily covered by PhilHealth.]

2. Nic OJEDA is technical consultant in Dept of Info and Commo Technology (DICT).

SPORTS

1. Masikap golfers participate in 'Battle of the Classes' golf fellowship in Villamor Golf Club in Pasay City. Fore!

2. World Speed Shooting Championship - Limited Division. Shooter Benjie BELARMINO is first placer in foreign category. He is second placer in senior category. Benjie is #30 overall in Magnus Cup, USA.

TSIKENKLAB

Frolics continue during regular Wednesday lunches, during birthday treats, or during visits of overseas mistahs. US-based Bob RIBAY hosts lunch in PN Golf Club. Merry senior "freedom fighters" have chutzpah.

TAPS

May 25.

Army retiree Henry CINCO dies in Cagayan de Oro City after a lingering illness. He rests in peace. Condolence to the family.

MOTHER'S DAY

We hail the Masikap mothers! There is no role in life that is more essential than that of motherhood.


~pag-aruga na walang kapantay.

~pagmamahal na walang hinihintay na kapalit.

FATHER'S DAY

Big salute and loud cheers to Masikap fathers! May we be blessed not just today but for each day of our lives. May the force be with us!

POST-ELECTIONS

Some Masikap couples attended the thanksgiving dinner hosted by senator-elect Cynthia Villar in Gloria Maris, Greenhills. 





ANTONIO I SUPNET
President
RENATO A DAVID
Secretary

The Matapats just celebrated its 40th Ruby Anniversary at the hallowed grounds of Fort del Pilar last February. It seemed like it was only yesterday that we were cutting corners, complying to orders and exercising in the hallways that looked like it was never-ending.

After 40 years, we knew the lessons of plebehood and apply it as Senior citizens. "As each Saturday adds to our past," has a new meaning. But undauntingly, we move and we move graciously.

These days, we all talk about "social integration." It is the art of aging in a delightful manner, choosing the conditions we want. When we were plebes, we never had the chance to choose. We just live with it; in an environment we never chose.


As Seniors, we have the privilege to choose what we want and come to an environment of our choice. Social Integration taught us to come and see not just the old friends, but friends of old. Hence, we see more often our Grade School classmates, High School Classmates, Mistahs and families that PMA so bonded.

Our very able Class President is guiding us to lead that kind of life. I'm referring to Mark Supnet. He would always tell us that as MISTAHs, we travel the untraveled parts of the world. This year, several Mistahs and their respective wives travelled to Myanmar, Cambodia, Vietnam and some parts of Europe. What a gracious way to age.

This first semester, the Matapat Army Group came together in three different occasions for a dinner. The first dinner was organized by Mistah Boyghee Pangilinan while the other two by Titan Kison. And

more importantly, it was a free dinner, funds from proceeds of fund-raising events.

We also had a fun-filled time at the STRUMM's Bar in Makati where we reminisced the good old songs of the 70's and 80's. What a way to age graciously.

And by the way, we have another STRUMM's event sponsored by the PMA Matapat Class at 7:00 p.m. on September 24, 2019. See you all there for another "SOCIAL INTEGRATION." 



The "MATAPATS" in Siem Reap, Cambodia.



NICANOR A BARTOLOME
President
JEOFREY R TUPAS
Secretary

It has just been a few months since the class participated in the 2019 PMAAAI Homecoming events, and here we are, ever busy once again making preparations for our impending and much-awaited Mapitagan 40th 'Ruby' anniversary during the 2020 PMAAAI Homecoming. I'm sure there are a lot of things going through our minds on how this supposed extraordinary "every 5-years only" event would play out. Nevertheless, challenging as it may seem to be, it would all depend on how we all plan in making it a successful one.

As we all faithfully believe in the Divine Providence and Intercession, I have asked for a little help from one of our "pastors" – Jardie-teleman, to lead us all into a solemn prayer of Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving and Supplication to obtain Our Lord's blessings in whatever state in life we are in to include all our plans and activities:

Prayer for all of us:

"Hindi lahat ng tao ay binibigyan ng pagkakataon na mabuhay ng matagal, kaya tayong mga biniyayaan ng mahabang buhay ay dapat na magpasalamat sa Panginoon sa bawat araw na tayo ay nabubuhay. Lord, pinupuri ka namin,

sinasamba ka namin at pinasasalamat ka namin dahil sa dakila mong kaluwalhatian. Ikaw ang aming gabay, sandalan at lakas sa araw araw. Panginoon, itinataas namin sa iyo ang mga kasapi ng PMA 80, sampu ng aming mga mahal sa buhay. Ilayo po ninyo kami sa lahat ng kapahamakan, mabibigat na karamdaman, masasamang gawa ng mga kaaway at sa lahat ng sakuna. Bigyan po ninyo kami ng pagkain sa araw araw at tagumpay sa lahat ng aming nilalahukan. Panginoon hipuin ninyo ng inyong mapagpalang kamay ang bawat isa sa amin para kami ay patuloy na maging matalino at mahusay sa aming mga gawain, bigyan ninyo kami ng lakas para labanan ang bawat hamon at

pagsubok ng buhay at bigyan ninyo kami ng pagkakaisa, pagmamahalan at pagtutulungan para patuloy na maging isang matibay na samahan."

Thank you, mistah for that wonderful prayer – a God-given perspective in what to ask for!

Updates on Mapitagan

After the PMAAAI Homecoming activities, a few things happened....And, here are some of them:



On June 21, 2019, a team led by Mistah Ces Ordoyo and a number of Mapitagans visited our mistah Eldon Nemenzo at his home in Bacolod as an important part of an itinerary. About 56 Mapitagans and one Sandigan gave contributions for Eldon’s medical needs. Thanks to all of you!!!



For the April & May-born mistahs, a joint fellowship lunch hosted by the celebrators was again held at Gloria Maris, Greenhills last 23 May. It was again a joke-filled and tummy filling event as usual.

Birthday Celebrators for the month of April

- 7 Efren Yebra
- 11 Raoul Reyes
- 12 Dante Costes
- 20 Leo Kison
- 23 Jojie Segovia
- 30 Larry Dela Cruz

Birthday Celebrators for the month of May:

- 3 Danny Siongco
- 7 Bobby Calleja
- 10 Cesar Yano
- 11 Nelson Nario
- 14 Manding Guzman
- 17 Jardi Mantele
- 19 Tino Pereyra
- 27 Raffy Torres
- 28 Emil Sarmiento

Last 12 June, attended by a record-breaking 33 mistahs, a sumptuous fellowship and birthday lunch was held at Tamarind Resto at SM Aura, Taguig City for the June-born celebrators.

Birthday Celebrators for the month of June:

- 11 Ric Pasamba
- 14 Chuck Chua Chiaco
- 17 Jess Lomeda
- 17 Del Lorenzo
- 20 Roque Ramirez
- 22 Dante Taliño
- 25 Gil Meneses

It was followed by a phase two celeb last June 27 at the Easy Tiger, 2nd floor Veranda Area, Uptown, BGC in honor of and a-once-in a-lifetime blowout of Magnificent Sam, who incidentally just made a ‘Hole-In-One’ (actually the 5th in his golfing career) at the Back 9, Hole No. 2, Kagitingan using his #1 pitching iron!! It was again a fun event as expected. 🏌️‍♂️





Hello everyone! We have been quiet in this forum for a while. Anyway, much has happened these past months. We have been regularly meeting during our monthly fellowships. After our first meeting at the Coffee Project in BGC, this was followed by a series of gatherings. In April, Jojie and Fil Rojas sponsored the activity at the Philippine Army

In one of our viber group discussions, Prez AlanL proposed to have an organizational meeting in preparation for our hosting in 2021 PMA Alumni Homecoming, as part of the celebration of our 40th year Anniversary. Thus on 27 June, Cav MarA sponsored lunch at his office in PSMBFI to discuss the plans for 2021. Presided by our Class Prez, the group came up with several committees to oversee the preparation. Please note that the members were selected and voted upon in absentia, so kindly raise your violent objection, if there are any, to the Prez, that is, if you can take, he he. The following are the committees and their respective heads:

- Uniform Committee**
 Cav Rene Samonte - Chairman
 Cav George Catameo
 Cav Bobot Laciste
 Cav Art Vidad
 Cav Jolly Mabanta

- Ways and Means Committee**
 Cav Jimbo Bernardino – Chairman
 Cav Mar Avenido
 Cav Norman Legaspi
 Cav Nap Estilles
 Cav Dan Servando
- Program Committee**
 Cav Oca Lopez – Chairman
 Cav Nick Dolojan
 Cav Mike Asperin
 Cav Sonny Tutaan
 Cav Gil Hitosis

- Billeting Committee**
 Cav Yerson Depayso – Chairman
 Cav George Demot
 Cav Paght Hernandez
 Cav Onyot Mendoza
 Cav AnthonyYenko

Any particular concern may be raised to the respective Committee Chairman, through our viber group. Constant announcements will be disseminated so please keep in touch.

Just recently, we had our July fellowship activity at the La Creperie in White Plains, Quezon City, sponsored by our birthday boys, the former Chiefs of Staff, Cav Manny Bautista and Cav Greg Catapang. Despite the inclement weather, we had a good number of Dimalupigs and Manlulupigs that graced the occasion. Mistahs who we seldom see, also came to greet the celebrators namely Cav Cha Sanchez, Cav Jonas Sumagaysay, Cav



At Mabanta's Residence in Pililia



Birthday Celebration at La Creperie





Birthday boys- Former Chiefs of Staff, AFP

Officers' Clubhouse, to coincide with Jojie's birthday. The month of May saw the Dimalupig family travel all the way to the Mabanta residence in Pililia, Rizal. Those who joined were overwhelmed with the preparation made by Jolly and Gigi, not to mention the magnificent view in their little paradise. Also during this month, four of our foreign-based mistahs were welcomed with a party at the PNGC Clubhouse. Present during the occasion were Cav Abu Sarin bin Baha, our Malaysian mistah, who came over for a business venture; Cav Ed Punay, Cav James Dullas and Cav Levi Cleofe, all from the United States. The talents of the Dimalupigs and Manlulupigs were again showcased during this event. The activity was very successful despite the short preparation. For the month of June, it was a regular meeting held at the UCC Coffee Shop in BGC.

Richard Sigaan, Cav Jun Querol, Cav Mike Saquisame and Cav Rolex Suplico. As if to highlight the end of the party, our Prez collected all Senior Citizen cards to avail of the privileges for being one. The waiter was overwhelmed with the sheer number.

Oh by the way, also during this occasion, we expressed our congratulations to mistah, Cav Rene Samonte for being designated or “demoted”, from Major General to Sergeant-at-Arms of the Senate. You make the Dimalupig family proud.

Finally, we would like to express our gratitude to the mistahs who sponsored the fellowship activities. Mabuhay kayo. A gentle reminder to all - Keep safe, stay healthy and enjoy our retirement. God bless everyone. 



ELMER R SORIA
President
PHILIP S FORTUN
Secretary

“Man, born of woman, is short-lived and glutted with agitation,”

observed the patriarch Job (Job 14:1).

How vital that we do not waste our short life on worthless concerns and endeavors! What pursuits then should occupy our time, energy, and resources? Which ones should be avoided? The words of wisdom recorded in the Bible book of Ecclesiastes give sound guidance for us. *“For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, ...and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart”* (Hebrews 4:12). Truly, this book can help us live a meaningful life! Just sharing, mga mistah.

And so, time flies. Over the period covered, our Class had been active, individually and collectively, with some highlights noted as follows:

A.) On 27 July 2019, our Class rendered a Testimonial Dinner and Recognition Night in honor of the following Sandigans who won in the just-concluded elections: Rambo DG (Mayor, Sta Teresita, Cagayan)



and Benjie M. (Mayor, Baguio City). Also given due recognition were our honorary members, namely: Faustino Dy III (Vice-Governor, Isabela), Richard Gomez (Mayor, Ormoc City), Roy Loyola (Mayor, Carmona, Cavite), and Julius Cesar Vergara (Vice-Mayor, Cabanatuan City). Said dinner was facilitated and hosted by the PSAI BOT, which was held at the PNOC, BNS in Taguig City. Congratulations, mga mistah! May your service to our people be punctuated with unwavering integrity and total commitment.



B.) On 31 July 2019, the prowess of our golfers were again tested when we hosted the “Sandigan ‘82 Challenge” at the VAB Golf Course in Pasay City. More than 100 of the best players of PMA Classes ‘81, ‘82, ‘83, ‘84, and ‘85 attended the fun-filled event, which was capped with much bolahizing and kayahizing, where the Closing and Awarding Program, of course, was fearlessly emceed by our talented and intrepid Cris L.!



C.) Last 10 August 2019, our beloved PMA hosted the 40th Anniversary of the Baguio-PMA Host Parents Association, Inc. where due recognition was given to the pioneering host parents of the Program of which, we, the Sandigan Class of 1982,

were the first beneficiaries of the said Program. In appreciation thereof, a fitting message to our host parents and their families was nostalgically and eloquently

delivered by our very own Baguio City Mayor Benjie Magalong. The Execom of the BPMAHPAI, of which our equally humble Erwin L. is a key member, did a splendid job in steering the activities to its successful culmination. Truly, these two Sandigan mistahs of ours best illustrate that excellence and humility can go hand-in-hand in carrying out real and meaningful public service! Well done, mga mistah!

Kudos, too, to your ever-supportive wives Arlene M. and Amelie L., for we know of their loving efforts and fervent

prayers for your successes. *Natural talaga iyan sa mga misis ng Sandigan ‘82!* Whatever path our lives and careers took in whatever niche we excelled, we owe

in large part to our better halves who had been with us through our highs and lows. Truly, *maraming salamat sa inyo, mga mahal naming Kabiyak sa Buhay!*

And now, our warm greetings to our July and August celebrants!

For July birthdays: (02) Danny C.; (05) Matt A.; Bong A.; (09) Raffy M.; (12) Lyndel D.; Dado V.; (14) Udic M.; (16) Pastor DG.; Mel V.; (18) Leo N.; (19) Rambo DG.; Vic L.; (20) Joy “Guimoy” G.; (21) Willy B.; (22) Ed “Bae” L.; Louie M.; and (26) Geo V.


Wedding anniversaries: (05) Ric & Luz M.; (18) Rey & Cecille Y.; (19) Jinggie & Osang A.; (28) Bert & Marichu Y.; and (30) Alex & Millette L.

For August birthdays: (01) Rey Y.; (05) Elson T.; (06) Vic Y.; (07) August T.; (08) Audie D.; (09) Noli P.; (10) Jess M.; (12) Bong B.; Nick V.; (14) Chito T.; (20) Ed

I.; (22) Sander S.; (26) Danny P.; (28) Ric MarQ.; and Ric M.

Wedding anniversary: (08) Geo & Beng V.

We would also like to call to remembrance our beloved mistahs who have gone ahead of us who would surely have celebrated their birthdays with us had they been still around: Delfin Masalonga IV on August 05 and Cesar Tagulao on August 21.

In a few days, “Ber Months” na naman. May we all have peaceful and pleasant “ber months” ahead of us all! Stay healthy and happy, mga mistah! 

- JimMonta82-



Working Overseas: Just how good – if not, bad or difficult - it can be

The Class takes pride of the 44 or so Maharlikans who left the armed services early either as cadets or as regular members of the AFP in search of better lives in foreign soil. At the current trend, majority of them have established permanent residences in those countries, while some culminated their work ventures to retire in the Philippines. To everyone’s astonishment is the strength of the umbilical cord they continue to nurture in nearly four decades, keeping them connected with the Mother Class.

For how good – if not, bad or difficult – does it take to start all over again to work overseas?

Consensually, they admitted that it was not, at all, a stroll in amusement parks, or meals partaken in silver plates. The financial stupor they enjoy today was achieved not without a price to pay, but a product of long, infallible patience, and faith in themselves.

For Orac Caro who worked with the United Nations since 2001, and July Julian who followed him in 2010, their new jobs brought them to extremely dangerous, most inhospitable environments, facing security threats even more formidable

than the country’s communist and secessionist insurgencies. Orac saw the desolation of Sudan, Gambia, Somalia and Pakistan, while July was involved in Somalia and Mali campaigns, with Sudan, Somalia and Pakistan included in the highly-select Forbes List of world’s most dangerous countries, only surpassed by Afghanistan and Iraq. Where great powers of great interests collide, they witnessed, firsthand, the monstrosity and excesses of civil wars – heightened manslaughter, slavery, marginalization, use of child warriors and ethnic cleansing – the employment of which is essential in the ruling party’s quest for perpetual absolute rule, causing two million lives and displacing 2.5 million more. UN peacekeepers are not, likewise, spared. July missed ‘by the skin of his teeth’ the carnage by the Al-Shabaab terrorists of seven Tazmanian peacekeepers and wounding of 17 others on 13 October 2012 in the Darfur Region’s Manawashi to loot them of relief supplies to survive government reprisals. Their respective assignments at OJ3 and AFPCEISS, fundamentally, prepared them for these critical tasks. Danny Galapon also works at the UN Headquarters in Austria. The Class needs to establish his whereabouts.

Less disquieting, but no less difficult, are cases of Maharlikans who chose the nursing profession, recreating their mindset from “combatants to caring of combatants”. For academically outstanding Edwin Cheng and Rico Daquel, to take another four-year course and passing the licensure examination were about going back to their familiar territories. Edwin, initially, took up accounting at UCLA, however, later pursued nursing at College of Southern

Nevada. They now, respectively, live in San Francisco/Las Vegas and Los Angeles, California. Leo Primero is an RN, too, but shifted to IT when the US experienced a brief downturn spiral in demand for nurses in the 90s. Migrating to New Jersey, he settled for a night shift job, had to meet halfway Silver and kids at a MacDonald’s restaurant for a quick breakfast, delivered them to a nursery school and rest, while she had to drive herself to work.

Ageless Roger Santiano has one for the books. Passing the nursing licensure exam at age 51, he made the fete even more extraordinarily incredible - as a working-student, and a single-parent. Think again - a working-student, and a single-parent! Wowowie! Only Superman who underwent the Plebe Year could do that. Finding comfort in Seattle, Washington State, he is now on the 12th year taking care of the veterans who served the “land of the free and the home of the brave”.

Jay Vee Sampang (Chicago) and Alex Castro (Texas) have found personal fulfillment in the nursing profession, too, that, inarguably, bears the Filipino Soldiery’s dignity. They help patients take their lives back and rebuild the future they once lost. As selfless caregivers, they face contamination of infectious and transmissible diseases. Rene De Guzman and Jhing Fernandez are trained paramedics in California. They are specialist healthcare professionals who respond to on-scene emergency calls, undertaking critical, autonomous decisions saving lives.

Paul Peter Ong has elevated the medical profession to new heights of Maharlikan pride and nobility. He has established two day-care centers in Bakersfield, California, and, periodically,



advocates medical missions. He intends to put up in April 2020 a clinic, then a hospital, in San Mariano, Isabela to benefit the country's indigents and less-fortunate. Neo Urbina and his entire family are, likewise, engaged in the medical field and are, ever since settled in New Jersey. For the jocular and ever-entertaining Jun Salera, he has become an Engi-Nurse, however, not sojourning in foreign land, but in his native land, Cebu. Versatile Gio Masangcay is not a nurse but works in a UK mental health organization; not an engineer but works as Technical Services Administrator; not a teacher but designs e-learning training courses and modules. North of London is Dinky Jacinto who is a supervisor at an auto service center.

Before the lethargy of permanent retirement sets in, Thor Lidasan, Allen Lasam, and Nonito Tan-jo and Gel Sacramento pursued further employments after their respective stint with the US Navy. Thor is now an anesthesiologist, while Allen works as an actuary. Both have settled in California. Nonito Tan-jo, whose last assignment was in Sasebo, Japan as CPO, returned to the Department of Navy as civilian employee. Gel Sacramento has

enlisted his military expertise with a civilian logistics forwarder and, today, relishes the proud 1,500 year-old Polynesian culture of Hawaii. Three are with the US Federal Government of California—Benjie Baladad, organizer of the biggest Filipino/American Badminton Club of America, and, Carlo Nava, the frenzied badminton enthusiast who would later join him at the US Federal Postal Service; and, Mon Lozada, a Nurse Manager of the State Prison System. Rod Abcede has retired from the US Air Force service, too, and now in a delicate taking-care-of-his-grandsons mission in Colorado. Audie Embestro, founder and CEO of the Pentad Corporation, is reaping successes as food service provider to the US Military and Department of Interior, drawing valuable experience as Mess Officer in the Philippine Navy. He lives in Austin, Texas. While Frank Garce works at center of global and regional geopolitical rivalries in Saudi Arabia as the Executive Secretary of the Khafji Joint Operations Gas and Oil Company, Pete Hernandez enjoys New Zealand considered as the world's best retirement place due to its isolation.

Working in cold countries can be a very difficult experience. Where temperature

could reach the freezing point of -50C, that is almost thrice as cold as a household freezer, exposing you to cold weather diseases. For Nap Angeles, Willy Jimenez and Jhong Arevalo, security and safety are always their big issues, particularly in landing aircrafts on ice runways. Losing visibility in the midst of gusting winds is an agonizing wait for eternity until the visibility improves. Joel Bagasin skips the most advanced passenger jet liner Boeing 787 jet of Taiwan-based Eva Air, and continues to defend the Maharlikan trademark of resilience. Awarded the Most Valuable Pilot in 2017, he is settled in the laidback Bellevue, Washington State. In 1995, James Pacis sought employment in Indonesia, Australia, Thailand and Fiji in various capacities as Real Estate Developer, Immigration Consultant, English Language Instructor and Fitness Rehabilitation Instructor and Trainer. He closely supported his wife, Agnes, and provided hands-on guidance raising their son. He came back to retire in the Philippines in 2015. Like James, Jess de Castro has retired in the Philippines after a flying job in Guam in 2007. He had a flourishing AFP career as a naval pilot involved in anti-smuggling campaign; search and rescue during the Ormoc flash flood; and, extinguishment of southwestern Palawan forest fires. He is now performing 'apostolic duties' to his grandsons with his wife, Nancy.


Steve del Rosario's consistent brand of humility, humor and decorum enabled him to work with the world's famous and the glamorous, the rich and the very rich, and the powerful and the more powerful. Comfortable to admit that he was not even close as outstanding pilot as Jun Mison and Raul del Rosario, he completed post graduate studies in Business Administration, and served faithfully the world's top-notch hotels, resorts and golf courses – Marriott, LeMeridien, Trump, Millennium Hotel Collection and the Biltmore Millennium Hotels – jet setting to almost half of the Earth's surface - San Francisco, Kansas City, Los Angeles, Chicago, Guam, Saipan and Hawaii, all of USA; Canada; Caribbean; and, Southern America. He was exposed to retail trading of luxury items Muimui, Prada, Channel, Guici, Cartier, Ferragamo, etc. successfully outlasting the "You're fired!" hyper-octane, stress-filled environment of soon-to-be, now President Donald Trump.

Marine officers Milner de la Cruz,



and Jun Penola have silently retired in the Philippines, and Toronto, Canada, respectively. Jun and the rest of the foreign-based Mistahs have always provided the warm welcome, reception and a round of golf to Maharlikans visiting North America. Greg Pabelo is equally quiet after working with the Eurasia Carriers and the Jaka Group of Companies. Jijon Romales is in Canada recuperating from an illness. Working in foreign land is both survival and opportunity. Immortal mottos of Courage, Integrity, Loyalty make them more tolerant, creative, and globally thinking with competitive skills at international scale. Assimilation to new cultural values and standards is a tool of survival. They overcame racial differentiation, prejudices, and negative cultural stereotypes through hard work, moral fortitude and tenacity. For them failure is not an option.

They are the six million Filipinos in diaspora worldwide. With annual US\$ 26 Billion remittances, they keep the Philippine economy competitive, viably afloat, and their families survive the country's harsh economic and social realities.

Our lofty praises and highest respect to our modern-day heroes!
(Apologies that, due to space limitations, other Maharlikans abroad have not been covered in this article of their life-changing journeys.) 



Warm greetings from Sinagtala in spite of the stormy weather and rainy days! We take pride in congratulating the following for your triumphs and we wish you great success in your new duties as you take on greater responsibilities:

22 July 2019 - Senator Ronald "Bato" dela Rosa took oath as a senator together with the other 11 new senators during the first regular session for the 18th Congress.




Bato has filed his ten priority bills even before the opening of the 18th Congress. His first ten bills are:

- Revival of death penalty
- Mandatory ROTC in Grades 11 & 12
- Substance abuse prevention education in K-12 curriculum
- Regulating the use of government ambulances
- Expanding the use of the legal assistance fund for OFWs
- Police Scholarships
- Crisis Center for street children
- Barangay Peace and Order Council
- Job training program for mature or older workers
- Security of tenure for all casual and contractual employees
- Magna Carta of tricycle drivers and operators
- Strengthening the Comprehensive Dangerous Drug Act
- Modernization of the PNP
- Modernizing the crime investigation techniques of law enforcement
- Creation of Commission on Peace
- Regulating the sale, manufacture, distribution and use of firecrackers
- Mandating PNP personnel to wear body cam during operation

24 July 2019 – Donning of 2nd star of PMGen Timoteo G Pacleb, PNP's Director for Intelligence. Congrats Tim!!

***Class Project Update:** The painting of the class mural entitled "PAGHUBOG" has already been started. The class mural composed of five frames which will be mounted along the walls of PMA Academic Building (Melchor Hall) aims to inspire the cadets in the pursuit of excellence in their military careers.

***Birthday Greetings:** On your natal day, we wish you all the happiness, peace and joy as you enjoy every moment of your lives! 

Name	Birthdate
Cav Milfredo M Melegrito	05 Jul
Cav Manuel C Delgado Jr	06 Jul
Cav Antonio N Gardiola Jr	06 Jul
Cav Ferozaldo P T Regencia	07 Jul
Cav Melvin R G Buenafe	11 Jul
Cav Edwin C Roque	12 Jul
Cav Krestofel A Kiamco	15 Jul
Cav Pablo M Lorenzo	15 Jul
Cav Cezar O Mancao li	22 Jul
Cav Ronaldo S Diego	23 Jul
Cav Noli A Romana	29 Jul
Cav Joselio F Imperial	30 Jul
Cav Lemuel G Cantillas	01 Aug
Cav Ismael L Magtoto	01 Aug
Cav Noel A Baraceros	03 Aug
Cav Felimon T Santos Jr	03 Aug
Cav Felicisimo C Budiongan	06 Aug
Cav Allan T Varela	06 Aug
Cav Bienvenido R Datuin Jr	07 Aug
Cav Elpidio B Misolas Jr	12 Aug
Cav Adrian D Sanchez Jr	20 Aug
Cav Arthur M Biyo	23 Aug
Cav Rolando S Acop	29 Aug
Cav Leonardo Mananghaya Jr	30 Aug
Cav Archie Francisco F Gamboa	02 Sep
Cav Guillermo A Molina Jr	05 Sep
Cav Arnel M Duco	08 Sep
Cav Adriano M Gimutao	08 Sep
Cav Eddie B Benigay	09 Sep
Cav Elmo Francis O Sarona	10 Sep
Cav Eliseo T Rasco	13 Sep
Cav Aurelio C Trampe	16 Sep
Cav William Y Rigor	17 Sep
Cav Bismarck D Soliba	20 Sep
Cav Irving D Fajardo	22 Sep
Cav Timoteo G Pacleb	23 Sep
Cav Bayani G E Campos	24 Sep
Cav Wenceslao I Tapawan	28 Sep
Cav Benjamin M Castro	30 Sep



A group photo with Sen Bato and his staff.



MA NOEL T TOLENTINO
President
IVAN R PAPERÀ
Secretary

Overseas Bantay Layans!!!

The PMA Bantay Layans Class of 1994 graduated from PMA with Two Hundred Forty-One (241) members last March 06, 1994. Twenty-five years later, majority of our members are still in the service distributed to the different branches of service. Throughout those years, some of our members opted to step out of the service early and face new challenges in their lives as civilians, in the corporate world or as entrepreneurs.

Currently, eighteen (18) of our BIRC members migrated overseas with their families. Sixteen are in the US, namely Rommel Abrau, Alan Alamban, Eric Bertiz, Clifford Cordova, Neil Cristal, Aris Fuertes, Virgilio Garcia, John Herrera, Eddie Novo, Rommel Olarte, Erwin Opeña, Neil Palapar, Jorge Pendon, Rogie Posadas, Homer Simpás, and Oscar Veloria. We also have two United Kingdom based, mistahs,

Almar Pantaleon and Bert Tipones, while Rolly Octura is already based in New Zealand. Notably, three of our Mistahs may be considered as OFWs(?) namely Simfranz Daus in Africa, Bong Villanueva as consul to Germany, and Angel Calixtro in Netherlands.

A few months ago, we had the opportunity to spend time with some of the our overseas Mistahs and their families during our 25th Silver Jubilarian Homecoming at PMA. For years, we didn't have the chance to be with them, and we truly appreciate as a class the effort of our overseas Mistahs and their families to attend our silver anniversary. We understand that it was a year of planning to arrange work and school schedules abroad, so that they can come and join the anniversary.

The experience to bond with them in person was far better than what social media (Viber, Messenger, Facebook, etc.) can provide. Surprisingly, some of them do not look the same as their picture profiles in the social media... it's time they update their profiles (hehe). It was really gratifying that we get the chance to meet their families and see and their children have grown through the years. Amazingly, we all saw how their Brats showed their dancing, acting, and singing skills as they

performed with our own Brats during the BBQ Nite company Brats competition. Likewise, their ladies proved their hidden talents as they voluntarily joined the performances of our Ladies during the same affair. The other Mistahs from abroad failed to make it due to conflict in schedules, yet they actively supported our activities in so many ways.

In retrospect, many of us, in our years of service probably came to a point in our lives where we, just like our BIRC mistahs, contemplated of getting out. For sure, we may all have our personal reasons to leave the service, and we all can relate to our Mistahs who already did. It's a personal choice to be with their families, or for greener pastures, or service and professional disappointments, or may even be in pursuit of a long-cherished dream, or all other reasons we can think of. Ten years ago, fifteen years ago, or twenty years ago, we may have thought about these, but it's a major decision in our lives involving our future and our families' future. Definitely, nobody, including our overseas mistahs quickly jumped into that decision, and it may have even took them years to finally decide to let go. In the end, its all about personal Happiness and Satisfaction. We choose whatever makes us Happy and Satisfied.

One way or another, most of us will have our chances of travelling to the US on personal matters, for training, and other official capacities. Luckily for some of us, we had the opportunity to visit our mistahs and their families in the US. For some, our mistahs and their families abroad took time and effort to personally visit our schooling mistahs. Last April, we were surprised and humbled by the efforts of our Mistahs, Neil Cristal, Rommel Abrau, and Oca Veloria to plan a vacation and meet up in Arizona, travelling all the way from Houston and New York and have a reunion at Oca's home in AZ. It was a once a lifetime experience hooking up with so many Mistahs abroad, touring the Sedona red rocks and Grand Canyon. But the chance to dine and catch up with our Mistahs and their families was something we will never trade for any tour. We also had a chance to visit Erick Bertiz and had a sumptuous dinner in their beautiful home in Maryland. Likewise, many of us who went to Seoul was properly entertained and dined by Eddie Novo and his family.


During those moments, we personally had the chance to see how they are doing and the kind of life they are having. Which would probably put us all in envy seeing their big houses, SUVs and sports car, and other stuff we could not probably afford right now as service men. But their lives were never easy as it may seem. Everything they are enjoying now are fruits of their hard labor. The culture of hard work and perseverance that PMA imbibed in them was the key to all the successes they are



enjoying now. Their lives at first were not laid down in a bed of roses. They all had to earn everything, surviving through all the stress and challenges of a new and different world they were not accustomed to. It's a testament that the true blood of a PMA Cavalier runs through their veins

wherever they may be.

True enough, the same blood makes them long for the friendship and camaraderie of a fellow cavalier. Thus, they make themselves connect with fellow cavaliers in their respective locations regularly, in formal PMAAA organizations, and in informal parties and BBQs with fellow cavaliers and their families. They long for Cavaliers camaraderie that they are always accommodating and hospitable to all Cavaliers, seniors, retired, juniors, and Mistahs and the like. They often go out of their routines to entertain and very much excited to introduce their fellow cavaliers to their families abroad.

We all have different choices in our lives. These choices bring us to different paths, different levels of success, different degrees of happiness and satisfactions. Yet everywhere we go, despite our different choices, the Blood of a Cavalier binds us together, and the never ending stories of plebehood and cadet days, regardless of classes, keep our memories told and shared by our Bantay Layans overseas. 





MELVIN FLORES
President
BEN C DOMINGO
Secretary

Waking from a deep slumber, here's our Masinag Roll Call as of August 2019.

ARMY

Ben Domingo III - CO, HHSB, 8ID, Camp Lukban, Catbalogan City; Manaros Malik M. Boransing II - Ex-O, 102 Inf Bde, 1ID, Ipil, Zamboanga Sibugay; Ronald Mateo - CO, 32IB, 11ID, Brgy Bonbon, Patikul, Sulu; Toto Ley - CO, 9PED, IMCOM, FBMM; Pamfer Lazaro - CGSC 66; Benjamin Pajarito - CO, 65IB, Brgy Mambuaya, CDOC; Lee Romero - CO, 4SRBN, FSRR - Butuan City; Alex Banatao - CO, 28IB, 10ID, Mati, Davao Oriental; Ronaldo Valdez - CO, 73IB, 10ID Malita, Davao Occidental; Clarence Garrido - relaxing staff ng 10ID; Jose Felix Pepito II - mas relaxing kay Clarence sa 10ID; Joel Salaguinto - relaxing na SSSHH ng 10ID; Clift Tangonan - OG8, PA, FBMM; Titot Flores - GSMO, HHSB, FBMM; Joy Sumilang - CO, 9IB, 9ID, Ragay, Cam Sur; Rafman Altre - CO, 82IB, 3ID, Brgy Pawak, Saguiaran, Lanao del Sur; AJ Salem - Dep U2, NOLCOM, Camp Aquino, Tarlac City; Randy Banaag - CO 5SFBN, Cotabato City; Jooney Busiños - Ex-O 2SFBN Sulu; Jones Roderos - C2/CPM, CEISSAFP relaxing soon; Franco Raphael Alano - Ex-O, 103 Inf Bde, 1ID, Kampo Ranao, Marawi City; Ariel Kalahi - Chief 6FSFO, FCPA Jamindan, Capiz; Elmer Villanueva - Commander, MIG24, ISAFP; Ace Escaniel - relaxing sa Bacolod; Leather Leviste - Manipula warrior; Shane Animas - DBM, GenSan; Gerard Alvaran - G1, 3ID, Jamindan, Capiz; JJ Sprite - may hawak na ice-cold Pale Pilsen, Naga; Romulus Rabara - Ex-O, 303rd Inf Bde, Murcia, NOC; Erdy Callanta - NOLCOM; Toto Delamide - CO, 31IB, 9ID, Juban, Sorsogon; Virgie Neps-Ang - Manipula warrior; Sperri Gotico - G4, AAR, Fort Magsaysay; Allan Tabudlo - 47IB, 3ID, Carmen, Bohol; Jimmy Jimenez - CO, HHSB, 7ID, Fort Magsaysay; Toits Delos Santos - freelancer, AFPETCOM; Carl Nagac - CGSC; Pat Bumidang - CGSC; Joeboy Kindipan - CGSC (Sa wakas!); Romel Valencia - CGSC; Felipe Martinez - CGSC; CJ Vingno


- CGSC; Bien Hindang - CGSC; Melvin Flores - CGSC; Garry Pingan - Consultant, San Miguel Logistics, Ortigas, Pasig City; Deborah Castillo - Deputy, AFPPKOC; Ted Dilag - CO, 5SRB, Sulu; Leo Bungubung - VP & Head, Corporate Security and Safety Division, QC; Lope Domingo - Great Commission Church, Lamut, Ifugao; Arnel Rivera - ARESCOM, Tanza, Cavite; Chris Mendoza - 1Signal Bn, 1ID, Pulacan, ZDN; Mike Lugtu - CGSC Malaysia; Rey Lite - AIR, FBMM; Ali Alejo - Ex-O, 503 Inf Bde, Kalinga.

AIR FORCE

Joyce Patrimonio-Antig - Chief Warplans, OJ5, CGEA; Bum Ordoñez-Basco - Chief, AFP IMAC, OJ5, CGEA; Benedict Bodegon - CO, GHQPC, AFPPS; Flor Bateria - Asst Chief, OFMAF; Thorsten Bautista - Chief, AFSO and DO, A3; KC Casuncad - Commander, 450MSG, 205THW (Cebu); Jumbar Madarang - Air War College, Air University, Maxwell AFB, Alabama, USA; Macky Macatingrao - Commander, TOG 1 (Baguio); Derrick Ablog - Commander, TOG 10 (CDOC); Marie Gerodiaz - CO, AWC, AETDC (Batangas); Rex Templonuevo - DO, 5FW, ADC (Floridablanca, Pampanga); Francis Ariles - relaxing sa Antipolo; Alex Recinto - Attorney na pulis; Parcs Parcon - CENTCOM; Arion Moreno - OZ OZ Oi Oi Oi; Edmund Gallardo - Ceb Pac; Sharon Suico - relaxing; busy studying, Antipolo; Felix de Ramos - PAL; Aldrin Valix - Ceb Pac; Arlan Pacis - Ceb Pac; Toto Villarin - CAAP; Ermin Javier - Ozzie; Richel Sale - Air Asia Ironbug; Garnett de Velez - PAL Express; David Santiago - Ceb Pac; Noah Villacruz - PAL; Ronald Gucyam - PAL; Jun Guillermo - PAL; Jun Samilin - PAL; Isko Ramirez - PAL; Demy Ferrer - Ceb Pac; Pol Salvador - Ceb Pac; Edwin Remante - Ceb Pac.

NAVY

Billy Villareal - CO, MIG 26, Sulu to Sitangkai; Jonathan A Salvilla - CGSC 65; Percival Buted - CGSC 65; Maynard Cabungcal - CGSC 65; Jemuel Angdason - CGSC 65; Willester Robles - CGSC 65; Danny Facundo - CGSC 65; Dante Grasparil - CGSC 65; Jomar Santos - CGSC 65; Eloise SC Fabian - CGSC 66; Eileen Domine - CGSC 66; Marz Tadulan - CGSC 66; Cris Sergio - CGSC 66; Francis JB Buyucan - CS, 1MBDE, Pigcalagan, SK, Maguindanao; Rommel

Bogñalbal - Asst Supt, MCFDC, PMC, Fort Bonifacio; Tony Indab - CO, HQBN, PMC, Ft Bonifacio; Edwin Begonia - Ex-O, PN ESPA, BNS, Ft Bonifacio; John Mangahas - Deputy Commander, Naval Air Wing, Sangley Point, Cavite City; Jeric Hechanova - Director, Fleet Operational Readiness Training and Evaluation Group, FTDC, Philippine Fleet, Sangley Point, Cavite City; Noli Ibañez - Chief of Staff, Offshore Combat Force, Philippine Fleet, Sangley Point, Cavite City; Junmar Sales - CO, BRP Rizal (PS-74), NSPL, Fort San Felipe, Cavite City; Elvira Rodriguez-Gonzalez - CO, BRP Bacolod City (LC-550), Sealift Amphibious Force, Sangley Point, Cavite City; Homer Gonzalez - CO, BRP Davao Del Sur, Sealift Amphibious Force, Sangley Point, Cavite City; Lemar Dela Calzada - CO, 5th PB Division, Littoral Combat Force, Sangley Point, Cavite City; Edwin Tibayan - haciendero, Amadeo, Cavite; Franklin Rotoni - U8, WESCOM, Camp Ricarte, Puerto Princesa City; Emerson David - U4, WESCOM, Camp Ricarte, Puerto Princesa City; Bruce Mundo - tricycle driver, Calamba; Noel Laurio - CO, BRP Artemio Ricarte (PS37), Offshore Combat Force, Sangley Pt. Cavite City; Dynasty Chua - CO, Weapons System Unit, Naval Sea Systems Command, Cavite City; John Tupas - Supt, Naval Sea Systems Training Center, Naval Sea Systems Command, Cavite City; Rey Musil - CENTCOM, Camp Lapulapu, Cebu City; Santiago Alfaro III - Driver of Airbus 330, PAL; Nosuel Tejada - PAL Airbus Driver; Valerio Hate Jr - Driver, Airbus, Etihad Airlines; Eduard Prades - Business Tycoon, Livingwater; Arturo Pascua - Urban Farmer, NCR; Ed Duriman - Macho Pilot, Pan Pacific Airlines; John Barameda - Commander, NRCEV, Cebu at recruiter ng mga artista; Mike Satumba - US Army veteran, California; Carlo Nanquil - big time OFW sa Middle East; Jun Simon - happy Professor, PMA; Francis Torbela - weightlifting professor, PMA; Christian Aquino - almost retired professor, PMA; Jess Castro (Navy na, Police pa) - Chief of Staff, BOI Commissioner. 

LAST CALL

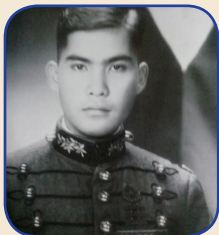
"Be strong and courageous for the Lord will be with you wherever you go."

COMMO DANTE Z RUIZ '68
28 Jan 1944 – 11 June 2019



Cav Ruiz faded away on 11 June 2019 after going in and out of the hospital several times. He has served PN Savings and Loan Association, Inc. for the last 19 years. He left behind his wife Julie and children. He had written a farewell message while on a hospital bed which is published in this issue of the Cavalier magazine.

PN CAPT JEROME R S OCHOCO '91
15 December 1968 – 19 June 2019



Cav Ochoco passed away on 19 June 2019 at the AFP Health Service Command, V. Luna Road, Q.C. His wake was held at the Loyola Memorial Chapel from 19 to 22 June and inurnment made after cremation on Sunday, 23 June at the nearby Manila Memorial Park in Sucat, Paranaque City. His last assignment was at RSPN where he served as Duty Officer. Cav Ochoco left behind his loving wife Annaliza with whom he had one child Emmanuel Nikolai.

BGEN JOSE S RAMISCAL JR '62
13 September 1937 – 17 July 2019



Cav Ramiscal passed away from a lingering illness last 17 July. He laid in state at the Santuario de San Jose Church at Greenhills. Necrological services were held on Monday night, 22 July. Ramy was buried at the Libingan ng mga Bayani on Tuesday 23 July. He was accorded military honors upon arrival.

He left behind his beloved wife Olga Carado Ramiscal and their three children Joel, Christine, and Jose III and three grandchildren Bea, Lia, and EJ.

ZLT KAREN LEI C CUNANAN '19
Died 18 July 2019



Cav Cunanan passed away on 18 July after a vehicular accident along STAR tollway in Tanauan City, Batangas which also caused injuries to eight other occupants in the vehicle. Cav Cunanan was a student of Basic Air force officer Course in San Fernando Airbase, Lipa City at the time of her passing.

COL DONATO M AQUINO '90
31 December 1968 – 22 July 2019



Cav Aquino passed away on 22 July 2019 at the Cebu Doctor's University Hospital. He was cremated on 28 July at the St. Peter Imus Cebu City. He left behind his wife Mayette, and children: Gian Paolo, Gio Angelo, Gino Renzo, and Gianna Mia.

PN CAPT RESTITUTO Q BILBAO JR '88
5 May 1962 – 5 August 2019



Cav Bilbao passed away on 5 August 2019 at St. Luke's Medical Center. Wake was from 6 – 12 August and laid to rest at the Heritage Park, Taguig City on 13 August 2019. His last position held in the AFP was as Commander of the Bonifacio Naval Station. He is survived by his loving family Maria Stella and Restel Marie.

CDR FERNANDO C FRANCISCO '70
8 September 1947 - 13 August 2019



Cav Francisco a member of Class '70 passed away on 13 August in California, USA. He was a former Executive Vice President of AFPMBAI. He left behind his loving wife Rosaida.

PBGEN LYNDEL A DESQUITADO '82
12 July 1960 – 19 August 2019



Cav Desquitado died of what his family members theorized as cardiac arrest at the JR Borja Memorial General Hospital on 19 August 2019. He had served as police director for Misamis Oriental in 2007, Misamis Occidental in 2003, and deputy police regional director for administration, operation and subsequently, chief of staff at Camp Alagar. He is survived by his wife Ma. Cecilia and daughters Carmela Celyn and Lyselle and son Glenn Dale.

VADM ROLANDO D LEGASPI '87 PCG
01 March 1964 – 21 August 2019



A former member of the PMAAAI Board of Directors, and chairman, PMAAAI Sports Committee, Cav Legaspi died from cardiac arrest on 21 August, he was 55. He was the Deputy commandant for Operations, and was the PCG officer-in-charge at the time of his death while PCG Commandant, Adm Elson Hermogino '85, was on official trip in

Israel. The PCG held a memorial service for Cav Legaspi at the PCG Headquarters on 23 August and another memorial service at the BNS. Cav Legaspi's interment was on 28 August at the Mt. Zion Memorial Park in Bonuan, Boquig, Dagupan, Pangasinan. He is survived by his wife Suzanne and two children, Roljend Peeme and Rae-Ann Philline.

PN CAPT OSCAR TALEON '57
30 May 1935 – 8 September 2019



Cav Taleon passed away on 8 September 2019, he was 84. He was a recipient of the PMAAAI Cavalier Award for his services to

the handicaps. He was also the former President of AKAP-PINOY, a federation of local and national organizations dedicated to advocate for the rights and promote the interests of persons with disabilities. His wake was at the Loyola Memorial Chapels and Crematorium at the Commonwealth Avenue, Q.C. and finally laid to rest on 14 September at the Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina City.

Signing Off and Sailing to My Last Sunset

Farewell address of Cav Dante Z Ruiz '68
 28 January 1944 – 11 June 2019
 President, Philippine Navy Savings & Loans Association

As of this writing, I am on a hospital bed fighting my last battle. In my heart I have my loving family. In my thoughts I have each one of you whom I have had the greatest pleasure to serve, from admirals to apprentice seamen, the PNSLAI board of trustees, staff and of course the indispensable civilian employees.

I entered PMA in 1964 and graduated as a young naive Ensign in 1968, retired as the "singing Commodore" in 2000, and in the same year worked again as a civilian in PNSLAI. I can proudly say I have been a devoted soldier-servant for a straight 55 years!

For my last assignment, my work here at PNSLAI at its helm was like commanding a ship steady through 19 years, from

2000 to 2019. It was a long voyage that I was willing to sail, all because of you! Your trust, your confidence in me and our collective vision to provide a stable and reliable financial lending institution for our beloved sailors kept not just me but the PNSLAI family working hard through the years.

Normally this farewell would have been said in my turn over ceremony to the next President of PNSLAI. But I cherish more that you, the sailors and civilian employees next to you are personally reading this. It is my hope that my written message will be conveyed to other people even when I am long gone.

In this photo is my frugal and regular looking office. I will miss it, and I will miss you. I love going to work every day and

would have wanted to work until I drop. I tried to serve with humility and simplicity and was happy enough to have a simple cup of coffee with visitors.

Friends, upperclassmen, my Mistah, underclassmen, I am very proud to have sailed with you following my Alma Mater's motto, with *Courage, Integrity and Loyalty*.

This is me, an old and fading sailor, Dante, signing off and sailing to my last sunset.

Farewell!!!

COMMO DANTE Z RUIZ AFP (Ret)
 Written June 5, 2019
 at the National Kidney Institute

Down Memory Lane



*PMA
at Camp Allen
in 1949*

Photo credit: BGen Resty L Aguilar '78