



# The CAVALIER

COURAGE INTEGRITY LOYALTY

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

January - February 2016



defending one nation, one country.

Remembering our hallowed grounds

honoring our jubilarians

**CAVALIER MAGAZINE**  
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# ABOUT THE COVER

After the Cavalier Family Sports Festival, the Uncle Bobo Shootfest, Battle of the Classes and Annual General Membership Meeting, alumni from all classes will again converge at the hallowed grounds of Borromeo Field, Fort del Pilar, PMA for the finale of the 2016 Alumni Homecoming activities – the Alumni Parade. Once again, the highways from Metro Manila to Baguio City will be filled with vehicles of all kinds, perhaps create traffic gridlocks in the summer capital of the country similar to what is happening in the NCR.

There is a magnet that attracts alumni, even those coming from more distant places in the country to join the alumni parade and march along the ranks of the Cadet Corps during the Trooping the Line in the tempo of the bass drum. It is a moment in time when the past meets the present, as the marchers pass by the cadets in erect and unmoving modes. Perhaps on the part of the alumni, they would say, I was as young and as handsome. On the other hand, the cadets seeing the graduates in various stages of wear and tear, would think, I would be like them someday.

But many alumni claim that by revisiting their alma mater, the institution to which they owe their career and future, the Academy spirit is rekindled.

More than anything else, the alumni parade is not merely a ceremonial ritual, but an occasion to recognize the jubilarians who are celebrating their 25th, 50th and 60th graduation anniversaries, and the recipients of the Cavalier Award in various fields of the military profession. They are a source of inspiration for the cadets to follow their footsteps, both sides having been nurtured by the over-arching values of HONOR, COURAGE, INTEGRITY AND LOYALTY.

Hence, the Academy shall always be the source of leaders who will perform their duties unmindful of the risk of death and loss of limbs, even beyond the call of duty. The alumni will always be at the forefront in the defense of ONE NATION, ONE COUNTRY. Forget this not, cavaliers!

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## IN THIS ISSUE

**2016 Cavalier Awardees and other Outstanding Alumni** ..... 6  
 To be presented to deserving alumni during the 2016 Alumni Homecoming are the Cavalier Awards in twelve categories. The Lifetime Achievement Award, the Outstanding Achievement Award and Valor Awards were given during the Annual General Membership Meeting on 23 January 2016 at the AFP Theater, Camp Aguinaldo.

**PMA Class 1956 on its Diamond Jubilee** ..... 9  
 Of the 88 cadets which comprised the Class, 51 graduated and joined by three US service academy graduates. The article recalls vignettes of their cadet life that are still unforgotten.

**Fifty years hence**..... 12  
 The writer focuses on the ALPHA and OMEGA of the history of the Class at the Academy and omits significant events during their cadet years, reserving them for the Golden Sword. Eighty one graduated; forty attained the star rank; 37 had been honored by the LAST TAPS.

**SAMBISIG: A story of unity and resilience** ..... 14  
 The colorful story of Sambisig Class of 1991, the silver jubilarians. With 218 graduates, the class is one of the biggest. They are inspired by Gen Charles de Gaulle treatise on military professionalism which accepts a life of perpetual constraint.

**PMA Sinagtala Class of 1986**..... 17  
 It claims to be the rebel class and the only one to have a class song. It recalls that during their cadet year, they resigned and walked out as a class in support of three classmates found guilty of countenancing hazing.

## DEPARTMENTS

1	Chairman's Desk	5	Cavalier Newslines
2	President's Corner	6	Adjutant's Bulletin
3	Supes's Report	19	Class Call
4	Editorial	60	Last Call

The CAVALIER magazine is a professional journal published bi-monthly 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.pmaaaai.com](http://www.pmaaaai.com)

Send your letters to:  
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*Theme for the next issue: Remembering our heroes; the need for good leaders.*

# FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S DESK

By Cav Manuel P Espejo '66



**C**ourage, integrity and loyalty - They form the vertices of the triangle that define the limits of the sphere of a cavalier's conduct and is the basic arena of those who enter the Academy. Many young men and women aspire to be cadets but only a few are privileged or lucky enough to go through the extensive military training of the academy and be moulded to be future leaders of the armed forces.

Even after passing the excruciating examination, whether written or physical, it does not guarantee anything until the cadets march across Borromeo Field during their graduation. One has to have the passion to break through the physical and psychological limits of human endurance to withstand the rigors of cadet training. The entire Academy educational and training spectrum, which is made unique by The Honor Code, and the Fourth Class and Upper Class Systems, serves as the funnel that sieves the best among the best of those who join the **long gray line** for the noble purpose of serving **God, country, and people**. The products are selfless men and women who go out of their way in defence of their comrades in arms. They are prepared to protect our country's sovereignty and our countrymen even at the expense of their lives and limbs. The hallowed grounds of Borromeo Field, the cadet barracks and the classrooms are the silent witnesses to their transformation from the first day of plebe year to the first day of wearing the AFP Officer's uniform. Here we feel our strengths which we have developed and the weaknesses we have overcome. On these grounds the camaraderie among the cadets is stronger than the bond among blood brothers.

The American actor John Cena was quoted saying: "I admire the military. I guess in a world full of villains and heroes, they're my heroes". These are inspiring words which make us remember where we came from. Let us

not tarnish the name of the very institution that taught us the discipline and the strength of character that only a few had the privilege to experience. We value honor, in the same way James Cash Penney believes that "honor bespeaks **worth**. **Confidence** begets **trust**. **Service** brings **satisfaction**. **Cooperation** proves the **quality of leadership**".

During the presentation before the cadets of Mr. Manuel V. Pangilinan on corporate leadership last 15 January 2016, he underscored the importance of **passion** in accomplishing one's task. His words reflect the very essence of the discipline that the Academy has inculcated in us. He believes that those who graduated from Philippine Military Academy could not have withstood the rigorous training without passion and determination. If we do not have the passion to give our own life in serving the country and only serve ourselves, we are not worthy to be called **graduates of PMA**. The institution molded us to be men of courage and integrity, unflinching in the face of adversities; honest in our dealings with our fellowmen, and foremost; loyal to the **flag, country and people**.

Come homecoming this February, we will be recognizing our outstanding cavaliers with medals, awards and recognitions. However, these are just incidental in our careers and may not describe the true worth of a person. Our true worth is within us.

Cavaliers, let us pursue the tradition of excellence, not only in the performance of our tasks as exemplified by the awardees but in maintaining the highest virtues of leadership and the exalted character of a true officer and gentleman wherever we are and in whatever stage of our career and life. Let us uphold the name of our beloved alma mater. 🇵🇭



# PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Cav Melvin Ramon G Buenafe '86



## Reinforcing our convictions on hallowed grounds

It is homecoming time once again, and as expected, Cavaliers from all over the country, along with their families and associates, will endure long trips and dreadful traffic gridlocks in order to reach Fort Del Pilar and join the alluring PMA Alumni Homecoming Ceremonies and parade.

This annual happening is among the must-not-miss activities in the calendar of the Cavaliers, which transpires at the unforgettable Borromeo Field of the PMA. To many alumni, participation in this event is an obsession. Because aside from the satisfaction of having ourselves “accounted for”, it is inherent in all former “plebos” to enjoy the fun and excitement of meeting again, and reminiscing the memorable experiences with, dear mistahs who may have been their former buddies, bunkmates, “first kiss”, or “take-life” partners.

It is also an occasion for celebration, as we recognize our snappy alumni who have distinguished themselves through exemplary achievements in their respective fields of endeavor. They are the cavaliers who bring pride and honor to our revered alma mater, the Philippine Military Academy.

***Likewise, we honor and give due recognition to our Diamond, Golden and Silver Jubilarians from the PMA Classes of 1956, 1966, and 1991, respectively, whose members have survived the challenging years and have established their reputation as sterling examples of the fine officers who comprise the long grey line. Kudos to our Cavalier awardees and jubilarians of 2016!***

As we indulge ourselves in the nostalgic get-together, we also draw inspiration in our theme for this year’s homecoming, “PMAAAI: Guidon for National Security and Progress.” Wherefore we bear in mind that all of us who are engaged in our respective fields of endeavor have our own important roles to play in the unfolding of events as we continue to write our country’s history as a people and nation.

This brings us to reflect and think of the more meaningful reason for our effort to reach the hallowed grounds of PMA.

PMA is a place that provides sanctuary to us cavaliers:

It is where brotherhood is deemed sacred and valued above self interest or damaged egos; where we can whole-heartedly

shake hands and embrace after being bitterly pitted against each other in full view of the public. It is where resentments are set aside and conciliation is prioritized; where the opinions of our mistahs prevail over public opinion;

***It is also where we listen intently to the lamentations of our retired comrades, and willfully sympathize with their cause. It is where we reconnect the severed links, and thereafter advance forward as allies; where we strengthen our friendship and camaraderie, despite the adverse positions of where we stand.***

It is where we can informally discuss approaches to peace and security concerns; which could eventually develop into comprehensive national security and peace and order strategies. Where our simple banter can lead to bright ideas and actions that will have widespread or national impact.

It is where we can unite, stand strong, and show to the world our will to fight against all that threaten the sovereignty of our country; where we can hone competent leadership and exercise professionalism in the dedicated performance of duties. It is where we have initially pledged to risk our life for the sake of our country.

It was on these hallowed grounds where we sought God’s intervention to grant us Courage, to bestow us Integrity, to strengthen our Loyalty to our country and the people we have sworn to serve and protect, and to guide us to be true and steadfast to our ideals and values as PMAyers.

We therefore take this opportunity to closely communicate, coordinate, cooperate, and together march forward in cadence and in unison.

When we stand united, strong, and ready to fight for our dear motherland, we will be invigorated by the trust and confidence of the people and nation. As in the past, they will depend on us for security and protection; and they will recognize our ability to face squarely the challenges and address the difficult situations which are forthcoming in our country.

Long live the Cavaliers!

Happy Homecoming to everyone! 



# SUPE'S REPORT

By Cav Oscar P Lopez ' 81



## Remembering our hallowed grounds, honoring our jubilarians, defending one nation, one country

**H**istory, as we know, is one of those subjects that we have treated with superficial acquaintance because we believe it is simply about memorizing dates or events that transpired as researched and written by historians to benefit those who did not yet live to see the glory days or perhaps fortunate enough to have not experienced their horrors. Most of the time, we miss the point of why it is important to value history when the real stories contained therein built what we are today.

The Philippine Military Academy, is one of those which have seen much of the most significant chapters of our history from its preceding school, the Akademiya Militar established in 1898 at Malolos, Bulacan to the Philippine Constabulary Academy at Teacher's Camp, Baguio City in 1920. As we were in the middle of world wars then, these schools were created to train future officers who would lead the army of the Philippines after the revolution. From the memoirs of our military forefathers, and old and almost faded sepia photographs preserved by time, these young innocent men were just a few, oblivious of the life-changing transformation that awaited them, schooled in and under decent but unglamorous shelters. And yet, as Mahatma Gandhi believed, "A small body of determined spirits fired by an unquenchable faith in their mission can alter the course of history."

And so they did. These young men trained under a pilot curriculum did not question the pains and hardships of military training because they held on to the belief that this was their strongest prescription to saving our countrymen, in keeping our independence and living a life of honor and peace – nothing more and nothing less. It could have been a breath-taking story-telling session if we had the privilege of personally meeting them for first-hand account of history but their names, their bravery, their strength and unimaginable love for our country

could only be forever etched in our hearts and memories. In their honor, the PMA Departed Alumni Memorial at the Relics Point was recently renovated with added amenities so that annual commemorations will be conducted with utmost solemnity and order and so that even visitors would be aware of these fallen heroes.



Every February particularly during our alumni homecoming, one of the most anticipated sights during this prestigious event is when our pioneer cavaliers march in perfect cadence, despite their age and the scorching heat of the sun, in the historic grounds of Borromeo Field where they once had their share of cadethood experience. The vigor of their youth may have gone but the strength of their heart as gentlemen and seasoned officers is as steadfast as the walls of our Alma Mater. Their wit and candor are admirable, plus the fact that their timeless humor has kept them young at heart. What these fine men did for the Academy and for our country may not all be written in our History books but these hallowed grounds of Fort del Pilar, our rich military traditions and our deep appreciation and love of our military brotherhood, will preserve these stories for eternity. It is my hope, our hope, that the younger generation of PMAyers, despite the changing social milieu and global trends, will keep the core values of integrity, courage and loyalty. 🇵🇭



# Opinions ♦ Letters ♦ Editorial ♦ Comments

By Cav Fredelino S Bautista '66

## Living through the profession of perpetual constraints

Once again, the alumni, their families, relatives and associates, all numbering in the thousands, would be flocking to PMA, Fort Del Pilar on 20 February or earlier to fulfill a ritual. It is more of a self-imposed obligation to their alma mater - to participate in the alumni parade and join the Trooping the Line of the Corps of Cadets. Along the way, they would be contributing to the worsening Baguio City traffic which has grown as monstrous as that of Metro Manila. And if they used to enjoy the scenic mountain slopes and peaks, they would not fail to notice that the green and stately pine trees are no longer there. Instead, there are houses and other buildings seemingly strewn all over without a scheme of arrangement.

What is it that makes being there at the alumni homecoming an obsession of sorts on the part of our graduates? So much so that when there were plans to limit attendance at the parade to the jubilarians and the so called "host classes" ( a misnomer), there were strong objections from affected classes. And so, the old scheme has persisted up to now. The columns of alumni joining the Trooping the Line are even longer than the ranks of the cadets in elbow to elbow formations. Consequently, vehicle congestion along the streets of Fort del Pilar and parking spaces have become worse. A solomonic solution to these problems would be a challenge to PMA authorities but surely, it would deserve praises of cavaliers going back to the home of their formative years for reasons of their own.

Many of our graduates claim that by walking along the hallowed grounds of our alma mater, the values passionately engendered during their cadet days, mainly, COURAGE, INTEGRITY and LOYALTY are rekindled. They also hope that when their children/grandchildren see what they went through and get fascinated by the glamor of the uniforms and the statuesque figures of those who wear them, they would be inspired to follow their footsteps (a dream usually nurtured by fathers). Unfortunately, however, the youth of today have become enamored by the amenities of the modern world - malls, computers, night life, relationships and the like. While hard to admit,

the Academy no longer attracts the best and the brightest many of whom pursue education that would take them to greener pastures, so to speak. One may add, where there is no risk to life and limb.

But the graduates who chose to follow a profession of "perpetual constraint" ( a term immortalized by French war hero Gen Charles de Gaulle), put premium on other non-mundane values. Honor is on top of the list. Thus, when the Academy, the alumni association and the alumni ranks in general bestow on them the prestigious cavalier awards and the jubilarians are specifically recognized for having lived life through 25, 50 and 60 years from graduation day, other honors pale in significance. The medallions and plaques given during the occasion convey a deeper meaning and this is the tradition of excellence which PMA stands for.



This year, the country is in a crucial stage. It is an election year and as the month of May nears, the election fever will heat up, as in the past. The quest for peace is again in the threshold of collapse as the proposed Basic Law for the Bangsamoro is being criticized for constitutional infirmities and the insincerity of the MILF as shown in their massacre of SAF troopers in the Mamasapano tragedy. Add to these problems the uncontrolled bullying of the Chinese in the West Philippine Sea and seemingly our government is helpless. In the face of these odds, our alumni should not falter for it is their duty to defend our nation and our only country. 🇵🇭



**PMAAAI opposes Senate Bill 3031 and House Bill 6268**

The PMAAAI has opposed Senate Bill 3031 (Pension Reform Law), which proposes to repeal the provisions of PD 1638 and RA 8551 that mandate the adjustment of the pension of retired military and police personnel to the rates of pay of those in the active service.

In the hearing on 15 Dec 2015 of the Senate Committee chaired by Senator Antonio Trillanes IV '95, retired BGen Rosalino A Alquiza, representing both PMAAAI and AGFO, expressed strong opposition to the proposed repeal under Senate Bill 3031, adding, however, that if the repeal has to be pushed through in view of alleged financial constraint, it should be implemented prospectively, that is, it should be applicable only to the new entrants, meaning those entering the service after the approval of the law.

Senator Trillanes, after the hearing, revised his bill (now Senate Bill 3088) to conform with our position, which has already



**Trillanes**

been approved by the Senate on 2nd reading on 18 Jan 2016. The House has introduced a similar bill authored by our Cavalier congressmen.

Relatedly, in an Appeal to the President and Congress (published in the Inquirer on 17 Jan

2016), the PMAAAI joined other organizations of retirees in appealing for the deletion of the provision in Section 11 of House Bill 6268 (House version of SSL4) suspending the indexation of the pension of retired military and other uniformed personnel to the new rates of pay allegedly due to lack of funds, and for support of Senate Bill 2671 (Senate version) which has deleted that discriminatory provision.

On 27 Jan 2016, the Senate and House bicam committee met to reconcile the two different versions of the SSL4. We proposed to Senator Trillanes a compromise that payment of the adjustment in pension will be subject to availability of funds, which he offered in the meeting. Rep Ungab said the House did not want to pass a law with no funds. Senator Trillanes pushed for the deletion of the suspension, emphasizing that bulk of the retirees are the lowly soldiers who served the country in their youth risking their lives and who are now old and sickly needing financial support for their medicines.

The two panels of the bicam were deadlocked and would have to come up with an agreement by 3 Feb 2016, last day of session before Congress goes on break.

**PDDG Avenido elected PMAAAI chairman**

Retired PDDG Anselmo S Avenido Jr '67 has been elected as the new chairman of the PMAAAI for AY 2016-17, starting 1 March 2016. Elected with him as the vice chairman is MGen Melchor P Rosales '68.



**Avenido**



**Kagaoan**

Elected as president is PN Capt Erick A Kagaoan '87. The other officers are PSupt Leo Angelo D Leuterio '88 as vice president, LtCol Ma. Consuelo N Castillo '97 as corporate secretary, Col Eliezer R Galam '87 as treasurer, and RAdm Rodolfo R Rabago '68 as corporate auditor.

The PMAAAI New Bylaws provide that, preferably, representatives, if any, of the classes celebrating their 50th and 49th graduation anniversaries shall be elected as chairman and vice chairman, respectively, and representatives, if any, of the classes celebrating their 30th and 29th graduation anniversaries shall be elected as president and vice president, respectively.

**MGen Rosales elected BIRCI chairman**



**Rosales**

Retired MGen Melchor P Rosales '68 has been elected as the new BIRCI chairman for FY 2016-17, which starts on 1 March 2016. He used to be the BIRCI president last association year.

Other officers elected were LtGen Jaime S de los Santos '69 as president, Gen Dionisio R Santiago '70 as vice president, Commo Teddy O Pan '77 as corporate secretary, MGen Danilo M Servando '81 as treasurer, and Col Wenceslao A Cruz Jr '71 as corporate auditor.

The Business Industry and Retirees Chapter (BIRC) is the chapter of the PMAAAI, to which all alumni no longer in the active service belong. In 2000, it was incorporated as the Business Industry and Retired Cavaliers, Inc. (BIRCI), in order to have a juridical personality, separate and distinct from the PMAAAI, so it can pursue its advocacy role to make a stand on contentious issues affecting national interest without compromising alumni in the active service.

The officers of the BIRCI also serve as the officers of the BIRC.

**VAdm Melad appointed PCG commandant**

VAdm William M Melad '83 has been finally appointed by the President as the commandant of the Philippine Coast Guard.



**Melad**

Melad was earlier designated as PCG officer in charge on 26 October 2015 when then commandant Adm Rodolfo D Isorena '82 retired.

**Membership of two convicted alumni terminated**

The membership with the PMAAAI of PSupt Rolando V Maclang '79 and PSupt Rafael A Cardeno '82, who have been convicted with finality of various crimes, has been terminated by the Board of Directors.

Likewise, the membership with the Association of PSupt Dionicio C Borromeo '89, who has been also convicted, but whose conviction is on appeal with the CA, has been suspended.

The termination and suspension of membership is in accordance with Board Resolution No. 14-09, which implements Art II Sec 6(b) of the PMAAAI New Bylaws, as a measure to cleanse the membership of the Association of those who have committed crimes involving moral turpitude.

**BGen Alquiza resigns as PMAAAI executive director**

Retired BGen Rosalino A Alquiza '55 has resigned as executive director of the PMAAAI. He was designated as such on 26 Nov 2015 by the Board of Directors.

He, however, remains as a duly elected member of the PMAAAI Board, whose term will end on 28 Feb 2017.

**In Memoriam**

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

BGen Francisco V Gatmaitan '52	24 December 2015
BGen Ramberto B Saavedra '63	29 December 2015
Capt Cenon L Realubit '84	2 January 2016
Col Enrico Y Javier '66	3 January 2016
Col Pablo G Paredes '44	25 January 2016
Capt Baltazar A Regalado '66	February 2016
1Lt Ralph F Pantonial '10	4 February 2016
Maj Arnold F Lubang '00	7 February 2016

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

The qualified children or the widows and parents concerned may get in touch with Maribel or Rhodelyn at the PETFI office, PMA Alumni Center, Camp Aguinaldo or by Tel 421-2807, Telefax 911-7642 or by email at petfi@yahoo.com.



# ADJUTANT'S BULLETIN

## 2016 Cavalier Awardees and other Outstanding Alumni

By Cav Anselmo S Avenido, Jr '67  
Chairman, PMAAAI Awards Committee AY 2015-2016

The Board of Directors of the PMA Alumni Association, Inc. (PMAAAI) has selected as Cavalier Awardees for AY 2015-2016 twelve alumni who, after a stringent nomination and selection process, have been found to have the most outstanding performance in their respective fields. The Board has also selected sixteen other alumni to receive the Lifetime Achievement Award, Outstanding Achievement Award and Valor Award. They have brought honor not only to themselves but also to our Association. Besides exemplifying the Academy's motto of integrity, courage and loyalty, they have distinguished themselves among equally competent and devoted alumni-achievers. The awardees, who merit our snappy salute and highest praises, are the following:

### A. CAVALIER AWARD

#### For Command and Administration:



**Cavalier Cecil R Chen '82, PCG** is the Commander of the Coast Guard Fleet, PCG since 13 November 2014. He previously served as Acting Vice-Commandant for Administration, PCG; Commander of six Coast Guard Districts; Central Staff for Maritime Safety Affairs; and Superintendent of the Coast Guard Education and Training Center.

His major accomplishments are the following: (a) Organized the deployment of the Philippine Coast Guard contingent for maritime security task group requirements in support to the National Organizing Committee for the visit to the Philippines of His Holiness Pope Francis (Security Master Plan – Papal Visit 2015) and the Philippine Hosting of the 2015 APEC meetings; (b) Instrumental in forging the PCG Capability Development Program in connection with its operations in the West Philippine Sea, crafting the new PCG Table of Organization and Equipment of RA 9993 and its draft IRR, implementing the Gender and Development Program of RA 9710 and good governance of the PCG, and steering the promotions and designations of senior coast guard officers and the curriculum development for the personnel standards of training and watch keeping; (c) Conducted the Marine Environment and Protection and Maritime Security and Law Enforcement multi-lateral exercises with foreign counterparts; and (d) Represented the Philippine government in international fora like the 85th Maritime Safety Committee meeting held at the International Maritime Organization in

London and the International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities 18th Conference and 12th General Assembly held in La Coruña, Spain, among others.

#### For Staff Functions:



**Cavalier Edgar R Fallorina '83** is The Deputy Chief of Staff (TDCS), AFP. He previously served as the Chief of Air Staff and later as Vice Commander, PAF. As TDCS, he has strongly contributed to the achievement of the Institutionalization Stage of the AFP Performance Governance System and adoption of an Individual Scorecard

for both Officers and EP at the Joint Operations Level; strictly implemented the provisions of RA 9184 in the Board of Trustees of AFPCES, AFPCOC, AFPEBSO and GHQ Provident Fund which he chairs; and actively translated into action the guidance and policies of the CSAFP through the Joint Personnel and Special Staff. As Chief of Air Staff, he was largely responsible for the crafting of the PAF Flight Plan 2028 which envisions the PAF to become a more disciplined professional, ethical, capable and able organization. He also ably served as Chairman of the PAF Program Budget Advisory Committee, Retention and Reversion Board, Awards and Decorations Board, and Contract Termination Review Committee. As Vice Commander, PAF, he initiated the creation of the Review and Compliance Committee under OESPA and the HPAF Management Information System. Under his leadership, the PAF Housing Board was able to reduce the back accounts for PAF quarters to a mere 8% of the original collectibles.

#### For Army Operations:



**Cavalier Oriel L Pangcog '91** was the former Battalion Commander of the 1st Scout Ranger Battalion, FSRR, SOCOM, PA from 12 May 2012 to 20 February 2014. He led the Battalion in a rapid and timely deployment to Zamboanga City as part of the AFP's follow-on force in what is now known as the Zamboanga City Crisis. During that operation, he was designated as Commander, Joint Special Operations Task Group Arrow and was placed under the Operational Control of Joint Special Operations Task Force Vector. The prompt and timely arrival of the 1st SRBn provided the additional Special Operations



capability to critically address the worsening situation at that time. At the end of the more than two weeks of intense urban combat never before seen in the recent history of the AFP, the 1st SBRn under Cavalier Pangcog was instrumental in the successful clearing of occupied barangays of Sta Catalina and Sta Barbara and was directly credited for the capture of 106 rogue MNLF rebels, the killing of 38 others, the rescue of 43 hostages and the recovery of 100 different high powered firearms. For its heroic achievement in the Zamboanga City operations, no less than the City Mayor herself and the whole City Council extended their personal gratitude to the Battalion. Aside from the accolades from the people of Zamboanga City, the unit also received two (2) Command Plaques, one (1) personnel was awarded the Medal of Valor, while the other personnel involved were awarded various medals for achievements in combat. Cavalier Pangcog himself was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Star, the second highest award in the AFP, for his exemplary performance in combat while leading the Battalion in that operation.

**For Naval Operations:**



**Cavalier Lued L Lincuna '93**, during the last five years, served as Commanding Officer of three commissioned PN vessels (BRP Apolinario Mabini, PS-36; BRP Salvador Abcede, PG-114; and BRP Felix Apolinario, PG-395) and as commander of various Naval Task Groups. He frequently spent his sea-duty tour in the operational areas particularly in Naval

Forces Western Mindanao, Naval Forces Eastern Mindanao, and Naval Forces West. He was Commander, Naval Task Group (CNTG) Mariqui, that extensively conducted Naval Gun Fire Support and maritime interdiction operation during the “Zamboanga Siege” and he spearheaded his unit to vigilantly scour the vast stretch of Philippine-Malaysia border during the “Sabah Crisis” in order to deter illegal ingress and negate unlawful egress of notorious groups. In Naval Forces West AOR, he was CNTG Malampaya that provided a round-the-clock security to the Malampaya Natural Gas-To-Power Project and its established exclusion zone and also attended to the requirements of Sea Areas 3, 4 and 5 in the West Philippine Sea during the “Ayungin Crisis” against foreign intrusion.

**For Air Operations:**



**Cavalier Jesus Nelson B Morales '93** served with distinction as the Group Commander of 505th SRG, PAF. Being at the helm of the premier SAR unit of the AFP, he led the HADR operations of the unit as Flight Commander during the Zamboanga Siege, Magnitude 7.2 earthquake at the Central Visayas, Super Typhoon Yolanda at the whole Visayas

and Palawan, Typhoon Ruby at Western Visayas, and various helicopter bucket operations at Eastern Samar, Davao City, Rapu-Rapu Island in Albay, Aurora and Pasig City. During his term, 505th SRG was able to expedite the recovery and conversion of Attack Utility Helicopter (AUH-76A) and Rescue Aircraft (S-76A) into Air Ambulance Helicopters, including the procurement of its onboard Advance Life Support Equipment. He initiated the expansion of the unit’s capability to conduct aeromedical evacuation through

accredited EMT training thus giving patients higher survival rate. He also administered the conversion of PZL W-3A Sokol Combat Utility Helicopter into SAR capable helicopter. Through his desire to expand its core competencies, he led the venture of the unit into the sphere of collapsed structure search and rescue (CSSR) and technical diving. He spearheaded major socio-civic activities such as Coastal Clean-Up Drive dubbed as “Scubasurero” in Anilao, Mabini, Batangas; Tree Planting activity; Skydiving Exhibition in Lipa City; and Gift Giving at Gentle Hands Orphanage.

**For Police Operations:**



**Cavalier Jose Chiquito M Malayo '89** served as Chief, Operations Division of DIPO – WM from 24 Jan 2011 to 26 April 2012; Chief, Intelligence Division of DIPO-EM from 27 April 2012 to 10 Jan 2013; Chief, Regional Intelligence Division of PRO-9 from 8 February 2013 to 3 July 2013; OIC of Zamboanga City Police Office from 4 Jul to 1 Oct 2013; and

Chief, Regional Intelligence Division of PRO-9 from 14 Oct 2013 to 6 Dec 2015. Among his many accomplishments are the following: entrapment and arrest of NAPOLCOM Regional Director, Region 9 for extortion; surrender of 24 MNLF rebels led by Comdr Ussong Ugong during the Zamboanga Siege; arrest of a municipal mayor for illegal possession of FA; arrest of most wanted persons Jemar Arasi, Asmad Arasi, and Jaojin Salam; arrest of six ASG members; rescue of kidnapped Malaysian national Munira Ali Mohammad; recovery of 34 IEDs and several assorted FAs; and introduction of police watch boxes in Zamboanga City.

**For Coast Guard Operations:**



**Cavalier Eduardo D Fabricante '89**, for the last five years in consideration, has continuously engaged in Coast Guard Operations and successfully contributed to the pursuit of the PCG mission of ably promoting safety of life and property at sea, preserving and protecting our mine resources and environment, and supporting the national development and aspirations. In 2010, his unit Coast Guard

Station Iloilo was adjudged as Coast Guard Station “Alpha” of the Year (a “Back-to-Back-to-Back Feat” for three consecutive years 2008, 2009 and 2010). In 2012, his ship BFAR MCS-3004 was adjudged as the PCGs Category 1 Vessel of the Year. As Task Group Commander under Task Force 87, he contributed immensely to the successful conduct of search and rescue, disaster relief and medical mission during the onslaught of super typhoon “Pablo” in Davao Oriental from 05 December 2013 to 09 January 2013. In 2014, his ship BRP Ilocos Norte (SARV-3501) was cited for valiant efforts in coordinating, sustaining and completing the search, rescue and recovery efforts for the passengers of the ill-fated MV Maharlika 2 ferry on 13-17 Sep 2014. In 2015, his ship BRP San Juan (SARV-001) was cited for exemplary conduct of search and rescue operation of two (2) drifted persons (a local diver and a Japanese national diver) at the waters of Bulabog Point, Boracay Island, Malay, Aklan. Under his able leadership, SARV-001 successfully undertook its security tasks attendant to the several APEC meetings in Bacolod, Boracay, Subic, Bataan, Iloilo and Manila from April to November 2015, wherein he was specifically cited and awarded by Commander, TG Maritime Security – APEC 2015 with Certificate of Excellence for Maritime Security.

### For Special Operations:



**Cavalier Ricardo C Marquez '82** PNP served as Commander of the National Joint Task Force of the Committee on Security, Peace and Order, and Emergency Preparedness for the APEC 2015; Commander of the Joint Task Force for the Papal Visit 2015; Commander of TG "Tourism" and Deputy Commander of the National Task Force for the World

Economic Forum (WEF) on East Asia in May 2014; and Chairman for Operations and Security of the ASEANAPOL Conference in May 2014. He personally orchestrated and supervised the planning and execution of all aspects of security attendant to the holding of these international events which involved the deployment of thousands of personnel from different government agencies. The presence of several world leaders in these various meetings which were held in different parts of the country indicated the gravity of the mission and tasks of these security organizations. That there was no single untoward incident that happened in any of these activities was solid proof of the success of these special security operations. Thus, Cavalier Marquez brought honor not only for himself but for our country as well.

### For Public Administration:



**Cav Amado T Espino, Jr '72 PNP (Ret)** has shown sterling leadership and professional competence and has attained outstanding achievements and accomplishments as Governor of the Province of Pangasinan from 2007 to the present. His vision to make Pangasinan the best place to invest, work, live and raise a family is spelled out in his 10 Major

Development Thrusts, namely: Safe and Peaceful Neighborhood; Quality and Affordable Healthcare; Adequate and High Quality Education; Increased Agricultural Productivity; Better Jobs and Income Opportunities; Youth and Sport Development; Tourism Development and Investment Promotion; Affordable and Cozy Socialized Housing and Other Social Welfare Services; Environment Protection and Rehabilitation and Disaster Risk Management and Infrastructure Development; and Development Administration and Fiscal Management. The many significant awards received by him and the province, conferred by government agencies and private organizations, are proofs of the successful implementation of the said development thrusts.

### For Private Enterprise:



**Cavalier Edgar B Aglipay '71 PNP (Ret)** is selected to receive the 2016 Cavalier Award for Private Enterprise for his outstanding and exemplary achievements worthy of emulation as Chairman of the EMME Logistics Group (ELG) and its various affiliate companies; Chairman of the EMME Security Group (ESG) and its affiliate companies; Chairman of the

EMME Development and Realty Corporation (EDRC); Chairman of the EMME Trading Company, Inc. (RTCI); and Chairman of the EMME Retirement Fund Corporation (ERFC). Under his able leadership, these family-owned business enterprises have made meaningful strides, as follows: (a) earned International

Standard Organization (ISO) standard certification for the trucking and security services companies to assure their clients of world standard services; (b) established EMME Retirement Fund Company to assure the employees that when they retire they will get their retirement pay; (c) established the EMME Security and Driver Training School; (d) increased the number of employees by 50%, the equipment (trucks, firearms, radios, etc.) by 100% and the number or area of the offices and garages by 100%. As a result of the above actions, the EMME Group of Companies have kept and added to their clientele the leading companies in various industries such as SM, San Miguel Corp., Ayala Land, Isla Shell, Petron, Procter & Gamble, Champion Detergent, Engineering Equipment, Inc., D.M. Consunji, Inc., United Pulp and Paper Company, Inc., and Jollibee Corporation, and have provided livelihood to 3,274 people. These exemplary achievements were capped by the invitation to him by the national organizations of the private security and trucking industries, PADPAO and CTAP respectively, to be their Chairman Emeritus.

### For Alumni Affairs:



**Cavalier Reynaldo V Velasco '71, PNP** has been very active in PMA Alumni Affairs having served within the last five (5) years as Vice Chairman of PMAAAAI and Chairman of its Welfare Committee; Trustee of PMA Educational Foundation, Inc. (PETFI) and Chairman of its Ways and Means Committee; and Treasurer of PMA "Matatag" Class of

1971. Earlier, he also served as Vice President of PMA Foundation, Inc. (PMAFI). As Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee of PETFI from 1998 to the present, he held a golf tournament that generated more than P1 million for the Foundation. He has been successful in soliciting donations from well-off alumni and friends for PETFI to support the scholarship of the less fortunate dependents of deceased and disabled PMA Alumni. He also personally contributed to PETFI for his special scholarship fund. As Chairman of the Welfare Committee of PMAAAAI, he initiated policies and guidelines for the grant of Medical Assistance which were approved by the PMAAAAI Board and he visited fraternal chapters in the different regions to explain the benefits from the Association and the need for the PMA Payback Scheme.

### For Special Field:



**Cavalier Vicente L Cejoco '82 AFP** is selected to receive the Cavalier Award under the Special Field of Science and Technology. He is a licensed Professional Electronics Engineer, author, educator, inventor and outstanding military professional. He has made significant contributions to the advancement of the electronics engineering profession.

These include techno-scientific innovations and inventions, national policy making and legislative activities, and support to Internal Security/Territorial Defense Operations, Maritime Law Enforcement, International Defense and Security Engagements, Organizational Development, and Environmental Protection and Conservation. Among his major accomplishments are the following: he was largely responsible for the activation of the Pagasa Island VSAT and Hybrid Power Project in May 2015; he prepared

Continued on page 16

# PMA Class 1956 on its Diamond Jubilee

by Cav Meliton D Goyena '56

**Pertinent Data:**

Total No. of cadets that comprised the class in 1952.....	88
(77 new cadets and 11 turn backs from class 55)	
Total graduated in 1956.....	51
Total members incl. 2 USNA and 1 USMA graduates.....	54

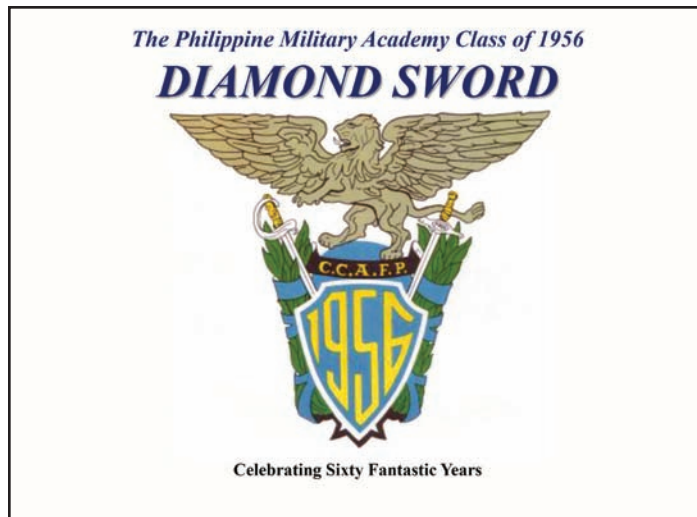
Class Disposition and Star Rank Distribution:

	Total	Early Retirees	Career Officers	Star Ranks	%
<b>PA</b>	28	9	19	9	47
<b>PC</b>	12	0	12	10	83
<b>PN</b>	7	2	5	4	80
<b>PAF</b>	7	2	5	4	80
<b>Total</b>	54	13	41	27	66

**Star Rank Profile of the First-10 Post WW II PMA Classes**

Class 51 --- 64/25/39	Class 56 -- 54/29/53
Class 52 --- 40/04/10	Class 57 ----78/39/50
Class 53 --- 61/20/33	Class 58 --- 53/26/49
Class 54 --- 55/17/31	Class 59 --- 37/20/54
Class 55 ---- 55/16/29	Class 60 -- 60/30/50

Legend: total members/no. of star ranks/ % of star ranks



**Class Unforgettable Events:**

**Plebe Year.** The only class mass punishment was conducted by the Plebe Detail of Class 53 after the class was given an outing and lunch treat at Asin Hot Springs during Beast Barracks at Polo Fields in 1952. Immediately after evening mess from the Asin respite, all plebes were ordered to be in combat gears, mustered out of their tents and aligned in the company street for supervised squatting with rifles that lasted until many had fallen to the ground from physical exhaustion.

Thereafter, all were ordered to go inside their tents to bob-up-and-down with their fully loaded footlockers atop their heads. Many were stunned by the severity of the prolonged punishment without knowing the cause. Years later, a member of class 53, already a BGen, when queried about the incident, recalled that his class initiated the mass punishment after two of our classmates made a “to the rear” in the chow line during the at-ease lunch at Asin.

**Cow Year.** The class got the goat of Comdr. Hector Moya (CI' 41), the CO of the PN Training Command in Cavite during our 2nd class training at the PN in 1954. We were ordered to report to him after our fracas with the PN ROTC cadets who were billeted at the main barracks with us sharing a small portion of it at one end. It was explained to Comdr. Moya that several times before the incident, the NROTC cadets were waiting and gazing at their barracks windows to count aloud our marching steps and shout “nandito na ang mga Pepsi Cola” when ever the class returned in marching formation from the mess hall. Feeling that the guys had mocked us more than enough, the class decided on that fateful day, that after “class halt” and “dismiss” were given, we would rush to the ROTC barracks and confront them on their daring pranks, but unexpectedly at face off, all of them froze with no one man enough to offer a fight. We told Comdr. Moya that we had merely confronted them on their unwarranted effrontery. He dismissed us with a caution not to make trouble followed by a hidden smile.

**Cow Year.** During the corps athletic intramurals in 1954, the 3 top ranking cadet officers (CI 55) of Bravo Company, CCAFP mauled jointly a 2nd classman of class 56 who was the first to enter his room,( Rm 315, the room of 2nd classmen of Alfa company in Melchor Hall) from evening mess, switched on the lights and found the trio there who abruptly mauled him mercilessly until he was black and blue. Soon, he was found by his room mates sprawled on the floor in comatose and evacuated to the station hospital for treatment. Because of this dismal incident, pandemonium broke loose with the members of the class running after the three culprits of Bravo Company who sought refuge at the Upperclass Club. Thereafter, the class held a meeting and decided to separate from corps formation which was done on the next day at reveille. The mauling incident arose from the cheers of Alfa Company for their athletes competing against those of Bravo during the sports fest. The trio got peeved, took offense, unfairly mauled the second classman in Rm 315, served 176 hours of punishment tours with 6 months confinement to quarters and graduated as cadet privates.

**As Firsties.** The Honor Committee tried and found 2 second classmen in violation of the Cadet Honor Code and advised the duo to resign. Like other cadets who were tried for honor violation, found guilty, advised to resign and left silently the portals of the academy, the duo abided by the process, but when their resignations reached the Superintendent’s desk, the honor case took a special turn by treating it as a legal matter where both

**The Philippine Military Academy Class Of 1956**



would be tried by courts martial. Why? Because one of them was the son of the Chief of Staff, AFP. Due to the unusual treatment of the honor violation, the corps chain of command reacted by ostracizing the duo. The Supt. countered by ordering all firsties during one noon mess to report to the drawing room at Melchor Hall where he lectured and lambasted all of them to follow his orders and decisions in the honor case or resign. In response to the Supt's dare, the firsties raised their hands one-at-a-time and their names were taken and listed until it reached 13, when the canvass was stopped. The 13 were ordered to submit their individual written resignations ASAP and the Supt. announced their speedy departure from the academy by taking the first BAL (Benguet Auto Lines) bus to Manila. His threat however, was hard to realize because one of the 13 was his nephew. Thereafter, the 13 were confined in the first class room of Alfa Company. No Christmas break was declared for the Firsties and the cows (cl 57) and the yearlings (cl 58) sympathized by staying put in barracks, but were prevailed upon to go and enjoy their leave. After several

peace talks between the PMA legal officer and the corps chain of command, the Supt softened and allowed the Firsties to go on Christmas break. By early 1956, several top brasses of the AFP (possibly sent by GHQ, AFP for psywar purposes) arrived one after another to talk to the Firsties not to rock the boat on the honor case, but each one of them had intimated as a parting advise that the Honor Code belongs to the cadets for them to keep and maintain—and no one else.

As brand new 2ndLts. after our one-month graduation leave, the class reported to the PA Training Command at Fort Bonifacio to undergo the Company Officers Course. At opening day, we were surprised to see some AFP top brasses enter our classroom and announced that President Ramon Magsaysay had ordered the maximum deployment of AFP forces to the Sierra Madre mountains to hunt down the Huk top brasses. They declared that our class and all other classes in the PATC would be disbanded and orders would be issued for our deployment to the BCTs (Battalion Combat Teams) operating in the Southern Tagalog areas.

**PMA56 Roll of Honor (25/51 as of February 2016)**



The announcement was received by the class with great cheers because we were going to war.

A sigh of relief also occurred for being liberated from another academic grind. That afternoon, one half of the class left for the II MA (Military Area) Hqs at Canlubang, Laguna where they were armed with a carbine, 2 magazines, a bandolier of ammo and supplied with a haversack for personal belongings. The next day they were transported to Lukban, the Hq of the Lightning Sector of the area of operations, briefed on the situation and made to choose their preferred BCT at 3 classmates each. The rest of the class followed for assignment to the other BCTs and the SRC (School for Reserve Commission) whose faculty and students were organized into a battalion. The massive operation somehow dissipated the strength of the Huk Movement that by late 1957, the BCTs were withdrawn from the jungles of Sierra Madre and reported to Fort Magsaysay in Laur, Nueva Ecija, to form the First Regular Infantry Division of the PA. The experience of the class in living in the jungles of Sierra Madre with all the attendant hardship in survival and searching for the enemy had given each member a good taste of the backbreaking life of

men of General Ver who considered him “one of them”. To ease the ill effects of their conflict, Gen. Ver, the FOIC of the PN and him faced the TV camera of the government-owned Channel 4 during cocktails on PN Day where he was asked subtly to retract his statement on his forged signature. Unexpectedly, he stuck to his irreversible stance that he did not sign the manifesto, which further deepened the embarrassment of Gen. Ver and his men. From there on, our classmate was a marked man, but was saved by the EDSA people’s revolt from any backlash.

The class retired on 1 April 1986, a month after the end of Martial Law that literally ended the vicious practice of extending the active service of the favored ones. The practice began when the Martial Law Ruler extended indefinitely the active service of Gen. Romeo Espino, who served as Chief of Staff, AFP for 8 years, Maj. Gen. Fidel Ramos as Chief of Contabulary for 14 years and Gen. Fabian Ver who served in various positions in Malacanang for 13 years and Chief of Staff, AFP for 6 years (perhaps a lifetime if not deposed by the 1986 EDSA people power revolt). Because of the indefinite extension of their active service, the three likewise recommended the extension of the active service of officers that

**PMA56 Surviving Members (26/51 as of February 2016)**



the fighting infantry man as exemplified by Audie Murphy, the well celebrated American hero of WWII whose real-life story he personally portrayed in his movie debut entitled: “To Hell and Back” with its meaningful foreword: “ Tell me the story of the foot soldier and you will know the story of all wars”.

In 1985 when there were already 11 members of the class with star ranks, the Bulletin Today published on its Sunday Edition a one page ad entitled: “ GENERALS’ MANIFESTO” signed by practically all the general officers of the AFP,(except B/Gens Goyena and Malto of our class, not because they were magans, but were simply cast aside) expressing full support and confidence in General Fabian Ver’s (the chief of staff AFP at that time being tried by Judge Pamaran) innocence in the assassination of Ninoy Aquino at the MIA on August 1983. A few days later, another member of the class from the Republic of Ilocandia, the first to get a star and believed to be a loyal stalwart of the powers that be, announced in the media that he did not sign the manifesto and the signature on top of his printed name was not his. His disclaimer naturally stunned the

were close to them. Thus began the flawed practice of extending the active service of retired officers who became the barnacles that gnawed at the sagging morale of the AFP officer corps. We thanked the Lord Almighty for ending the rule of Martial Law in our country and saving the AFP from this man-made catastrophe.

On its Golden Jubilee, the class had only 37 living members that moved on and went to the academy in full force to celebrate its 50th year after graduation. Ten years later on its Diamond Jubilee, 11 more had fallen behind leaving 26 surviving mistahs, now in their 81st to 85th years in various state of health, but still moving along from here to thy kingdom come. All are very desirous to set foot again, perhaps for the last time, to the portals of the academy - to reminisce the most precious happening of their lives that led to the pursuit of exciting careers and enjoyable family life. Though now beset with graying and fading hairlines, hard of walking, hearing, seeing- all of them are die-hard members of the --- L O N G G R A Y L I N E that could be counted upon as academy boys all the way.

To commemorate its DIAMOND JUBILEE, the class had donated a GOLDEN PROFESSORIAL CHAIR as a legacy to its beloved alma matter.

# Fifty years hence

by Cav Fredelino S. Bautista '66



**W**riting the Class History for the graduation issue which we call THE SWORD and updating it 25 or 50 years later is not an easy task, especially if the Class Historian is not diligent enough to record events in their cadet life as they transpired. Or if the designated historian is not permanent due to changes in class assignments or organization especially after graduation and many years hence. It is amazing that a number of Academy classes have succeeded in publishing silver and golden anniversary versions of the original THE SWORD containing fairly accurate statistics and events.

Somebody in Tactics Group PMA should advise cadets early on in their life at the Academy that they should make the writing of class history a necessary concern – perhaps as important as joining cadet clubs or becoming members of Corps Squads. For that matter, AFP planners should also earmark more slots for History in the Sec 22-K NDA scholarship program and put more premium on Unit Historian as Occupational Specialty. (There are historians in AFP units, but they are assigned on a concurrent basis and often neglected). But this is another story.

For the Class 66 History in this issue of *The Cavalier* magazine, the write up will focus on the ALPHA and OMEGA of its existence in PMA because of space constraints. The ALPHA is the entrance as cadets and the OMEGA is graduation. The more detailed recollection of events that may not be adequately remembered anymore for one reason or another will be presented in the upcoming Golden Anniversary SWORD containing fairly accurate statistics and events.

### In the beginning, the ALPHA

The Class of 1966 reckons its official birth when the members (we will henceforth refer to them as sixty-sixers) took their oath during the “Reception Ceremony” (a misnomer, more of a shocking ritual as all graduates know), on 01 April 1962 at the Borromeo Field of PMA at Fort del Pilar, Baguio City. The core of the class was composed of 81 young men who were appointed as cadets effective 01 April 1962 pursuant to GO Nr. 384, GHQ, AFP dated 12 April 1962. Nine of them were former cadets from other classes who passed the entrance examinations anew. They were joined by cadets from the previous classes (mostly Class 1965), who beefed up their strength to more than 120 (exact number, under research).

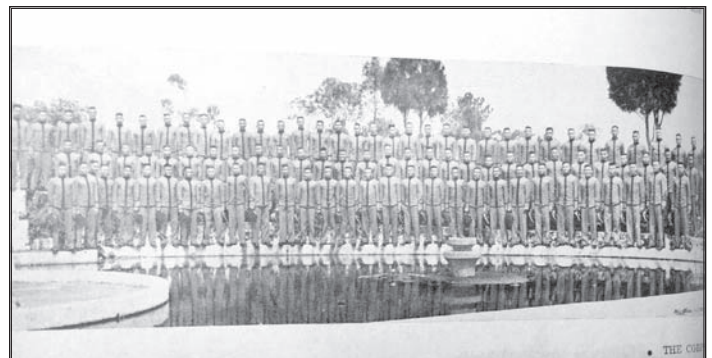


Unsuspecting new cadets marching to reception area

In Journalism class, aspiring newspapermen are taught that there is nothing more appealing to a reader than to see his name in print. So we will write the names of the original 81 enumerated as they appeared in GO Nr. 384.

*Gador TH, Mayo VA, Hontucan DB, Heredia AB, Reodica FD Jr, Regalado BA, Bruce RH, Molato RC Jr, Miraflor RY, Gonzalez TD, Baylon NC, Pusta AY, Vila EA, Aquino TA, Domingo SA Jr, Bruce CA, Panelo FE, Cañezal EA, Libarnes BA, Salvana EH, Neri RR, Soria CE Jr, Syquio IP, Belleza SV, Sierra AT, Asidera PM, Eliot RB, Clauterio RM, Carillo DG, Paraguaya ZA, Millena PS, Escarcha JE, Baltazar EG Jr, Lapinid RM, Javier EY, Espejo RC, Sabularse RI, Obillo VO, Sadiarin WJ, Reyes AT;*

*Domingo RT, Gopilan RP, Buaquen VC, Rosal VC, Alquiza AA, Leon JA, Catral JJC, Bondoc RS, Pascual RT, Dimacali JY Jr, Gaerlan RB, Jara GD, Feranil MC Jr, Nicolas RA, Franciso MS, Arugay AR, Mamorno JF, Sanchez LG, Rigor RN, Urgello RS, Galang EG, Samonte BA; Vallejera CA, Balboa AL Jr, Montinola RT, Dauz OS, Maddela MP, Lapus IC Jr, Acosta AL, Antonio MB, Tañedo RC, Padilla RA, Ruelos RS, Dela Cruz FR, Patiño BR, Corpuz BB, Austria SP, Entrada OS, Fernandez LF, Alvez LS, Papa RD, Garcia RT, Nazareno JB, Joson ER, Ericta MD, Sadsad JB, Perez SG, and Banaña CF.*



From raw plebes to snappy yearlings, one year later

### Those who made it, the OMEGA

Those above in italics, 40 of them, graduated as Class 1966 in 20 March 1966 (Not included in the list was American cadet Besecker FD), together with the 40 others enumerated below who came from other classes and who joined them during the class, four years existence in the Academy.

**In alphabetical order:** Agudelo JT, Alamon BP, Alba BL, Andres AM, Aquino JV, Atienza CP, Bantolo JV, Batayola CV, Bautista FS, Bello CH, Belo VC, Cagurangan AP Jr., Capili RB, Cordova MA, Cusion FB, Cunanan GC, Dado RS, Dumadapat GP, Eco RA, Espejo MP, Espina JA, Figueroa HF, Galon, HR, Jabile NG, Leon RC, Lopez HSJ, Neis FD Jr, Paginag AFP, Parreñas GP, Payumo ST, Perez SQ, Rivera AO, Romero AQ, Roque RS, Santos ER, Sarmiento RA Jr, Tagamolila AG Jr, Teleg LT Jr, Varona EC, and Verder GA Jr. (One graduating cadet was slashed from the list during Graduation Week).

### Service assignments

Prior to graduation, the sixty-sixers already knew their service assignments. After a one-month leave, dressed in their



*Eighty-one strong, at graduation time, standing erect along the stairway leading to the Post Chapel.*

service uniforms tailored while they were still cadets, they anxiously reported for duty, ready for actions so to speak. Little did they know that they had so many adjustments to make and disappointments to boot in their first year of active duty. Along the way, many switched assignments as directed by higher headquarters to fit the needs of the service.

Of the major services (four at that time when the Constabulary was still part of the AFP), the Philippine Army got the biggest slice -34, most of whom were assigned to the infantry. Of this number, six were later reassigned to the Constabulary, namely: Tirso Gador, Cesar H Bello, Recaredo A Sarmiento Jr, Hernani F Figueroa, Rolando S Roque, and Saturnino A Domingo Jr.

Twenty-seven went to the Philippine Navy, with two – Ponciano S Millena and Conrado A Bruce eventually volunteering for the Philippine Marines. The rest, 19 sixty-sixers opted for the Philippine Air Force, at that time, reputed to be the strongest in the region. However, Jose E Escarcha, Felicisimo D Neis Jr and Santos C Payumo had second thoughts about flying and transferred to the Army.

From here on, the sixty-sixers pursued their military careers in the tradition of excellence required of Academy graduates. Forty attained star ranks (GEN – 3, LTGEN/VADM – 4, MGEN/RADM - 11, BGEN -22). Those who attained the highest military ranks in their organization were **Angie Reyes** and **Joselin Nazareno** – CSAFP and **Rec Sarmiento** – CPNP. In the civilian service, some sixty-sixers established their footprints. Angie Reyes established a record of sort when he was appointed Secretary of three Departments – DND, DILG, DENR and DOE; **Vic Mayo** served as Deputy National Security Adviser; **Ces Bello** as DND Undersecretary; **Bert Varona** as Director Arsenal, DND; **Temi Arugay** as Administrator, PVAO; **Gerry Cunanan** as Gen Manager, MIAA; **Joselin Nazareno**, Ambassador to Pakistan and **Edd Santos**, Head, Philippine Ports Authority. We will not mention here those who ventured into the business world and also made good for there were too many of them.

In the course of their service to the country, sixty-sixers rubbed elbows and established fellowship with other comrades in arms, including civilians in non-military endeavors who

manifested active support for the objectives of the armed forces, the alumni association and the class organization. On invitation, they accepted associate membership in the class. We shall give credit and appreciation to their contribution and for enriching the perspectives of sixty-sixers by mentioning their names in the Class History. They are Rolando dela Cuesta and Delfin J Wenceslao Jr (both are also PMAAAI honorary members), Oscar Barrientos, Lysias Cabusao, Rose Buck Carrion, Wilbur Chan, Simeon Cruz, Paul Dominguez, Oscar Entrata, Isidro Fajardo, Filomeno Garcia Jr, Higido Gay-ya, Jesli Lapus, *Jose Lachica*, Dennis Narvios, Gregorio Llorca, *Roy Papa*, *Camilo Santos*, Antonio Santos, Virgilio Totanes, and Eduardo Urieta. (Names in italics are deceased).

#### **Last taps for 37**

Thirty-seven sixty-sixers, including a Class '66 USMA graduate and three associate members had been rendered the LAST TAPS, a gesture of honor from the armed forces and surviving comrades. Most of them were interred at the grass-covered gravesites at the Libingan ng mga Bayani, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City. They are not forgotten. Every year, surviving sixty-sixers and their spouses visit their graves to offer prayers, flowers and candles. If it means a thing, it shows that their memories live in the hearts and minds of their mistahs with whom they shared unforgettable moments not only as cadets, comrades-in-arms in the service and during their lifetime as retirees.

#### **Epilogo**

*Buhay na buhay pa ang Class 1966. Namamayagpag pa, wika nga. Makikita pa sila sa Kuta Bonifacio at Kampo Aguinaldo at sa ibang dako ng Filipinas Kung ating lilingunin ang mga nakaraang taon, marami rin tayong inialay sa ating bayan at sa sandatahang lakas. Taas noo nating tititigan ang ating mga kababayan sapagkat tayo ay naglingkod nang tapat sa ating bayan. Marami ang nakipaglaban sa mga kaaway na gustong sirain ang demokrasya bilang mga pinuno o kalupunan ng iba't ibang sangay ng sandatahang lakas. At kahit sa kanilang katandaan handa silang maglingkod muli kung kinakailangan.*

# SAMBISIG: A story of unity and resilience

By Cav Carlo V Lagasca '91  
Class President

Everything started from a childish dream of joining the military. In our younger years, when people asked what we would like to be, our reply was an authoritative statement, "I want to be a soldier". That dream had made us, the future "Sambisigs", more determined to enter the Philippine Military Academy.

It was on 01 April of 1987 when we reported as cadets. In military tradition, it was called "Reception Day". But most fondly called it "hell day". But that was the beginning that changed our lives, a turning point. Most of us thought reception was a formal gathering with foods and drinks all around and the ambiance was grandiose, short of something fit for the royalty. But we soon found out that, while the "reception"



was somewhat formal to some extent, the similarity ended there. It never came close to what we were expecting. Yes there were foods and drinks, but rather than served in dignified manner, instead, they were "scattered" all around the reception field as a result of those "physical activities" that forced most of us to part ways with our recent lunch in a not so fashionable manner. At that very moment, we were at a loss and seemed ready to give up. At night on that day, we were totally exhausted. We wanted to sleep and rest. But those things were not rights for a "plebe". Those were privileges. We could still vividly remember that our squad leaders then talked to us after an exhilarating "masimasi". But I guessed that at time, most of us were either in deep slumber or our thoughts were wandering, not fully attentive to whatever was being discussed. But there was one word though, that caught our wandering consciousness, the word "mistah". That was the word that lingered on our minds, which to this very day, the bond that keeps all members of the Long Gray Line united. It is said that blood is thicker than water, but "mistah" is thicker than blood. The term connotes integrity and camaraderie beyond anything else. Hence, its essence is amplified by our class name, "SAMBISIG", which pertains to unity.

## Our beginnings and the cadet days

That ecstatic scene was the very moment when we received a telegram informing us that we had been appointed as a cadet in the Philippine Military Academy. We had been anxiously awaiting for this news, enduring sleepless nights, not knowing what exactly would be our fate after undergoing physical examination in V-Luna Hospital. But with perseverance, we finally achieved our dreams, PMA at last. We felt so overjoyed, jumping up and down, throwing some high fives here and there, shouting at the top of our voices. It was a feeling like no other. One could have perhaps pinched our nose or even slapped our face, and we

would not have even budged a bit. Why? Because we were in dreamland. But the road to PMA was never a rose garden.

Studying for the entrance exam, preparing ourselves physically fit and mentally prepared of what lay ahead, came with a stiff price. We had to forego lots of teenage stuffs like weekend and night outings, drinking sessions and many other significant things. Our sacrifices paid off. We got what we bargained for when we sacrificed those golden moments during our salad days. Although we had an inkling that life inside the Academy was promising as it was intriguing, we were hoping to reminisce a beautiful reception. Instead, we were about to begin an unexpected journey that we would never forget. What we expected to be delectable cuisines in a fine dining environment and eating with gusto, turned out to be boodlefights and meals eaten as if there was no more tomorrow. But we stood our ground and with pride, exalted ourselves, just like the song, "we will make it through the rain".

The bond of camaraderie of the class started during that traditional military reception in Camp Aquino in Tarlac City. It was an extraordinary experience because the climate of the place had added to the rigors of the training. For about two months, the environment could be described as a "clash of clans" or "survivor of the fittest". The firmness of 517 members transcended all the struggles of the "summer camp" until we were incorporated into the regular "Corps of Cadets" in Fort Del Pilar in Baguio City.

Life as plebe was not easy for all of us. We were sharpened by the lessons in academics, disciplined by the provisions in conduct, firmed and persevered with physical trainings, and became noble through the honor system. In the military way of life, it was just a norm because every soldier was governed by a set of well-defined regulations. Other than that, customs and traditions in the military service encompassed all that we had been through during our military trainings as cadets.

As part of the customs of the Corps, plebe traditions were enforced by the upperclassmen, which required strict observance on the part of the fourthclassmen, the plebes. Behind every plebe tradition lay a constructive reason. It was the basic foundation that provided us the learning experience, which we treasured and kept on sharing years after.

During our plebehood days, we took one day at time for we considered the plebe traditions, although difficult to surmount, as an essential undertaking which aimed to mold us with the certain traits of character highly required as a military leader.

Then, we ascended the Cadet Corps chain of command as "yearlings" or thirdclassmen, then as "cows" or secondclassmen, and finally as "immaculates" or firstclassmen. During our yearling and cow years, there had been a considerable number of us who were deferred to the next classes due to various reasons.

***Our immaculate years were no different. Although the most challenging because of the immense responsibility of leading the Corps, what made it unique was that we would soon be "cadets no more, officers not yet". It was also during this part of our cadet days that the destructive 7.8 magnitude***





***earthquake devastated most of central and northern Luzon, and Baguio City was not spared on 16 June 1990. It was a dark moment for Baguio in terms of socio-economic aspects. Relatively, it was also a tragic time for PMA due to the effects of the earthquake on its infrastructures. To be safe, all cadets fixed tents in Borromeo Field for more than a month. The earthquake served as some sort of “on-the-job-training” for the Sambisigs in a real life scenario while still being cadets.***

Then came 17 February 1991, A 218 strong members of the class were declared graduates; 104 joined the Philippine Army; 33 joined the Philippine Air Force; 53 joined the Philippine Navy and 28 joined the Philippine National Police/Philippine Constabulary.

**In service to the country and its people**

Our graduation marked the time to face the reality and chance to apply the idealism that our Alma Mater had instilled us. We adopted the ideals of the profession of arms, as articulated by French General Charles de Gaulle in his “Military Professionalism”. We were ready to “submit of our own free will to a law of perpetual constraints... reject our right to live where we choose, to say what we think, to dress as we like...in the word of command, we must rise, march, run, endure bad weather, and go out without sleep or food, be isolated in some distant post, work until we drop...”. This has been the mantra of our selfless commitment and devotion to the call of duty.


Indeed, the members of the class, individually or collectively, had been engaged in various disaster response operations notably during of the cataclysmic eruption of Mount Pinatubo on 15 June 1991. It was the second largest volcanic eruption of the century. Also, the members of the class in their respective capacity participated in the conduct of rescue and relief operations during



typhoons Ondoy, Pepeng, Centennial, Pablo, Yolanda to name a few, including the of 7.2 magnitude earthquake that rocked Bohol, Cebu and some parts of the Visayas and the man-made disaster caused by renegade MNLF guerrillas, better known as the “Siege of Zamboanga”. Aside from these, the Sambisigs were also involved in the planning and execution of various government campaign plans and operations in support of national events like the Papal visit in 1995 and 2015, the Miss Universe beauty pageant in 1994 and the APEC summit in 1996 and 2015.

As time passed by, some of the members of the class found greener pastures in the corporate world, some ventured into politics, international career and government service outside of the Defense Department. However, there are still those who opted to remain in the military service. Most members of the class who are still in the active service are now Colonels or Navy Captains in the AFP or Senior Superintendents in the PNP, and are holding key positions.

**Heading forward**

In celebrating our 25th year anniversary, as the “Silver Jubilarian” during the PMA Alumni Homecoming 2016, the Sambisigs are proud to have participated in nation building, national security operations and in the protection of the interest of the people. The class has remained as a formidable and united in brotherhood, continually exerting its tremendous efforts to make a difference and leave a lasting legacy of excellence for the next generation. As we reminisce about the past, enjoy the present and ponder about the future, we will continue to support each other. We will keep on being a significant part of society and remain steadfast in living up to the Academy’s motto of “Courage, Integrity and Loyalty”. 



### 2016 Cavalier Awardees... from page 8

proposals which led to the AFP's adoption of cyberspace as the fourth domain of military operations other than land, air and sea in 2014; he activated the AFP Text Blast or Mass Electronic Text Messaging System in 2014; and as member of the National Board of Directors of the Institute of Electronics and Communications Engineers of the Philippines (IECEP) he helped compose and edit the proposed Philippine Electronics Code Volumes 1 to 3 in 2010-2015. He has also effectively discharged social responsibilities through meaningful contribution and consistent participation in CMO/Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Response (HADR) Operations, saving hundreds of victims of various calamities.

### B. LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



**Cavalier Carlos L Agustin USNA '60** rendered at least fifty (50) years of distinguished, outstanding, exemplary and unblemished service to the country. He served as a Cadet and Officer of the Armed Forces of the Philippines from 1 April 1955 to 1 December 1993, General Manager of the Philippine Ports Authority from 2 December 1993 to 14 July 1998, and President of the National Defense College of the Philippines from 15 October 2001 to 1 July 2010. He has also served with distinction in many major non-government organizations for several years up to the present.

### C. OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The Outstanding Achievement Award is given to the following alumni who have distinguished themselves by being appointed to high positions in the uniformed services:

### from page 61... Eulogy for Cavalier Gatmaitan '52

that were destroyed in combat action. This was definitely one of the most challenging military engineer's operations in AFP history. Because Paco's job involved never-ending technical challenges under serious life-threatening conditions, the AFP found it difficult to look for replacement. Consequently, Paco's assignment in Vietnam extended to more than two years, one of the longest PHILCAG assignments on record. But the results of the PHILCAG Engineers' work earned, for the Philippines the undying admiration and gratitude, not only of the Vietnamese people, but even that of the Viet Cong as well.

Upon his return to the Philippines, Paco was designated CO, AFP 52nd Engineer Brigade, then operating in war-torn Mindanao. Among the most noteworthy achievements of the 52nd Engineers during that period, was the restoration of the collapsed spans of the vital highway bridge crossing the Cotabato River (the country's second largest river system), after a major earthquake that hit Cotabato sometime in 1976. When the then President Marcos asked the DPWH how long it would take to restore traffic over the damaged bridge, the reply was three weeks at least. The

president then asked how long the AFP Engineers could complete the restoration. Paco promptly answered "Ten days, Mr President". Although the President may have been skeptical of Paco's response, he nevertheless directed then Col. Gatmaitan to take over the work. Working around the clock, and using their Vietnam experience to full advantage, the 52nd Engineers not only restored traffic over that bridge three days after they took charge of the project; they also completed the repair works in less than 10 days. Paco was promoted to Brigadier General shortly thereafter.

Paco retired from the Armed forces in July 1977. Immediately after, Paco was appointed Executive Vice President of MERALCO and concurrently, President of MIESCOR, MERALCO'S engineering and construction subsidiary. Paco effectively headed the operation of the country's largest electricity franchise for some 10 years, after which he relinquished the position and formed his own engineering and construction consultancy.

***Not only we, his classmates and friends but also the countless people who worked with him in his various assignments, admire Paco for his intelligence, technical***

**Cavalier Ricardo C Marquez '82** as Chief, Philippine National Police from 16 July 2015 to date. He is also this year's Cavalier Awardee for Special Operations.


**Cavalier Hernando Delfin CA Iriberry '83** as Chief of Staff, Armed Forces of the Philippines from 10 July 2015 to date.

**Cavalier Caesar C Taccad '82** as Flag Officer In Command, Philippine Navy from 10 August 2015 to date.

**Cavalier Eduardo M Año '83** as Commanding General, Philippine Army from 13 July 2015 to date. He was also a Cavalier Awardee for Army Operations in 1996.

### D. VALOR AWARD


The current Board of Directors of the Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association, Inc. (PMAAAI) has approved the establishment of the Valor Award (VA) for conferment to regular members of PMAAAI who had been awarded the Medal of Valor (MOV).

The presentation of the Lifetime Achievement Award, Outstanding Achievement Award and the first awarding ceremony for the conferment of the VA to all past MOV awardees were held during the Annual General Membership Meeting of the PMAAAI on 23 January 2016 at the AFP Theater, Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City. The VA awardees were the following: Cav Paulino B Santos '14; Cav Mariano N Castañeda '15; Cav Conrado D Yap '43; Cav Arturo B Ortiz '79; Cav Ariel O Querubin '79; Cav Noel S Buan '84; Cav Robert Edward M Lucero '87; Cav Custodio J Parcon Jr '87; Cav Cirilito E Sobejana '87; Cav Bartolome Vicente O Bacarro '88; and Cav Herbert D Dilag '98. 

***and practical skills, dedication to duty, unrelenting pursuit of mission objectives, and, very importantly, his concern and care for the people who worked with him.***

***Over our many years together, we saw Paco tested during good as well as depressing, times. Through these all, Paco's equanimity, even under the most trying conditions was remarkable. While Paco seldom spoke of the Academy motto of " Integrity, Courage and Loyalty", he lived his entire life by those tenets.***

Today, we grieve, not so much for Paco, because he is now in a much better world than ours. Probably, we should grieve more for ourselves, because we can no longer avail of his infectious enthusiasm, his sage counsel and his warm companionship. Paco will continue to inspire us and remain in our hearts always. Although he is gone, and our hearts are heavy, we will forever be filled with pride and admiration for the man who filled life so richly for others and who considered us as among his closest friends.

General Paco Gatmaitan, we salute you. We wish you Godspeed on your way to meet our Maker. May you have a well-deserved rest and be at peace forever. 

The prime movers of Homecoming 2016

# PMA Sinagtala Class of 1986

by Cav Archie Francisco F Gamboa '86

## THE OFFICIAL CLASS PROFILE

**P**MA "Sinagtala" Class of 1986 was the name that resounded on graduation day of 22 March 1986. Out of 357 cadets who were appointed, 174 young lieutenants and ensigns emerged. These newly graduated cadets were distributed into the four branches of service: 80 were commissioned in the Philippine Army, 24 in the Philippine Navy, 50 in the Philippine Constabulary and 20 in the Philippine Air Force. From the 174 who graduated, 73% or 127 were original members of Class 1986 while the remaining 27% or 47 cadets came from the previous classes.

## The Journey of Class 86

The Class of 86's road towards joining the AFP's Officers Corps on that day of 22nd March, was a challenging one. Just like any other training institutions which necessitate the use of one's brains and brawns, training in the Philippine Military Academy has never been easy.

During their Fourth Class year, out of the original 357 members, 17% (59) resigned due to either loss of interest (75% of those who resigned) or for the good of the service (25% of those who resigned). A substantial number were likewise discharged (6% or 20) due to academic deficiency or violating cadet limits. At least 17% (62) were also turned back and later on made to join the other succeeding classes. Their reasons for being turned back were mostly due to academic deficiency, sick leaves and excessive absences. At least three (3) cadets were likewise dropped from rolls while fourteen (14) decided not to report during and even prior to reception day.

During Yearling year, the attrition rate of Class 86 somehow diminished. The members of the Class seemed to have developed a sturdier sense of resiliency. The number of turned back cadets was limited to at least eighteen, 16 of them due to academic deficiency and two because of maltreatment.

Records also showed that at least five were discharged, two resigned and one was dropped from rolls.

The Second Class year showed better status as reflected by a fewer number of turned back cadets (at least 11), discharged (4) and resigned (1). For the turned back cadets, the common reason was still academic deficiency, followed by suspension due to maltreatment and exceeding or not observing cadet limits.

Barely a year before graduation, the First Class cadets, seemed to have learned from the past. There was a big drop in the attrition rate. Perhaps they had already realized would soon be young lieutenants and ensigns. Of the original member of the class 86, only two were suspended while one resigned for the good of the service.

The original 357 members were later on joined by 157 cadets from other

Class 86, at least five of them made it to the United States Coast Guard Academy (USCGA) while one made it to the United States Military Academy (USMA).

## Statistics on the Class

01 April 1982, was the day that the members of PMA Class 1986 made their mark on the hallowed grounds of Borromeo Field. This also marked the start of a new beginning for them. It was the start of threshing out the fit from the unfit, of shedding civilian antics and putting on a military mindset.

At entry, the Class 1986 was composed of young, ambitious and competitive group of individuals. As per record from the Office of the Registrar, Philippine Military Academy, their ages ranged from 17 to 21 years old. Out of the 357 who were originally appointed members, 33% or 117 were 17 years old, 29% or 104 were 18 years old, 18% or 63 were 19 years old, 11% or 41 were 20 years old and 9% or 32 were 21 years old.

Almost half of the Class or 42% (148) were in their first year in college, 33% (117) were in their second year in college, 10% (37) were in their third year, 4% (15) were in their fourth year and a mere

2% (7) were already college graduates. Meanwhile, the remaining 9% (33) were high school graduates.

Achievement wise, the members of Class 1986 were at par with the previous PMA classes. At least 31% (109) were honor graduates in high school. Of the honor graduates 46% or 50 garnered the highest third honors; 20% or 22 got the fourth honors and 18% or 20 graduated as valedictorian. This was somewhat expected since at least 84% or 301 cadets got a rating of 91-99+% in the National College Entrance Exam. Likewise in high school 17% or 57 were recipients of scholarship while 14% or 49 were scholars during their civilian college years.

Of those who were able to study in college, a greater portion of them pursued



classes at different times. These cadets were likewise not spared from attrition. During Fourth class year, at least 40 of this group were attrited for reasons such as did not report, resigned, dropped from rolls and AWOL. At least nine of them were likewise turned back due to academic deficiency, emergency leave and sick leave. On their second year, at least 27 of this group were turned back, 11 were discharged, three resigned and two were dropped from rolls. In their third year at least nine were turned back, four were discharged due to academic deficiency and one was dropped from rolls.

These figures reflecting the overall attrition rate was saddening. Yet the Class still stood tall and held on to the end. Of the original 357 members of

Engineering (civil, electrical, mechanical, electronic, industrial, mining, aero, metallurgical, management, agricultural and chemical engineering). The others were pursuing major courses in the social sciences, management sciences, natural sciences and vocational courses.

In terms of religious affiliation, majority of the cadets were Roman Catholics (close to 90%), followed by Protestants (3%), Aglipayan (2%), Iglesia ni Cristo (1%) and the remaining were Baptists, Anglican, Mormon and 7th Day Adventists.

Almost half of the members, of Class were Tagalog (49%), followed by Ilocanos (18%), Visayans (12%), Bicolanos (5%), Igorots (4%) and the remaining were Ilonggos, Pangasinense, Pampango, Waray, Ybanag, Cebuano, Cagayanos, Manabo, Itawes, Tiruray, Cavitenos, Batangueno, Leyteno, Kalinga and Itneg. Two were foreigners, a Thai and a Malaysian.

Majority of the Class belonged to the middle income bracket (at least 71%) with a family monthly income of 700.00php to 4000.00php. 15% belonged to the upper bracket with a monthly income of 4000.00 php to over 6000.00php and 14% were those with a monthly income of less than 700.00php. Parents' occupations were in the government service, military service and private practice. Major sources of income were mostly from practice of profession, business and agriculture.

On the lighter side, it was also noted many members of Class 86 were talented. A good number were gifted with a good voice, skills in dramatics, debating as well as writing. Several could play different instruments, from the guitar, piano to even accordions, trumpets and clarinets. In terms of athletic interests, they were never different from civilian youths. A greater majority also enjoyed basketball as their chosen sport, followed by volleyball and soccer. There were also a few who signified interest in cycling, pelota and pingpong.

Given the preceding descriptions about the members of Class 86, one can say that they are a unique blend of talents and skills, rolled into one to form the "Sinagtala" Class of 1986.

## THE UNTOLD CLASS PROFILE

The preceding class profile contained facts which could be found in the official records of the Academy. Most of the class graduated in four years. Some were not as lucky. There were a few things that were unforgettable to the Sinagtalans.

***It is the only class that has a class song. The lyrics were composed by Cadets Bob Empedrad and Banderlipe while the music was composed by Cadets Tootsie Casio and Gemini Jimenez. It has been sung regularly in class meetings and informal gatherings. It did provide the uniqueness of the Class' identity that developed its class unity and integrity. Even to this date, it is one of the few classes of PMA that has no honorary member as it stands in its belief that it is not necessary. Among its firsts was the establishing and pioneering of the Cadet Christian Fellowship courtesy of Sam Boga who was its first Cadet-in-charge. Rolly "Manok" Manalo was also credited for assembling the first dancing lights switchboard used in countless corps hops.***

It was also the first class to walk-out from the Academy and became branded as "the rebel class". It all started when three of its mistahs (out of five) were tried and found guilty of countenancing hazing. The class as a body made an appeal for reconsideration of the three's verdict. It fell on deaf ears when a member of the Chain of Command kept the appeal in an office drawer. The Class further resorted to other administrative remedies that were available but it was still put to naught. The Class left the Academy by Tendering a Class resignation with all the Yearling rooms left in SI standard. After singing the Class Song at the side of Melchor Hall, the Sinagtalans marched on foot, towards the gates of Fort del Pilar. A very sad mode dominated the walk as each member would leave the Academy for good just to emphasize a point.

After a three-day negotiation with the Academy administration, the whole Class went back to the Academy with its three members. It did achieve its cause. However the whole Corps was

"slugged" with the Sinagtalans receiving the most severe Class One punishment. For a number of months the whole Corps was on fatigue duty during weekends to serve the punishment but for the Sinagtalans they were "touring" (60 steps per minute with the proper bom-bom) for the rest of the year. The consequences were difficult but the Class survived them and has remembered up to this very day.

A more nationalistic first also occurred when members of the class were the firsties. Armed with M14 rifles, they were ready to move to Metro Manila to join the rebel forces. Fortunately, they were persuaded to stay and defend Fort del Pilar by then Gen Fidel V Ramos.

The EDSA Revolution, the first of its kind, was a success. The members of the Class were the first to graduate under the first woman President, Corazon Aquino; the first to graduate under a Revolutionary Government. Their graduation was the first engagement of President Aquino outside Metro Manila. For the first time also, demonstrators were allowed on the sacred Borromeo Field. And, not to be counted out, the rhythm of the bass drum was adjusted to conform with the steps of the lady (for President Aquino presumably).

The series of firsts experienced by the Class were part of its colorful history. Some related circumstances caused them to happen. As the Class celebrates its 30th year after graduation, it does not intend to create or participate in more "firsts" but would just ponder on their implications and let them remain in their hearts. 🙏





# CLASS CALL

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

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



**Editor's Note:** In lieu of the regular Class Call, the Cavalier staff is publishing the article below, written by PVAO researchers April Joyce Hermosa and Jet Fajardo-Rivera pertaining to Cavaliers Vicente F Alhambra and Catalino del Rosario Ibañez, the only surviving members of Class 1942. Their World War II heroism, their resilience in surviving adverse conditions and longevity in life which is the product of a healthy lifestyle, should be a source of inspiration to all of us.

## WAR BUDDIES THEN

**B**oth members of Class of 1942 of the Philippine Military Academy (PMA), Col. Catalino del Rosario Ibañez, PA (Ret) and Col. Vicente Alhambra, Sr. PC (Ret) were buddies 'til the end. Though they went their separate ways during the war, they still relate with each other from school, military service and as old time friends. Both men are epitomes of bravery and love for country. Col. Ibañez, 96 years old, and Col. Alhambra, 98 years old, are two of the oldest living veterans from World War II and the only living members of PMA Class '42.

### Col Vicente F Alhambra, Sr PC, (Ret)



A member of Class 1942 of the Philippine Military Academy (PMA), Col Vic was immediately commissioned as 3rd Lieutenant on 13 December 1942 following the bombing

of the Pearl Harbor on 08 December 1941. He literally experienced baptism of fire in his

immediate deployment to the firing line in Mariveles, Bataan under the 2nd Regular Division of the Philippine Army, attached to the United States Army Forces in the Far East (USAFFE). He was designated S-4 of the Field Artillery (FA) Regiment.

His health and agility enabled him to survive the horrendous cruelty of man against man that was the Death March. From San Fernando, Pampanga, he was forcibly loaded, along with his fellow soldiers, in cramped boxed cars – an experience he considered a “death ride.” From the train station in Capas, Tarlac, they had to walk another six miles again by foot to Camp O'Donnell which the Japanese turned into an incarceration camp where prisoners literally experienced a living hell. The same place had been the burial ground of many soldiers who succumbed to death due to torture, illness and malnutrition. Being at the prime of his youth made him withstand days of walking without food, rest or sleep. He used his strength to collect food and water thrown by sympathizing civilians which he shared with fellow soldiers, especially the sick and starving. At the prison camp, he frequently escaped to buy 'tinapa' (smoked fish) from nearby makeshift stores or forage whatever edible vegetable he could find to nourish himself and his fellow prisoners.

On August 10, 1942, he was fortunately released from prison. Upon returning to his place in Cavite, he joined his fellow Caviteños in covertly organizing the Filipino-American Cavite Guerrilla Forces (FACGF), under the able leadership of Colonel Mariano Castañeda. At the same time he was ordered by Col Castañeda, his superior, to join the Philippine Constabulary force of the “puppet” Philippine government under the Japanese, purposely to serve as “spy” and gather intelligence information for the underground guerilla resistance movement.

The crucial intelligence information he gathered, including details of operations and maps indicating various locations of Japanese garrisons and warehouses of logistics contributed immensely to the

success of his unit in conducting raids and combat operations. From 1943 to 1945, his unit fought the enemy fiercely and relentlessly. They liberated the town of Bacoor and eventually, the entire province of Cavite. Recognizing the great risk he selflessly took as a planted “spy” for the liberation forces and his significant contributions as a Battalion Commander, Col. Castañeda ordered his spot promotion as Major, which the US military authorities upheld unquestioningly.

*After the World War II, he continued his military service with the Philippine Constabulary – Armed Forces of the Philippines. Because of his passion to serve his motherland, he lightly accepted the downgrading of his rank from Major to Captain in the regular force. From 1945-1946, he served as the Commanding Officer of the Security Company, HPA, after which he was designated Deputy of G-2 / 3 of the Second Military Area from 1947 – 1948. When the Philippine government responded to the call of the United Nations to defend South Korea from communist aggression, five battalion combat teams (BCTs) were sent as UN contingent in the Korean War. He was designated as Intelligence Officer (S-2) of the 20th Battalion Combat Team (BCT), Philippine Expeditionary Force to Korea (PEFTOK) from 1951-1952.*

After returning from Korea, he held several command positions in Camp Murphy. He served as the Commanding Officer of the 6th Infantry Battalion, 1st Regular Division and concurrently as Commandant of the Reserved Officers Training Corps (ROTC) of the National University in 1954. He afterwards became Commanding Officer of the 14th BCT from 1955-1956. From 1957-1958, he was designated G-3 of the 2nd Military Area and G-1 of the Philippine Army in 1959. In 1963, he headed the Criminal Investigation Service of the Philippine Constabulary. In 1964, he became Chief of the Firearms and Explosives Unit, HPC from 1964-1966. He also had the opportunity to represent the AFP in the following foreign and local schoolings/courses, mostly in the USA: Ground General Course in Fort Riley, Kansas, USA in 1949; Infantry Basic Training at The Infantry School, Fort Benning, Georgia, USA in 1950; Infantry Advanced Course, The Infantry School, Fort Benning, Georgia, USA in 1961; Chemical, Biological and Radiological Warfare Course in Fort McClellan, Alabama, USA in 1961; Command and General Staff Course, Fort Bonifacio, Rizal, Philippines.

Col Alhambra was chosen either to lead or participate in the following special

assignments which extensively required competence and military leadership and adeptness in diplomacy and foreign relations: South East Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO) Exercise “Strong Back” - 1956; Observation Operation of a US Infantry Regiment in Korea in 1959; Observation in US Defense Set-up and Modern Weapons – Fort Bliss Texas in 1961; SEATO Exercise “Flying Brothers: - Clark Air Force Base in 1960; Philippines – US Mutual Defense Board in 1966-67. The last post he held was as Philippine Military Liaison Officer to the US Naval Station in Sangley Point, Cavite.

He retired from the AFP on 30 August 1967 in the rank of Colonel, with retirement pay based on base pay and longevity pay in the rank of Brigadier General, having rendered 30 years of honorable military service pursuant to General Orders No. 69 dated 21 August 1967. Among his awards and citations, to name a few, include the following: Military Merit Medal, Long Service Medal, Presidential Unit Citation Badge, Distinguished Unit Badge with 2 OKL (USA), Philippine Defense Medal with 1 BS, Philippine Liberation Medal, Anti-Dissidence Campaign Medal, American Defense Service Medal (USA), Asiatic-Pacific Theatre Medal (USA), World War II Victory Medal (USA).

**Col Catalino Del Rosario Ibañez, PA (Ret):  
Builder, Lawyer and World War II Hero**



At first glance, the convivial gentleman who bade us to enter his abode seemed just like other elderly people of his age – a loving husband to wife, Carmen who is now 92 years old;

a good father to his seven children and the best grandfather to his 14 grandchildren. Had we not researched his profile from his available records as a pensioner, we would not have known that the man smiling at us is an engineer, a lawyer, and a distinguished army officer. But before that, he was a Death March survivor, a prisoner of war (POW). He is definitely one of the nation’s finest defenders. In short, he is every inch a hero.

Born on 10 October 1919 in Tondo, Manila, he was merely 19 years old when he entered the Philippine Military Academy as a cadet on 1 April 1938. When Baguio City was bombed on 08 December of 1941, PMA was temporarily closed by the authorities and all cadets and instructors went down and settled later at University of Sto. Tomas campus in Manila. Classes '42 & '43 were graduated and '44 & '45 were disbanded

and sent home disappointed because they wanted to fight for their country.

Col. Ibañez recalled that in a ceremony at the UST in December 1941, the PMA transformed from an academic institution into a unit ready to be deployed in the war. The officers were assigned to various units and the cadets were commissioned with the rank of 3rd Lieutenant in the Philippine Army by authority of the President of the Philippine Commonwealth. The following day, he was inducted into the United States Army Forces in the Far East (USAFFE) as Executive Officer of the 2nd Battalion, 3rd Regiment, First Regular Division with the rank of 2Lt. He was directly under Col. Fidel Segundo (USMA 1917), then PMA Superintendent who was designated as Division Commander.

In March 1942, he was reassigned to Company C, First Battalion, Third Regiment as Commanding Officer up to the fall of Bataan on 09 April 1942. His unit was assigned in Mt. Natib, Mauban, Quezon as part of the Abucay-Mauban Line to meet the Japanese troops who might land on the beaches of Quezon according to their intelligence reports. That time, the Allied Forces already regrouped and his unit belonged to the I Corps, including the 31st, and 91st Infantry Divisions, and the 26th Cavalry of the Philippine Scout. They were surprised when their troops returned to Bataan because the Japanese soldiers were already there waiting for them.

“I still remember back then that most of the soldiers in our unit who belonged to ROTC units did not reconnoiter. They went out to forage for food instead because they were just college students recruited to fight the war without any formal training. That time, the supplies and other provision no longer reach the front lines,” the seasoned veteran said.

The allies suffered heavy losses in the Battle of the Pockets and witnessed the atrocities of the Japanese to the soldiers they captured and murdered at the Pantingan River. After the surrender of the allied forces, Col. Ibañez and thousands other soldiers were ordered to march on foot from Bagac, Bataan while the other groups came from Mariveles. All of them lined up and formed columns in what was historically known as “Death March.” He was sick with dysentery while traversing the deadly march and even had malaria. “Rarely, we were given only rice balls to eat. Nothing more,” he remembered. Col. Ibañez suffered greatly during the brutal ordeal that continued when they rode the cramped box cars from San Fernando train station in Pampanga to Capas Train station and were forced again to walk from the train station to the concentration camp. “We saw hundreds of dead soldiers being carried by

their comrades. We felt really terrible as the burial detail passed by our detention cell,” recalled the 95-year-old veteran.

After several months in Camp O’Donnell, he was later brought to Camp del Pilar in Pampanga where he was released following months of hellish incarceration, still suffering from malaria, dysentery and severe deprivation. He was hospitalized in San Lazaro Hospital and later on recuperated. Due to the uncertainties of a soldier’s career, he studied Civil Engineering in Mapua Institute of Technology in January 1943 and graduated easily in March 1944, since most of his subjects in PMA were credited. He took the Civil Engineering Board Exam and placed sixth notwithstanding lack of preparation.

***Being a licensed engineer, he could have just led a quiet life, away from peril and pain but he came back to military service in September 1944 as an undercover agent with the assumed name, Luis Farol. He reported to Capt. Bartolome Cabangbang, AUS of the Bulacan Military Area. In February 1945, he joined the 2nd Replacement Battalion in Camp Olivas but a few months thereafter, he was transferred from Infantry to the Corps of Engineers during which he was assigned at Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3. In 1945, he attended the Engineer School at Fort Belvoir, Virginia, USA. He returned in the Philippines in January 1946 after which he continued his military career until he retired at ISAFP in May 1968. The passage of the Republic Act No. 65 or the Veterans Bill of Rights in 1946 provided another opportunity to Col. Ibañez. In 1948, he availed of the educational benefit to study law. He graduated in 1950 but took the bar only in 1956.***

“I never wanted to continue taking the rest of the exam because the first part was all about Latin. But my wife, Carmen, told me that if I won’t take the rest of the exam, I would certainly flunk. But if I took the other half of it, then there’s a chance, however slim, for me to still pass. And my wife was right,” Col. Ibañez quipped, looking thoughtfully across the table where his wife was seated during the interview.

Aside from his numerous achievements, Col. Ibañez is also known as the only cadet to sign his own diploma because the PMA Class of 1942 went straight to war and had no graduation ceremonies. It was only in 1948 that the Class of 1942 members were ordered back to the Philippine Military Academy to attend their formal graduation exercises and collect the long overdue diplomas. He was among them, and as Secretary of the Academic Board in 1948 he had to sign all the diplomas of his classmates, including his own.

Col. Ibañez is presently staying in the

same address in West Avenue, Quezon City where he and his family have been residing for 55 years. He lives with his wife, Ms. Carmen Talavera Ibañez. The Ibañez couple has seven children, namely: Eduardo, Thelma, Leny, Narecita, Imaculada, Leticia, and Maria Cristina – all successful professionals in their chosen field. To date, they have 14 grandchildren. Though none among Col. Ibañez’s children followed his military career, he and Carmen, nonetheless, made pretty sure that all of them would inherit their love for country and fellow Filipinos.

**BUDDIES TILL NOW**

Up to this date, they still are in contact with each other. Col Alhambra would sometimes visit Col Ibañez who needs to stay home to look after his wife.



**A Happy New Year 2016 to all.**

**P**MA '52 held its 2015 Christmas Party last 15 December at the Camp Aguinaldo Golf Clubhouse. Practically all classmates and spouses and widows in the Metro Manila were present; Eddie and daughter Joy Arciaga, Mente and Chit Brazil, Nano and Minda Imperial, Delfin and Enid Mendoza, Lolong Nuguid , Cesar and Lily Pobre, Vigi and Sol Vigilar, widows Menzi Gardose, Charito Melchor, Letty Meim and Manding Pacleb two of her sons. Rev Fr. Dennis, Tacquio Meim’s son celebrated mass to start the reunion. Lunch was followed with an exchange of Christmas gifts. Other packages were raffled away. Everybody went home with a least a package in hand. A good time was had by all.

PMA '52 announces with deep regrets the passing away of two of its stalwarts; Ancieto (Cetong) N. Pacleb and Francisco (Paco) V. Gatmaitan.

Cetong, suffered a severe stroke on 2 October, which paralyzed his left side and kept him in coma for almost a month before he expired on 31 October. Cetong was interred with full military honors at the Libingan ng mga Bayani on 5 November 2015. Present at the necrological services

and the interment were Glo Bautista, Mente and Chit Brazil, Menzi Gardose, Paco and Cora Gatmaitan, Nano and Minda Imperial, Letty Meim, Delfin and Enid Mendoza, Lolong Nuguid Cesar and Lily Pobre and Vigi and Sol Vigilar.

Cetong was a veteran of, among others, the prolonged and bloody Kamlon campaign in Jolo. Cetong is survived by his wife, Manding with whom he was married in 1954. Their 61 years marriage has been blessed with seven children (one of whom is a member of PMA '86), 17 grandchildren and one great grandchild, the fourth largest among the Class '52 families.

After duty with the AFP Logistics Command, Cetong transferred to the Philippine Constabulary. His last assignment before his retirement in March 1978, was as Commanding Officer, Supervising Unit for Security and Investigation Agencies (SUSIA).

Less than two months after Cetong passed away, Paco had a massive brain aneurism on 23 December. He passed away peacefully the following day. He was interred with full military honors and surrounded by his beloved family, his classmates, comrades and arms and friends, on 29 December 2015 at the Heritage Park.

Paco graduated in March 1952, stood no. 4 in his class and was awarded the AFP Chief of Engineers saber. He served with the 17th BCT in Central Luzon during the height of the Communist Hukbalahap movement. He was subsequently selected to fighter pilot training at the PAF Flying School. He stayed with the Airforce only long enough to “solo” and earn his wings, after which he transferred to the Corps of Engineers, where he served until his retirement. He was sent as an AFP pensionado to the UP College of Engineering, where he obtained his BS Civil Engineering degree. He passed the Board Examinations and became a duly registered Civil Engineer. He was assigned as Project Materials Engineer at the construction of the PAF Early Warning Radar Station at Lubang, Mindoro Oriental. He next served with PHILCAG (Vietnam) as its Head Engineer Officer, where he and his men continuously built/ repaired roads and bridges destroyed during combat action, often under intense enemy fire. Because his assignment was so technically challenging and highly life threatening, the AFP had difficulty selecting his replacement, so that he

served continuously in Vietnam for more than two yrs. One of the longest PHILCAG V. tours of duty. Upon his return to the Philippines, he became the CO, 52nd Engr Bde, then operating in war-torn Mindanao. One of the distinct achievements of the 52nd Engrs under his command was the restoration in record time (ten days) of the vital highway bridge across the Rio Grande (Cotabato), when two spans of that bridge collapsed as a result of a major earthquake in 1976.

Immediately after Paco retired in 1978, he became the Executive Vice President of Meralco (the largest electricity franchise in the country) and concurrently President of MIESCOR, the engineer/ construction subsidiary of Meralco, a position he held for some ten years, after which he relinquished the position and set up his own engineer/ construction consultancy.

Paco is survived by his wife of 61 years, Cora their five children and ten grandchildren.

The loss of Cetong and Paco, leaves PMA Class '52 with only nine members (from the original 36 at graduation). The AFP also loses two highly competent and truly dedicated officers who throughout their lives embodied the true spirit of PMA’s motto- Integrity, Courage and Loyalty. Please see the eulogy on pages 60-61 & 16.



**O**n November 23 Linda Kanapi celebrated her birthday with a lunch at Viking Jazz in Makati. She was accompanied by members of her family. Also present were Sauro and Lily Guiang, Romy and Laura Cabantac, Greg and Ludy Castro, Meling and Dely Melendres, Vic Custodio and daughter Bambi, Nena Sembrano accompanied by daughter Grace, Pepay and daughter –in-law Din, Melie Corpuz and Tessie Lizardo.

As usual the 1st 4 Annual Fellowship was held on November 30, 2015 at Veterans Center attended by Mert and Malou Bocanegra, Romy and Laura Cabantac, Sauro and Lily Guiang, Meling and Dely Melendres, Rudy and Lita Muyargas, Greg and Ludy Castro, Vic and

Telly Hans, Rod Jocson, Ely Dioquino, Nena Sembrano, Tessie Lizardo, Puring Dumlao, Mely Corpuz and Pepay Pattugalan.

The PMA '53 Brats held their Christmas Party on December 12, 2015 at the AGFO Center led by Beth Lopez De Leon. Class '53 was invited. Mert and Malou Bocanegra, Romy and Laura Cabantac, Sauro and Lily Guiang, Meling and Dely Melendres, Tessie Lizardo, Puring Dumlao, Melie Corpuz and Norma Garrido were there.



### PARTIES, PARTIES, AND SOME

The '54 Clan converged at Kamayan EDSA for its their quarterly meeting last year. As usual, the guys occupied one table to blah-blah and the gals, another table to quack-quack. Fine. If they stayed together, they might continue arguing who wears the pants in the family.

Thus, you see at Table Blah Mante Bueno, Pike Depakakibo, Pat Lomongo, Joe Sorreta, Dony Guzman, Gopeng Gorospe, and Jun Borromeo and at Table Quack Glo Bueno, Daisy Depakakibo, Lorna Lomongo, Lit Cepeda, Dee Muyargas, and Belle Muñasque.

One month later, at the same site, the Clan gave a thanksgiving party for Jun Borromeo for a successful pace maker implant, and as a footnote, to celebrate Gopeng's and Joe's birthnight anniversaries. (Both were born at night.) This was a stag party but no venison on the menu. Sammy feasted on oysters and fried shark skin. Pike commandeered all the prawns. Mante ordered a stack of steak. And Gopeng satiated his sweet tooth with Ilocano ginataan.

Last November 26, Pat and Lorna Lomongo observed their triple anniversary (two birthdays and a wedding) at Chef Jessie Resto, Amorsolo Building, in Rockwell, Makati. Pike, Daisy, and Gopeng infiltrated the party.

The '54 Clan including the 2d and 3d generations celebrated Christmas with a lunch at the Club Filipino Cabana, courtesy of Club members Pat and Lorna. Roll call result: Mante and Glo Bueno; Pike, Daisy, and Nold Depakakibo; Pat and Lorna;

Sammy, Nena, and Mike Ramos; Rex, Tita, and Myrna Resurreccion; Noy Gacis and son Rommel; Gopeng Gorospe; Dony Guzman; Dee Muyargas; Helen and Elsie Ramos; Lita Cepeda and Niña; Belle Muñasque; Nita Punsalang; Abigail Redublo; Lydia and Ma Adelaida Santos; and 3d gen Ron Redublo and Kate Vergara.

Lydia Santos hosted a birthday lunch at Dad's, Tomas Morato on December 23. Those who beat the grid-locked traffic were Sammy and Nena Ramos, Pike and Daisy, and Gopeng. Class prexy Mante Bueno did not make it. He was down with asthma (ask my wife). Lydia looked regal as the fotog took her anniversary picture.

Our aging generation has to contend with health problems. Lately, Paco Gatmaitan, Class '52 passed away. The necro services were held at Christ the King Mortuary. Mante emceed. Why Mante of '54? He has a soprano voice. Pat, Lorna, Sammy, and Gopeng were also there to condole with the family. Once again 14 Peemayers sang the Alma Mater Hymn and rendered their last salute to a comrade in arms./gopeng.



The PMA Class of 1955 held two affairs during the remaining months of 2015. On the 22nd of November, it celebrated the birth month of Rene Tanseco which was held at the social hall of AGFO in Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo in Quezon City. The affair was prepared very well by Mila Tanseco with a group of stewards from a prominent caterer who served the attendees quite well with several aperitifs and dishes.

The class members who attended were Pons Allanigue, Betong and Maudie Alfabeto, Ros Alquiza, Rene and Arfel Ecarma, Buddy (our President) and lone Mison, Moonie and Ondette Munoz, Ochok Ochoco, Johnny and Pilar Sanchez, Porfing Santos, Romy and Georgie Solina, and the hosts, of course, Rene and Mila Tanseco. Vangie Rivera attended alone, leaving Moy Rivera at home because of his ailment. The widows who attended were Grace Alcaneses, Eva Miranda and daughters, Attorney Terry Suarez, Gigi Zaide and daughter, Joven Cordero, Letty Jotie, Estel Silva, and Sally Arceo. Gigi talked about her trips with her daughter to Europe. Grace, on the other hand, visited her daughter who is married to a doctor in Tel Aviv, Israel. The other ladies had their own local adventures in their conversations.

Also invited to celebrate the natal month of Rene were members of the adopted PMA Class 2005. An entire table was reserved for them, but only "Deej" Sumayo (in his athletic clothes) and wife came much later after lunch from the physical fitness contest held at the army parade grounds of the camp.

Near the end of the party, President Mison briefed the ladies about the new organization involving the Second Generation, as well as their wives, who will handle some of the affairs of the Class including its Christmas Party the following month.

The Christmas Party on the 13th of December was ably handled by the ladies and the children. This time, the affair was held at the New Seafood Federal Restaurant in the PNB (Allied) Bank Building in Makati City. There were many who came and filled the hall. They had their names recorded at the entrance, pasted their call names on chests, and given their numbers for the raffles that were held. Those who attended





the affair last month came, except the host, Rene because of an appointment, according to Mila who came. Moonie also did not come. Fortunately, those who came this time were Abe Baladad, Paddy Padiernos, and Badong Regalado, who came in a wheelchair with a woman handler. As well, the Mison brothers and families, General Jun and Immigration Commissioner Freddie, came. Those others who were identified and came also were Lolit Parado, Tess Isaac, the Factos, the Joties, Ernie Ravina Jr '84, and Sigrid Reymundo-Lizares. A good number of Class 2005 mostly from the PAF and wives, with their president, Digoy Rodrigo, came and occupied a table in the hall. Two were from the PA; DeeJ Sumayo, the lone PN, also went with them. Greg Jotie did most of the picture-taking during the affair.

The first order of the day was the Mass officiated by Father Chris Cordero, son of the late Cordero. Religious songs were rendered by the group of sons and daughters of the Class. After the Mass, some games were played. Bingo cards were distributed and those with called numbers received gifts. Children also participated in a game that had them embracing each other. One other game had Digoy Rodrigo of PMA Class 2005 organize teams who had to prove the ability to carry balloons forth and back across the stage clipped by their legs without bursting them. Other events were also held later by President Mison in order to distribute some of the cash and other gifts arranged by the ladies. He was



assisted by announcer Carol Sanchez (the wife of Johnny's son who came to help Pilar). There was also the tossing of lots of coins for all.

At the end of the party, groups were formed and had their photos mostly taken with cellphones by most of those who attended. The first pictured group consisted of all members of the Class and their ladies either seated or at attention. Another group was formed after the first one to include only the members of the Class and their adopted wards. During the last picture-taking, the adopted Class

started the "PMA O Hail to Thee" song and was joined by the others. The hall was emptied by 3 p.m. that Sunday.

The next class gathering will be on 17 January 2016 at the Federal Seafood Restaurant in Makati. It will be hosted by the January birthday celebrators, namely: Fel Parado and Romy Solina. All members of the class, their wives and widows are cordially invited.

We wish one and all a Merry Christmas and a Happy Healthful New Year! /Romy Solina



**T**he year-end socials and Christmas party of the class was held at the Laurel Room of the Makati Sports Club on 12 December 2015 attended by 16 mistahs and their ladies (the Aparris, Minda Bello, Canalitas, Caniosos, Coracheas, Davids, Goyenas, Gutangs, Lukbans, Macabascos, Maltos, Manlongats, Mateo, Paisos and Luceros) and 9 ladies/ widows (Almonte, Ampig, Barlaan, Calip, Filio, Galang, Lopez, Pio Roda, Suarez ) with some in wheelchairs and others with their alays or caregivers.

The affair was hosted by the December Group under the chair of Levy Malto (who personally selected the venue and lunch menu) with the following members- Paul Canalita, Mel Goyena, Pat Lucero, Tom Manlongat, Guzz Mateo, and Tony Chua.

Lunch was served at 1130H after Nora Malto's prayer. After lunch the program proceeded immediately to discuss the celebration of the class Diamond Jubilee at the PMA on 19-20 February 2016.

Levy Malto presented the uniforms to be worn by the Jubilee attendees and distributed the chalicos that were tailored by the Camp Aguinaldo post tailor.

Romy David, class in-charge of the Diamond Jubilee affair, who had already made several treks to Baguio, briefed the class on the billeting and schedules already firmed for the attendees. He prepared and distributed a poop sheet to remind and

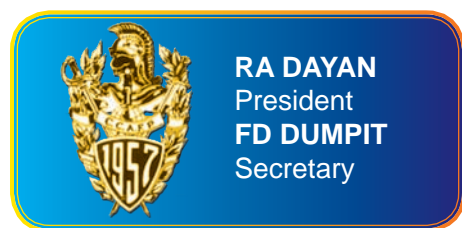
guide all concerned fearing that some are already unreliable in remembering things.

The traditional gift-giving was started by the hand-outs of Dolly Canalita, Pat Goyena and Beth Lucero who gave packages of Banana chips from Gumaca, Quezon, lotion/ soap sets and umbrellas/ daing packages, respectively. This was followed by the raffle prizes draw conducted by Mel Goyena calling on the gift prizes brought by Pili David, Nelia Lopez and Lulu Manlongat. For being too old to bring bulky gifts, cash in envelopes were given by Lory Galang ( 20 with 1K each), Ching Corachea ( 5 with 1K each) and Mel Goyena (3 with 2K each).

After the first phase of the gift-giving, discussions were focused on the class decision to donate a Professorial Chair to the PMA to climax the celebration of its Diamond Jubilee on 2016. When funds

were requested, there were spontaneous responses from the following donors: Mel Goyena and Lory Galang – 100K each; Fil Arevalo, Joe Almonte and Pat Lucero – 50K each; Boy Paiso – 20K; Ching Corachea,, Joe Bello, Romy David and Levy Malto – 15K each; Olac Lazo, Tony Lukban and Tom Manlongat – 10K each; and Mike Aparri, Rudy Canieso, Paul Canalita, Mac Macabasco, Guzz Mateo – 5K each; generating a total of 500K good for a GOLD PROFESSORIAL CHAIR.

The gift-giving finale consisted of the 2K envelops distributed by class prexy, Ching Corachea assisted by Minda Bello (whose husband is still confined in quarters recuperating from vertigo attack in the golf course) to all the ladies present. MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!



**A Prosperous New Year to all!**

Following the traditional Christmas practice, this year’s Class celebration was held at the Patio of AFPCOC, Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo on December 5, 2015. It was ably organized and managed by Ador de Guzman and his angels (Aida, Bernie and Cora) and the Bravo Company. Heavy traffic marred the attendance of many of the members and which also caused very late arrivals. Although delayed, the mass which started off the affair was significantly one of thanksgiving: for NOT any ONE of CLASS’ surviving 39 members and two honorary members had fallen off the ranks this year.

The incumbent AFP Chief of Staff, General Hernando DCA Iriberry AFP, who is a son-in-law of our own Sammy Samson, was the special guest. He came with his wife Agnes and 4 children.

Dinner was of course sumptuous with drinks galore as expected of Bravo Company’s generosity, as well as, it’s ability to get members from the other companies to contribute money or in kind. The very crispy lechon and sparkling wine was too tempting for some to ignore despite their health issues.

For entertainment, the Leggiro Strings & Chamber Orchestra sponsored by Ling and Naty Dayan, performed Concert Repertoire of classics, popular in the 1950’s and ‘60’s and Broadway songs which perfectly suited the listening pleasure of the Octogenarian fogies and their ever-lovely ladies. Lito Avila, Oca Zalamea and Ed Singson were grand winners of huge TV sets from the raffle contest. Ed Ermita, as usual, led the community singing of “Hi Lily Hi Lo” and other songs popularized in the mess hall during their cadet days.

Frannie Dumpit, secretary of the CAVALIERS57 Board of Trustees announced the names of those nominated to the new Board: Manuel Mendoza, Cesar Tapia ,Oscar Taleon, Remegio Gopez, Carmelito Doria, Oscar Zalamea, Francisco Dumpit, Fidel Samson, Jardi Jadiniano, Dionisio Tan-Gatue Jr. The Board members have to elect the Class officers in their first meeting next year (2016). Their most challenging task is to plan for the 60th graduation anniversary of Class ‘57 where it will be honored at the PMA Alumni Homecoming in February 2017 which is considered its last HURRAH. Reported by Oscar “Ty” Taleon-

**RESTY PADILLA’S 83rd Birthday Celebration**

Sometime during the early part of December last year and as we were about to get into full preparations for the holiday season, one of our Mistah, Resty “Padi” Padilla, turned 83 last December 9, 2015. It was a milestone event that was celebrated Saturday of that same week, the 12th of December 2015 at the Philippine Army Officers Club’s Heneral Luna Hall inside Fort Bonifacio. It was a thanksgiving celebration organized by Dolly, his children and all his apo, all 22 of them! It was held on a Saturday to allow for a bigger number of attendees and faster commute for everyone because of Manila’s worsening holiday traffic during weekdays.

The evening was attended by the whole family, Padi and Dolly’s relatives, a few close friends, some former colleagues from the service, and a large number of available members of the Class of ‘57 who came with their lovely spouses. The evening was a much-welcomed evening of fun, celebration and fellowship. The grandchildren prepared appropriate testimonials for their Lolo by way of songs and video presentations. As the presentations were rendered, Padi can be seen fully attentive and a bit teary eyed as he watched in appreciation. The Class of ‘57 led by Ed Ermita also joined in with his traditional singing act of all-time favorites and led the whole class in a fun-filled group sing along with the famed PA Los Caballeros providing back up music. Padi, the celebrant, not wanting to be outdone by his classmates pitched in his favorite “may pulis sa ilalim ng tulay” revival that brought cheers to the whole assembly. The Brawners too contributed with their nostalgic rendition of classic love songs. Highlight of that evening’s gathering was Padi’s blowing of the birthday cake and his remarks. He recalled memorable moments during his lifetime specially an incident in Basilan when he went missing as well as close calls with death during his career that he used as an opportunity to thank the Almighty not only for His protection but also for the numerous blessings received by him and the whole family. Much appreciated too are the small acts of kindness that Padi talked about as a senior citizen afflicted with Parkinsons. He said that we are all indeed blessed with so many kind souls all around us. The evening ended on a high note as the



Class got together once again in wonderful and joyous fellowship and a series of photo opportunities to record the event in posterity. Reported by Jun Padilla

Col Restituto Padilla Jr PAF(GSC)  
Asst Deputy Chief of Staff for Civil Military Opns, J7  
Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Civil Military Opns, J7  
Armed Forces of the Philippines, General Headquarters  
Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City



BRATS UPDATE.....After months of preparation, the PMA CL57 Brats led by its new head Gigi Ledesma Pereira and with the help of friends and sponsors, was able to screen the latest sequel to a very successful film franchise, Star Wars Episode 7: The Force Awakens last Dec.

16, 2015 at Cinema 3, The Block, SM North EDSA.

More than 400 excited fans readily braved typhoon nonoy and trooped to the venue to watch the premier showing of this highly anticipated movie. Proceeds of the

film screening will help in the renovation of the pulmonary ward of the Philippine Veterans Hospital. This is the Brats' latest project, who pledge to come up with more worthwhile endeavors. Truly, the force was with all of us! by Ricky Cabrera



The Class held its Christmas Party on 3 Dec '15 lunch time at AFPCOCC. For the record, this celebration was the earliest schedule considering attendant circumstances of the season and the relative ease of transport movements of individual members. It was an austere and simple get-together but certainly very meaningful and heartwarming for all, the husbands and wives, to have the rare opportunity to be together as the cliché goes, "still alive and kicking".

Once again, it was a very happy reunion despite the absence of some and for whatever reasons, the "organic combo" was not around to provide the catalyst to stretch one's muscles and limbs that have been inactive for quite some time, so to speak, and to "shake, rattle and roll". The food served, the usual officers club menu, was quite suitable for everybody and nothing to ask for more.

As expected, Clinia Beltran our active "floor manager" managed the whole impromptu program. Also, Pat Isleta delivered the opening prayer to keep everybody in touch with the High Almighty and be profoundly thankful of all His blessings and mercy. Everybody received his/her gift of ham and a huge

loaf of bread from the class that served as certificate of appearance in attending the Christmas Party. Some daughters were also around who provided primarily personal assistance to their respective parents who are now having difficulty when moving around and/or attending to personal necessities.

Those who attended were Mon Montaño, Lito and Clinia Beltran, Ben And Nympha Tabo, Max and Nita Bejar, Rex and Candy Reyes, Lad and Ched Gonzales, Jun "Jucs" and Pat Jucutan, Nes and Pat Isleta, Julie de Leon, Elmy Antonio, Daisy Infortuno, Nedy Tangan, Tess Adalem, and Lilian Gavino.

Most recently and with a heavy heart, we missed Mire Gavino and Erning Ramos who never failed to be around when celebrating Christmas by the Class. Mire died on 23 July '15, had his wake and necro services at Camp Aguinaldo Chapel with GHQ Band providing the necessary honor and services. Max Bejar delivered the necro eulogy for the class. He was

buried at Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina 27 July '15. Likewise, Erning Ramos died on 11 Nov '15, had his wake and necro services at the PN Chapel at Fort Bonifacio. As expected, Max Bejar delivered his eulogy for the class. PN Band provided the necessary honor and services. He was buried at Libingan ng mga Bayani, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City on 14 Nov '15. Our classmates who are up there with our Creator are ready to receive both of you with their "majestic arrival honor".

We were doubly happy with Max Bejar celebrating his birthday with the Class Christmas Party. He turned 81 years old and by body language, he looks very much younger if not of his silvery gray hair. We thank you for the additional menu specially the crispy lechon. Happy Happy Birthday, Mistah! May you have more birthday celebrations.

Year 2016 is already with us. Wishing everybody the best of health and prosperous life filled with joy, love and peace. Maligayang Bagong Taon.





**CL AGUSTIN**  
President  
**PC GARCIA**  
Secretary

**December fellowship**

Jess Alcorido hosted the class Christmas lunch fellowship with ladies at the Manila Golf Club Manila Golf Club McKinley Rd Makati 12pm Fri 18. Dec

**There were 21 attendees:**

15 Yes with lady/ company—Chuck Agustin & Medy, Andrew Francisco & Carmel, Bobby Fernandez & son, Jackie and Sol Desquitado, Garrick & Chary Garcia with daughter Lara, Art and Precy Castro and Bister Arrastia and grandson  
4 Yes Widows, with escort –Edna Garrido, Zen Tadiar

2 Yes stag – Jess Alcorido, Nice Festin  
Yoly was unable to fly in from Cebu due to a minor operation she underwent a day before.  
We would like to thank Jess for hosting once more. He insists that he host “no more than twice a year”

**Peralta joint birthday party**

Palting Peralta’s 80th and Divina’s 65th birthdays were jointly held at Camp Crame on Saturday, 9 Jan 2016. It started with mass at Camp Crame Chapel at 4:30PM followed by dinner at the PNP MP Center across the street. There were many contemporaries present but among the class, confirmations were given by Del and Elo Abaya, Nice Festin, Telly Trillanes, Edna Garrido, Zeny Tadiar, Kumeh Comendador, Pabling & Belen Ong, Maning Dizon (apologizing to those unmentioned).

**PMA59-PMA56 Fellowship**

We plan to have a repeat of the golf fellowship with some members of Class 56, to be hosted by Del Abaya at the Golf Club in San Rafael, Bulacan. It will be held on Wednesday, 20 Jan 2015. Hope we can gather enough for '59; otherwise we are prepared to conscript a few colleagues from '58.

**PMAAA Annual Meeting 2016**

Please take note that the PMAAA Annual Meeting will be at 0700 on Saturday, 23 Jan 2016 at the AFP Theater, CGEA, QC..

**PMA Alumni Homecoming 2016 (19-20 Feb 2016)**

For 2016 Homecoming those who have reserved are Del Abaya (2), Del Garcia, Nick Festin, Chuck Agustin and Ronnie Baccay (2). Exact count of 7 rooms so Bugs coming in stag may share.



**LC ABADIA**  
President  
**DT FAJARDO**  
Secretary

**W**e had a very successful Christmas party last Dec 8 2015. We had additional contributions from Joey Asanza and Manny Oxales which were not mentioned in our last class call because the class call was already printed when their contributions were given The following couples attended the Christmas party: Loven and Jenny, TG and Lina, Ernie and Amy, Pete and Mameng, Pong and Jessie, Manny and Sylvia, Sting and Fannie, Nani and Dot, Ike and Violy, Lards and Lydia, Joey and Boots, Tony L and Nelia, Jess and Vangie, Orly and Inday, Nonoy, TP, Cesar, Juliet, Lilian K, Myrna, Malou, Glo, Chit and Fred R.

Everybody went home with a Christmas basket, a fruit cake. Myrna distributed some embutidos and Juliet gave food for the gods. Fannie gave some native delicacies. We shared our blessings with our drivers, waiters and band members by raffling off 4 extra Christmas baskets. We felt good seeing the radiant faces of the raffle winners. The waiters and band members were also given big

tips. Do you know that TIPS stands for “To insure prompt service?”  
Ret BG Adolf Montesa and Belle Montesa celebrated their golden wedding anniversary last Dec 20, 2015 at the Blue Leaf in Mckinley. Adolf was a flying school cadet as a member of PAFPS Class 1962. He resigned from the PAFPS and joined

the Philippine Marines where he made good. The couple is very active in religious activities. If you want a bible they can give one to you.  
The PMAAAI convention will be held at the AFP Theater in Camp Aguinaldo in Jan 23. Almost always about 10 members of our class attend. This is a good



opportunity to renew acquaintances with Peemayers from other classes. Come and join us.

There is good news for those retirees affected by PD 1638. The Supreme Court has decided with finality in favor of the court case initiated by Cav Jeremias Carolino PMA 51. The decision was handed down April 20, 2015. I have heard or seen any action by the AFP to implement the decision of the Supreme Court. I realize there is a lot to be done to comply with this decision. What can be done immediately is to restore those affected to full-pension status. I intend to bring this up in the PMAAAI convention./Loven C Abadia



## “Class ‘62 in Pictures”

The last time that the class met for the year 2015 was on the death of Billy Marcelo. Classmate who wanted very much for a class Christmas party was Ray Jarque, but could be available only at most during the first week of December. In response, the class Executive Committee planned for an evening affair composed of dining, dancing and games. The traffic problem along Edsa and typhoon Nona prevented us from holding the affair.

The committee planned a post Christmas Party on December 30. It was a lunch affair also with dancing with the condition that if less than 15 will signify, the event will be cancelled. True enough, not even ten could attend because most have schedules out of town.

For the Thursday golf fellowship, our class players ended their games for the year on December 10. The next Thursday game fell after the heavy rains that made the Philippine Navy course unplayable. The succeeding playing days unfortunately fell on the 24th and 31st of December. The long pause may have made each one of us “very rusty” with our golf swings.

We hope to make up for the New Year with a welcome3 class party on January 16, 2016. This gathering will prepare us for any class plans for our alumni home coming. To remind everybody, we are celebrating our 55th year after graduation.



“Taste of Chinatown, part II. Class get-together last December organized by Willy Cruz and Felix Tong.”



**G**reetings from the PMA MATINDI CLASS OF 1963. On our 3rd year after our Golden Jubilee, we bid farewell to the year of the Green Wooden Sheep “Yang” 2015 and we welcome the year of the Fire Monkey “Hou” 2016. We would like to greet everyone a happy, peaceful, prosperous and exciting new year. We would also like to extend our warmest greetings to the Diamond Jubilarians- class of 1956, the Golden Jubilarians and our Plebes-class of 1966 and the Silver Jubilarians- Sambisig class of 1991.

We announce with regrets, the demise of our beloved Cavalier Ramberto B. Saavedra, Brigader General, Philippine Army, AFP retired. He passed away due to a lingering illness at the FEU Hospital last 29 December 2015. He turned 76 last 5 July 2015. His wake began at 6 o'clock in the evening of 30 December 2015 at the Libingan ng mga Bayani. The necrological service was held at 7 o'clock in the evening on 6 January 2016. Internment followed the next day 7 January 2015 at the Libingan ng mga Bayani.

The class extends our sincerest condolences to Ching and their children, Idelyn, Irene, Irma, Ramil as well as their relatives and the Military Christian Fellowship Ministry.

The speakers at the necrological service were Bigboy Adriano, Bob Manlongat and the PMA Matindi Class 1963 President, Bill Ruiz.

Representing the class were the following: Bill and Norma Ruiz, Ebor and Flor Ebro, Rudy and Offie Javier, Bumie and Josie Bumanglag, Judy Valdez and her daughter, Bob and Yayang Manlongat, Beth Arevalo, Ding and Zeny Salipsip, Kid and Lina Medina, Francis and Claire Mallillin, Billy and Rose Enerio, Ting and Warlie Tigas, Bigboy and Annabelle Adriano, Gaps and Susie Sabarre, Fil Pante, Nick Hernandez, Boy and Lulu Orevido, Marga Lacson, Jimmy and Brenda Iletto, Rolly and Luz Espejo,

Danny and Lou Pizarro and Ide Tillah. Other cavaliers from classes 1961, 1964, 1965, 1966 as well as members of the Philippine Army and Constabulary had attended as well.

Below are the activities from the secretary's log book of events.

In **November 2015**, Ding and Zeny Salipsip hosted a dinner at their house for Dante and Aida Cruz who are residing in New York. They were joined by Rudy and Offie Javier, Dan and Lou Pizarro, Gaps and Susie Sabarre, Bill and Norma Ruiz, Reggie and Marga Lacson, Danny and Nena Delgado and Jimmy and Brenda Iletto.

**25 November 2015** was the advanced birthday celebration of Naty Laput at the Wang Fan Restaurant at UP Town Center in Diliman, QC. She was joined by Billy and Rose Enerio, Rolly and Luz Espejo, Boy and Lulu Orevido, Yayang Manlongat, Aida Mayo, Lina Medina, Gie Aquino, Beth Abaya and Cora Blancas.

**27 November 2015** was the PMA Matindi Class of 1963, General Membership Meeting and Election. Fifteen members were present plus two proxies. Danny Delgado, Bill Ruiz and Ding Salipsip were re-elected for (2016-2018) term. They will be joining Ebor Ebro, Rudy Javier and Tony Sibayan (2014-2016), Pert Andaya, Francis Mallillin and Bob Manlongat (2015-2017) as members of the PMA Matindi Class 1963 Board of Trustees who in turn elected the following officers.

- President:** Bill Ruiz
- Vice President:** Tony Sibayan
- Corporate Secretary:** Ebor Ebro
- Treasurer:** Rudy Javier
- Auditor:** Danny Delgado

- Program Director:** Bob Manlongat
- External Corporate Affairs:** Pert Andaya
- Directors at Large:** Francis Mallillin and Ding Salipsip

**As of 27 November 2015** our PMA Matindi class'63 funds amounted to Php 827,000.00. The class treasurer, Rudy Javier will start collecting Php 5000.00 per couple for our social funds for 2016.

**13 December 2015** was the Christmas Party of AGFO at the Tejeros Hall, AFPCOC Camp Aguinaldo, Q.C. This also marked the induction of the 2016 Board of Trustees of AGFO. The class was represented by Ebor and Flor Ebro, Ardy and Beth Abaya and Bob Manlongat.

**14 December 2015** marked the Christmas Party of the PMA MATINDI CLASS OF 1963 held at the Ogbinar Hall of the Philippine Navy Gold Club at Naval Station Jose Francisco (BNS) Taguig City. Gracing the occasion were Bill and Norma Ruiz, Ebor and Flor Ebro, Francis Mallillin, Rudy and Offie Javier, Pert and Inday Andaya, Ardy and Beth Abaya, Reggie and Marga Lacson, Bob and Yayang Manlongat, Beth Arevalo, Ding and Zeny Salipsip, Kid and Lina Medina, Rolly and Luz Espejo, Nolan and Naty Laput, Billy and Rose Enerio, Ting and Warlie Tigas, Aida Mayo, Gaps Sabarre, Boy Orevido, George and Gie Aquino, Danny and Lou Pizarro, Amy and Angel Ilagan, Ide and Abdel Tillah.

Corporate Secretary Ebor Ebro inducted the newly elected Board of Trustees, Bill Ruiz and Ding Salipsip. Danny Delgado was out of town.

Terpsichorean skills were displayed by the class couples with music provided by the timeless Marine Quartet who we aptly called the “PMA Matindi Class 1963 Marine Quartet” at least for the night.



The event was capped by the Christmas message of President Bill Ruiz who also provided the aforementioned band.

Many thanks to Ding and Zeny Salipsip for the gourmet salmon dish as well as the donors of the prizes and wines.

By the way, this day marks the 75th birthday of Ebor Ebro and the late DY Ilagan.

Moving forward, the dates to watch are:

PMAAAI Annual General Membership Meeting will be held on Saturday 23 January 2016 at the AFP Theater/AFPCOC, Camp Aguinaldo, QC and the PMA Alumni Homecoming 18-21 February at the Fort Del Pilar, Baguio City. The Parade and Review will be on 20 February 2016. See you at the Borromeo Field.

Extending the warmest birthday greetings and a deluge of blessings to all the celebrants of the 1st quarter of the year. May you have many more birthdays to come. Cheers! (18121605)




**CP MARIANO**  
President  
**OT CABANLIG**  
Secretary

My apology to class 64 members for not submitting class call write-up for Nov. – Dec. 2015 issue. I was not able to update PMAAAI on my new cellphone number that's why I did not receive notice of submission. "Sorry mistahs".

There was not much activities that the class pursued during the previous months. Maybe they were also busy preparing for the Christmas season. Although last October 27, 2015 the class met at Fort Bonifacio Chapel for a mass in honor of our departed classmates. The affair was organized by Clem Mariano and Rey Reyes. In attendance were Clem Mariano, Ding Odoño, Billy Villareal, Rey Reyes, Orly Cabanlig, Abe de Guzman, Arfs Arpon, Tony Aguilar. After the mass, the group proceeded to Larry's Restaurant at Market-Market, BGC where they had their brunch. This affair is a yearly tradition of the class to honor their departed classmates.

To avoid the busy Christmas season crowd celebration, the class organized through the effort of Rey Reyes an early

Christmas get-together at Gloria Maris Restaurant in Greenhills San Juan. The group enjoyed the Chinese dishes served and the affair was well attended. Santi Bunoan was able to attend the gathering where he is presently residing in Masbate. Since the class is saving for possible expenses for the Diamond Jubilarian there was no give-away given to the members. In attendance were Clem Mariano, Rey Reyes, Orly Cabanlig, Terry dela Cruz, Buddy Peran, Tony Aguilar, Homer Ortega, Santi Bunoan, Rene Garcia, Ding Ordoño, and Billy Villareal.

The class '64 golfers have again revived their weekly scheduled games. Among the active participants are Rene Garcia, Arfs Arpon, Homer Ortega, Abe de Guzman and Terry dela Cruz. The scheduled day is every Friday.

**Happy Birthday to the following January-February celebrants:**

- Billy Villareal – January 02
- Ding Odoño – January 31
- Orly Cabanlig – February 02
- Clem Mariano – February 20

We extend our warmest Birthday greetings and may you have many more birthday celebration to come.



**MA LEONARDO**  
President  
**EP NARTATEZ**  
Secretary

**Greetings from PMA MULAWIN Class 1965 and a HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!**

We bid goodbye to 2015, a year that was marked by a combination of great celebrations and a series of tragedies. First we welcome the historic visit of Pope Francis who spread joy and hope particularly in the typhoon devastated City of Tacloban and in the waning days of the year, we had, after 42 long years our third MISS UNIVERSE CROWN, courtesy of PIA ALONZO WURTZBACH ( We don't have any doubt if she is related to our Class President Mike Alonzo Leonardo).

In between, the country grappled with the massacre of 44 PNP-SAF Commandos in Mamapasano, Maguindanao and in February 19- 21, 2015, the class celebrated its Golden Anniversary with practically all MULAWINS still alive and kicking with their equally still very robustly alluring ladies and their families joining in the 2015 Homecoming Parade in our beloved PMA in Fort del Pilar, Baguio City



## THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

1. At 0700, alumni, young and not so young, register at the main lobby of the AFP Theater, Camp Aguinaldo.
2. Among the earliest to register is Cav Vicente F Alhambra '42, seated in a pose with PMAAAI Chairman Cav Manuel P Espejo '66 and the Cavalier Editor in Chief Cav Fredelino S Bautista '66.
3. Not to be outdone for a pose with Cav Alhambra (third from right) are senior alumni led by SND Cav Voltaire T Gazmin '68 (center) and PVAO Administrator Cav Ernesto D Carolina '70 (extreme right). Other cavaliers are from left: Cav Gregorio R Vigilar '52, Cav Honorio S Azcueta '68, Cav Rodolfo B Muyargas '53, and Cav Emilio P Melendres Jr '53.
4. Cav Aaron T Reconquista USCGA '86, Chairman of the Convention and Homecoming Committee opens Part II of the Annual General Membership Meeting with his Welcome Remarks.
- 5-6. No alumni general membership meeting is complete and lively without the roll call of the best classes ever produced by the Academy. Guess what classes are shown?
7. After the animated discussions during the ratification of all acts of the Board and Management during the Association year, Chairman Espejo is ready to bang the gavel to adjourn the meeting to meet the Guest of Honor (GOH) who has arrived. The Chairman is flanked by PMAAAI President Cav Melvin Ramon G Buenafe '86 (left) and CORSEC Cav Ma. Consuelo N Castillo '97.
8. The GOH, Supreme Court Senior Associate Justice Antonio T Carpio (third from right) smiles for the photo with other PMAAAI Directors. From left: Cav Restituto L Aguilar '78, Cav Erick A Kagaosan '87, Chairman Espejo, President Buenafe and PMAAAI Vice Chairman Cav Anselmo S Avenido '67.
- 9-10. Cav Carlos L Agustin USNA '60 (in dark suit), receives from SC Senior Associate Justice Antonio T Carpio the Lifetime Achievement Award (for at least 50 years of government service); later joins the Outstanding Alumni awardees for a souvenir photo. Shown from left to right: Chairman Espejo, FOIC Cav Caesar C.





## FELLOWSHIP MEETING (23 January 2016)

Taccad '82, CSAFP Cav Hernando DCA Iriberry '83, SC Justice Carpio, Cav Agustin, CPNP Cav Ricardo C Marquez '82, CPCG Cav William M Melad '83, CGPA Cav Eduardo M Año '83 and President Buenafe.

11. In a gentlemanly gesture, SC Justice Carpio descends from the stage to give the Valor Award (PMAAAI Award for recipients of the AFP Medal for Valor) to Cav Mariano N Castañeda '15 (received on his behalf by his daughter, Ms Herminia Castañeda-Rivera).
12. Other Valor awardees are (from left), Cav Cirilito E Sobejana '87, Cav Noel S Buan '84, Cav Herbert D Dilag '98 (represented by spouse Cpt Daisy Dilag), Cav Edward M Lucero '87 (represented by spouse Ms Dinna Lucero), SC Justice Carpio, Ms Herminia Castañeda-Rivera; Cav Ariel D Querubin '79, Cav Arturo B Ortiz '79 and Cav Bartolome Vicente O Bacarro '88. To his left are Chairman Espejo and President Buenafe.
- 13-14. Chairman Espejo (inset) introduces SC Justice Carpio who delivers a lengthy but enlightening and emotion-arousing talk on the South China Sea/West Philippine Sea dispute.
15. To show the appreciation of the alumni, Chairman Espejo presents a memento to SC Justice Carpio as the GOH and Speaker whose presence gives importance to the awards given to outstanding alumni. Witnessing the presentation of memento is President Buenafe.
- 16-17. From the AFP Theater, the alumni troop to the AFPCOC for the fellowship lunch and raffles supervised by now perennial emcees Cav Arvin C Acosta '03 and Cav Aristides M Galang '03. Shown receiving a raffle prize is Cav Nicasio P Rodriguez Jr '61. Other raffle prizes given to winners are a HD television, cell phones, electric fans, DVD player, and washing machine, to name a few.
- 18-19. A highlight of the fellowship lunch is the presentation to PMAAAI of two checks worth P3M representing the proceeds from the golf tournament organized by CPNP Cav Marquez which was managed by the PNP Chapter of PMAAAI (PCAI). Shown receiving the checks from Cav Leo Angelo D Leuterio '88 (at left in both photos) representing CPNP are Chairman Espejo (second to the last frame) and Vice Chairman Avenido and BIRCI President Melchor P Rosales '68 (last frame).



Willy Nicolas and Class Prexy Mike Leonardo are tasked to coordinate and get details from concerned shipping lines. They are to report compliance to the class before the end of the month or before the Alumni Homecoming 2016. Taken up also are our plans for the January 23, 2016 PMAAAI Annual General Membership Meeting to be held at the AFP Theater and AFPCOC as well as for the PMA Alumni Homecoming at PMA, fort del Pilar, Baguio City on February 18-20, 2016. Correspong allowances for Hotel Accommodation and transportation have been assured by Pres Mike with the unreluctant concurrence of Class Treasurer Tisoy Rosal to all who are interested and will actually attend the Homecoming.. Although our Class Fund is still very healthy and safely being taken care of by Mulawin Tirso, notwithstanding all the expenses associated with our Golden Jubilee year of celebrations in 2015,perhaps the Mulawin attendance for the 2016 Alumni Homecoming would not be a bonggacious one as in the 2015 Alumni Homecoming.

MULAWINS in attendance in the first meeting of the Class for the year of the monkey 2016 were Class Prexy Mike Leonardo, VP Ed Abesamis, Willy Nicolas, Rolly Cauton, Gerry Guzman, Tisoy Rosal, Tates Nartatez, Joe Lapus, Ofring Marcelo, Rex Robles, Enri Bulan, Pepe delios Santos, Egay Velasco, Ricky Papa, Roger Bergado, Noli Fabric and Benson Rimando. The fousome of Mike, Willy, Tates and Ricky had a round of golf before the start of the meetingk, with Mike and Willy practically coaching tates and ricky on how to strongly hit the ball and eventually putt in in a small hole, as the two looked like newcomers again in the greens.

**Birthday greetings to all MULAWINS and MULAWINESS celebrating their natal days this January and February:**

- Ed Abesamis - Jan. 3; Warren Capitan - Jan 4; Lito Tapia - Jan 5; Robert Bruce - Jan 6; Ladio Tangan - Jan 8; Ofring Marcelo - Jan 10; Vickie de Leon - Jan 12; Boots Candelario = Jan 17; Doming Habos - 21; Emil de Leon (+) - Jan 29; Susan Abadilla - Feb 1; Ces Flor - Feb 1; Steve Solis (+) - Feb 3; Susie Cauton - Feb 10; Vicky Guzman - Feb 18; Ellen Rimando - Feb 20; Celia Bulan - Feb - 25; Janette Lapus - Feb 26; Vi Santos - Feb 26 and Rose Monta - Jan 19.. To all of you fellow holders of dual citizenships, HAPPY HAPPY BIRTHDAY!/epn

and accordingly each awarded by the PMA Superintendent Golden Medallions, in recognition for their fifty (50) long years of dedicated service to the country and people. Likewise, in sincere appreciation and deep gratefulness to our Alma Mater, the Class of 1965 donated a Modern Classroom located at the Academic Building (Melchor Hall) of the PMA. The donation is worth some half a million pesos.

And for the first time in the history of the PMA, a Golden Sword, The Golden Sword of 1965 came out on time, on the occasion of our Golden Jubilee on 28 March 2015. Still part of our jubilee year, we the class, got together as one in a formal dinner at Marco Polo Hotel in Mandaluyong City last July 2015. We likewise celebrated Christmas 2015 with another get together dinner party last December 13, 2015 at the Columbus Room (Penthouse) of The Discovery Suites

which is located at the tri-boundary of the cities of Pasig, Mandaluyong and Quezon City.

In between these happy events and joyous occasions however, the class suffered tragic losses with the untimely deaths of two of our Classmates, Mulawins Romy Padiernos and Mike Perenal and the widow of Mulawin Rod de Guzman (+), Tita Salacup de Guzman.

The Class started year 2016 with a meeting last January 8, 2016 at Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo Golf Clubhouse where various matters of significant concern for the Mulawins were in the Agenda. First were the various proposals and plans for a class summer cruise, April or May, the ports to be visited of which incidentally may jibe with the cities that we visited during the first PMA Southern Cruise. (We were plebes then and it was a very welcome respite from a very difficult summer camp). Lifetime events organizer



**MP ESPEJO**  
President  
**FS BAUTISTA**  
Secretary

**PAMBUNGAD**

Nakalipas na naman ang isang taon. Nadagdagan tayo ng isa pang baitang tungo sa kawalang-hanggan. Magpasalamat tayo sa Panginoon dahil sa mga biyayang ating natanggap, at tatanggapin pa. At, tulad ng dati, tahakin natin ang landas 2016 na may pananalig na ang mga darating na panahon ay puno ng kaligayan, kasaganahan at kalusugan. Samantala, talakayin natin ang mga nangyari sa ating klase na di pa nailathala.

**CHRISTMAS PROGRAM**

As scheduled, the Class Christmas Party was held on 6 December 2015, this time at the Social Hall, Serendra 1, Bonifacio Global City, Taguig City. As usual, Class President Noli Espejo and Leonor Espejo were the hosts of the annual and traditional affair. Ben Espejo who has a unit in the Serendra 1 Condominiums arranged for the availability of the venue. It was a nice place, adjacent to a swimming pool and a big garden.

The party was a resounding success, judging by the laughters and shouts of the big number of sixty-sixers, their children already middle-aged and grandchildren most of whom are already adolescents. This is not surprising. Remember, we are all past seventy except some of the ladies.

Those who enjoyed most were the grandchildren who participated in the children’s games and were given cash prizes. The adults too all received Christmas gifts and gift certificates. We have to thank the ladies who did all the planning and legwork to Divisoria namely: Leonor, Sylvia, Paz, Beth and Fe, including their patient driver, Mara Espejo, without whom they would be forced to ride the MRT. The males? As usual, they recalled the never ending stories of cadet life, life in the service and retired life.

All in all, seventy persons attended, 20 males, 25 spouses and 25 children/grandchildren, one of the biggest if not the biggest gathering for a Christmas party. To give credit to those who came to give life to the class and meaning to the Christmas party, let us acknowledge them, in the

order they were written in the attendance sheet:

Fe Cuison, Temi and Tess Arugay, Fred and Paz Bautista, Herc and Marge Galon, Sylvia Agudelo, Tony Santos, Ruben and Cel Espejo, Mars and Patri Cordova, Bing and Elsie Rivera, Bert and Portia Varona, Beth Payumo, Dolly Lachica, Edna Gopilan, Serge and Precy Belleza, Viusy Dauz, Pons and Cena Millena, Gerry and Cel Cunanan, Greg Llorca, Bert and Fe Sabularse, Tess Reyes, Raul and Iyay Urgello, Dee Cagurangan, Tita Belo, Susan Gador, Menong and Tita Garcia, Jimmy and Agie Bantolo, Malou Catral, Louie Fernandez, Ding Wenceslao, Tess Mamorno, Noli and Leonor Espejo.

**GOODBYE, RICO**

The New Year did not start well with the Class. On 3 January 2016, barely two months after Boy Lopez passed away last year, we received the news that Rico Javier suffered a stroke and died not long afterward. At the time of his death, Rico had settled at Vigan City with wife Lita. Because of the distance, only a few were able to proceed to Vigan to extend immediate help to the bereaved family on 5 January 2016 namely, Noli Espejo, Bert Sabularse and Bing Rivera and Gerry Cunanan. However, on 8 January, other sixty-sixers proceeded to Jardin de Caridad, Vigan City for the necrological service in the evening of 8 January and burial in the afternoon of 9 January.

Those who endured the ten-hour trip to Vigan were Class President Noli Espejo, Louie and April Fernandez (Necrological services only), Vic Belo, Bert Sabularse, Herc Galon, Jimmy and Agie Bantolo and Fred Bautista.

During the Necrological Services, Carlo Javier, Raffy Javier, Tina Marie Congbalay and Vigan Board member Jerry Singson spoke for the family. For the Class, those who delivered eulogies were Vic Belo, Jimmy Bantolo (who also inserted some “Mason” rites while delivering his talk) and Noli Espejo (as usual, extemporaneously). They elicited some laughters as they relieved happy memories of cadet days, pilot training and military service.

The next day, after the mass at 3 p.m., the military burial followed, with PAF officers and men (PAF personnel from Wallace Air Base at Pasuquin) rendering last rites ceremonies, including three volleys and last taps. The PAF also provided guards during the vigil and a tourist bus for the trip to Vigan and back. The Class and the family wish to acknowledge the Air Force for their role in giving Rico Javier a military burial. The sixty-sixers present sang the alma mater song, not properly but with feelings nevertheless.

Before the burial, Noli, Vic, Bert, Bay and Fred had a little tour in the immediate vicinity of Jardin Jardin de Caridad, ending in the market where they bought “order ni misis” items. Jerry Singson made his SUV with driver available for their unforgettable experience.



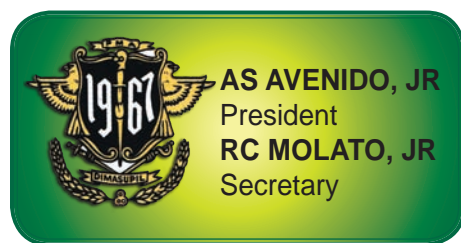
*The tiger is real, say the fearless five-Fred Bautista, Vic Belo, Bay Gals, Bert Sabularse and Noli Espejo*

They experienced the thrill of posing with a live tiger in Baluarte, a zoo of Gov. Chavit Singson and a breath-taking tour of his wide estate and mansion

To Lita, children and grandchildren, our condolences.

#### BIRTHDAY CELEBRATORS

We wish the following sixty sixers and spouses a happy birthday, having been born in January and February. For January: Reggie Regalado, Paz Bautista and Malou Catral. For February: Leo Alvez, Vic Belo, Rene Dado, Bert Jabile and Pons Millena. Jelly Nicolas and Beth Payumo.



#### CLASS ACTIVITIES

**A.** The following were our activities for the November – December 2015 period:

**25 November** – Our Dimasupil Monthly Forum (DMF) was hosted by Cords-Mina Cordero, Ben-Lea Libarnes, Bernie-Aying Patino, and Vic-Eve Villacorta at Barrio Fiesta resto, EDSA – Rochester St, Greenhills, San Juan City. It was nice to have with us Cav Winston Arpon '64, who was brave enough to accept our invitation to attend this joint birthday celebration of Bernie (3 Nov), Ben (14), Vic (23) and Cords (27). The son-in-law of Lou Ibanez, Armand Burda, was also there to give us a brief talk on wellness and how to look and feel young.

**12 December** – Our last activity for the year was our Remembrance Day in honor of the departed 27 Dimasupils (out of 85 graduates), 7 Adopted Members, and 13 Spouses. We started the day with a Holy Mass officiated by PAF Chaplain Maj Adan Rose in Lakambini Hall, PAF Ladies Clubhouse, VAB, Pasay City. Then, we had lunch and forum in the same venue. After that, the Ladies took over for our Christmas program, with Bernie Patino as the emcee. The PAF Instrumental Quartet provided good music for us. We extend our thanks to the Office of CG, PAF for facilitating the availability of the Chaplain, venue, band, and sound system.

**B.** Watch out for our schedule for January – February 2016, onwards, as follows:

**8 January (1730H)** – BIRCI-PMAAA Annual Membership Meeting and Election to be held in Golf Club Main Dining Hall, Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City. Attire: Polo barong or long-sleeved shirt.

**23 January (0700H)** – PMAAA Annual Convention to be held in the AFP Theater and AFPCOC, Camp Aguinaldo. Attire: Working long-sleeved barong.

**26 January (1145H)** – DMF to be hosted by Jun and Agnes Avenido in Vikings Events Place, MOA Complex Pasay City.

**20 February** – Alumni Homecoming in Baguio City. Attire for the Parade: white working long-sleeved barong, black pants, black shoes, and 1967 blue sapphire hat. We will have our Class Lunch (instead of Picnic) after the Parade in a restaurant in the city to be hosted by Diony and Bennie Ventura and our Post-Valentine's Dinner to be hosted by the Class in our hotel. Other details will be disseminated later.

**March** – DMF to be hosted by Manny-Maryrose Dalipe, Jun-Ronnie Ibay, and Nic-Glo Parena.

**April** – DMF to be hosted by Alice Averilla, Ernie-Dinsay Dionisio, Orville-Linz Gabuna, Rudy-Gracie Gaerlan, Mar-Mely Gatmaitan and Bert-Ruby Torres.

#### UPDATES ON THE DIMASUPILS

Abe Din underwent angioplasty in the Heart Center last November. After the successful procedure, he texted us: "Now I know that life does not begin at conception or at birth, but after a heart angioplasty." Our reply: "Congrats, Mistah, but always remember that you are now newly overhauled only and not brand-new." For more of Abe, please read the column of Bernie Patino below.

At about the same time, Vic Villacorta got confined in the St Luke's Hospital – QC due to stroke. He is now recovering in their home in Quezon City. The immediate effect of the attack was that he could only speak his native language Ilonggo and

could only recognize one woman, Evelyn, not as his wife but girlfriend.

We pray for the early full recovery of Abe and Vic.

#### UPDATES ON OUR FAMILIES

Glo Parena underwent a 6-hour surgery for hip joint replacement in VMMC last December. It would take some time before she could properly walk.

Sonia Briones also underwent a heart quadruple bypass surgery in the UST Hospital last December.

We also pray for the early full recovery of Glo and Sonia.

Last 3 December, the Dimasupils and their Ladies attended the Holy Mass for the first death anniversary of Remy Madrid at St Therese Columbarium, Pasay City.

#### BIRTHDAY CELEBRATORS

Best wishes to the following Dimasupils and spouses who are celebrating their birthdays in January and February: Myrna Espinosa (1 January), Hedy Duenas (2), Bobby Lastimoso (4), Lita De Guzman (5), Queenie Enriquez (6), Pert Molato (8), Cora Tomas (9), Edsel Salvana (14), Emma Carian (15), Warlie Sadiarin (16), Joseph Young (16), Myrna Cordero (20), Roy Aguana (21), Ernest Escaler (23), Jun Avenido (24), Maryrose Dalipe (26), Ernie Dionisio (3 February), Myrna Andaya (5), Fernando Suarez (7), Lou Ibanez (11), Bay Obillos (18), Diony Ventura (23) and Linz Gabuna (26).

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.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT

We received a notice recently from AFPGEN (AFP General Insurance Corporation) to claim our Class Incentive (commission) of Php 23,586.00 for getting our non-life insurance policies from the company last year. Let us have more "incentive" this year!

**CLASS TRIVIA**

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

I love Abe Din, warts and all. Under any and all circumstances, he never loses his sense of humor. Second week of November 2015, he was rushed to the St Luke’s Hospital in BGC. Angiogram results showed three major blockages in his arteries. He was transferred to the Heart Center for angioplasty. Before the medical procedure, he told his wife Cora: “Tell Bernie to prepare my eulogy. I want to edit it before he delivers it during my necrological services.” My reply to him, “Hindi ka pa mamamatay. Masamang damo ka, sobra! Mahaba ang buhay ng mga katulad natin.” Hehehe.

***After his successful angioplasty, Abe related to us his near-death experience. He was already at the pearly gates of heaven, reporting to St Peter on his EDRD. The patron saint of Manny Dalipe checked his book of life and said, “My son, Abraham, you have lived a tumultuous life. You were a good father and provider, a kind and loyal friend, and generally a good human person. However, you were overly generous with love and you practically satiated the carnal needs of anything and anyone who wears a skirt. I will give you a second chance at life, this time I want you to be a perfect husband to Cora.” True enough, he is again among us in the land of the living. In compliance with the desire of St Peter, he is now a perfect husband to Cora. However, I’ve just found out that he still keeps condoms and viagra pills in his wallet. I wonder why!!!!***

Joe Escarcha ‘66 is a dear friend and former classmate. We shared good times together as plebes and yearlings. He hails from Gubat, Sorsogon and for all intents and purposes, Gubat, no matter how rural it was, was a city to plebes in our company. His physique was tailor-made for wrestling. His neck was all of two centimeters and it was very hard for even Job Mayo ‘63 to pin him down on the mat. In fact, the collar clip for his dress uniforms were especially made by Sabile Tailors. He was also a good debater in 3rd Class English, but he was good only if the topic of debate was: “Prostitution: Shall it be legalized in the

Philippines?” Classes in 3rd Class Spanish were fun when Prof El Senor Canivel was on board. The verb “escarchar” means “to fool around”. Canivel: “Sr. Escarcha, conjugas el verbo escarchar en tenso presente.” Joe E : “Yo escarcho, tu escarchas, el escarcha, nosotros escarchamos, vosotros escarchaes, ellos escarchan.” As if it was not enough, Joe would add: “Mi amigo Bernardo Patino es muy guapo.” Hahaha, muchas gracias mi amigo Joselito!

Among us Dimasupils, there are two distinct types of aggrupations: Holy Men Society and Good Boys Club. The former is composed of those who were caught by their wives with girlfriends or just fooling around with the opposite sex. Mga nahuli ng asawa! (There is even one who has a boyfriend. If you want to know who, bribe me with a Starbucks cappuccino in Hong Kong.) Because the members are macho men, they comprise 90% of the Class. The latter group is composed of those who are faithful (kuno) to their wives. Hahaha, di lang alam ng mga misis nila that they are masters of the art of escape and evasion, which was required reading in 4th Class Tactics at PMA. They are sometimes called palos, very fast operators, madulas, matinik! Call them whatever you like, I just call them liars. Hahaha, the truth be told, there are but three of us Dimasupils who are truthfully faithful husbands.

So long Dimasupils and other Cavaliers, until the next issue! Happy New Year and God bless us all!



**I. Golf Tournament**

**T**he most recent and important Class activity was the Reaching Out Golf Tournament II sponsored by the Class on November 11, 2015 at the Camp Aguinaldo Golf Club. Armed with the experience of the first tourney in November 2013, Mel and the members of the BOT and the Golf tournament committee efficiently organized and implemented its plan. The successful tourney beefed up the Class Fund in support of its several social projects and golden anniversary in 2018.

Thanks is due to all the Hole Sponsors, Golf Players, Anonymous Donors, the Camp Aguinaldo Golf Club staff led by its manager Colonel Totie Tan, and to the Donors of prizes and gifts. Appreciation is also due the members and friends of the Class who donated cash. Most of all, thanks to SND Volts for fully supporting the project and Class President Mel Rosales for leading the Board of Trustees (BoT) and Golf Committee in the successful implementation of the project.

**II. Annual General Assembly, Election of Trustees and Christmas Party of the Class**

This was held on December 6, 2015 at the DND social hall. It was hosted by DND Sec Volts and Usec Nori. Among those who attended were SND Volts and RhodieGazmin, USND Nori and Candy Azcueta, Class President Mel and Millette Rosales, Willy and Isay Nuqui, Dante and Julie Ruiz, Sonny and LuthPenilla, Rudy and Arlene Rabago, Alex and Shirley Costales, Oscar and Gigi Cabaron, Bobby and Puring Santiago, Evelyn Erolin, Tess Pangantihon, Celia Canson, TitaPangan, Arthur Juan, Boyet Lim, Rene Santos, Abe Abiol, Norman Samonte, Jing Caballero and Art Carrillo. Special mention to Boyet who came all the way from Davao despite the extreme traffic, Art Juan and Evelyn. The Assembly was well attended with 10 couples, 7 stag classmates and 4 unescorted ladies.

The event started with a mass at 1700H. The mass was officiated by AFP Chief Chaplain, Monsignor and Brig. General Tirso Dolina. He shared his special affinity with select CMs especially Sec Volts for supporting his promotion and Lindo Erolin who, among other things, turned over his pet snake to him. Dinner and other social events were well planned by Rhodie and Candy. Food was as expected delicious and savory with crunchy lechonserved ‘Peking duck’ style. Sonny Penilla updated the assembly on the substantive progress of the Coffee Table Book Project while the group were enjoying their dessert. He noted that more CMs are now complying with their individual 2-page assignment. He also took up ‘The Family’ portion of the CTB as proposed by Nori. It is analogous to the family tree or the genealogy of Class members.

Class President Mel rendered his President’s Report for the year 2015. He welcomed and greeted everyone a very Merry Christmas. He reviewed the

several productive meetings, fellowships and special activities and their positive results in 2015. These included the alumni homecoming in Feb at PMA, Class graduation anniversary in March and the golf tourney. He reported that there are still 42 classmates and 5 honorary members standing. The members of the BOT were reelected to serve in 2016. They were officially inducted into office by SND Volts. After thanking the hosts, the meeting was officially adjourned by President Mel despite the reluctance of many Class members led by Dante, Volts, Boyet, ArtJuan and others who were still lining up their favorite songs over brandy. All those who attended were given one basket of Christmas goodies courtesy of the Class. The Class reiterates its extreme appreciation to SND Volts and USND Nori for hosting the activity and the food, games and other preparations led by Rhodie and Candy.



### III. Coffee Table Book (CTB) Project

On the CTB personal pages for the 61 CMs, 20 already have complete lay-outs, 24 lack narratives and the remaining 17 either have blank pages or have 1-3 photos only. CMs can get in touch with Nori who is supervising the conversion of the individual personal two-page (narrative and photos) segments using Publisher software. These are also convertible to power-point format upon request. CMs are further reminded to submit data on their family tree to Sony.



### IV. Catholic wedding of Mathew James Rosales and Shabnam Tabibi

Some members of the Class and ladies joined in the beautiful and joyful ceremony, warm reception and fine dinner at Marco Polo Pasig on Dec 29, 2015. The four bachelor brothers of Mathew served as best men. Mel personally and expertly co-sang "Sunrise, Sunset" during the ceremony. The Class shares its best wishes to the newly wed who reside in the U.S. and their lucky and gifted parents Mel and Millette and parents of the bride.



### V. Next Class events in the 1st quarter of 2016

First meeting of new elected trustees (January), PMAAAI Annual Convention (January 23), Alumni Homecoming (February 20, Baguio) and Class graduation anniversary (March, Manila). Confirmed dates and details shall be shared later.





November 2015 had to leave the calendar but not without Greg C. and Mon M. first treating the 69 family to an energy-packed birthday breakfast at the PNGC on November 23, 2015. There to give their warm felicitations to the celebrants were Benjie D.; Vic E.; Nonoy and Mone C.; Boy, Amy and Chelsy M.; Jepoy; Jess and Olive Regala; Lulu D.; Jus M.; RJ and Lily G.; Vikki B. Luz and Lemon L.; Jake and Sarla D.; Ike B. and yours truly. Conversations swirled around hospitalization insurance (surprised?), politics, and the sundry facts of daily life. Nonoy and Mone gave an early notice that we would miss them at the culminating class activity.

So at our Christmas Party on December 7, 2015, we were not baffled by their absence. As in the past two years, Vic and Inday Tiangco with son Quincy hosted the party at the poolside of The Tuscany in Makati. The 69ers and company started arriving at around 6pm to avoid the horrendous season's traffic. There were fourteen class members to include Vic T., Joey S., Vic E., Ike B., Boy M., Jus M., Mon M., Jess R., Garrick RJ, Greg C., Jimmy D., Benjie D., Rey B., and Chris A. Add to that Barangay Lagman headed by Luz, Barangay Camiling, Barangay Begonia, Menjie E., Amy and Chelsy M., Ellen M., Olive and Mimi R., Lily G., Sol and Lenlen M., Lulu D., Meg D., Vikki, Richie and Robin B., Inday B., and Amaris, and our dear Marian Tangingco plus our hosts and we were 52-strong. Not bad for a small PMA class.

To the generously and deliciously laden buffet Inday T. added her very own crispy canapés which she made from scratch. She did not have to do that, but she did because of her affection for us. The younger third generation of Suaviters and Fortiters was all over the play area enjoying the slide, swings and monkey bars under the starlit sky. (Yes Mone, there was no rain and no storm.), that while the band courtesy of the Tiangcos entertained us with sounds and songs from our time. The emcee, Evonne, alternated that with fun games such as the Hoop Relay which



*The Suaviters with their satisfied smiles after a sumptuous breakfast at the PN Golf Club.*



*The Fortiters in their contemplative moment after the breakfast.*



*The Fortiters during the Class Party on December 7, 2015 at the Poolside of the Tuscany, Makati where our host Vic T resides.*



*The Suaviters posing for posterity during the Class Party on December 7, 2016.*

gave the gents a good waist exercise and Bring Me which afforded me the chance to display my preferred Jurassic cell phones. There were also the traditional gift-giving and exchange of gifts interspersed with Super Boy Lagman (aka Jacob) singing his almost never ending praise song to the Lord and Myka Begonia reciting her long poetry competition piece. Robin B. capped the night with her angelic rendition of a song (not from my time so the title escaped me).

Ah, CHRISTmas, a trying and tiring holiday, yet when one remembers the Celebrant, not just the gifts and the parties, it magically turns into a good kind of tired that must have moved Ike B. to drive to Q.C. all by his lonesome self the day before New Year to visit Dennis N. and bring him some goodies from the class.

He left enriched and smoothed by a health tip he got from the visit and some good news, but that is another story. Happy New Year to everyone!



**EC GALVANTE**  
President  
**RC GARCIA**  
Secretary

**Class Yuletide Cheers**

Holiday cheer abounded as the class celebrated its Christmas party at the Jalandoni Hall of the Phillipine Army officers clubhouse last 13 December 2015. It had a good turnout of twenty two Magitings and twenty four ladies. Nineteen couples attended: Egay and Nene Galvante, Willie and Nancy Lorenzo, Jack and Len Ligot, Vic and Marlyn Signey, Clyde and Susan Fernandez, Boots and Emy de Veyra, Ed and Jess Israel, Santie and Enya Santillan, Romy and Remy Gojo, Manny and Lucy Reyes, Roy and Ning Cimatú, Sonny and Tessie Atienza, Eloy and Ludy Garcia, Julius and Tessie Javier, Nesty and Au Carolina, Glenn and Josie Rabonza, Rudy and Cecille Garcia, Teddy and Beth Delarmente, and Bobby and Joy Turla. Coming solo were Mike Coronel (who is looking well after recovering from his health issue), Bang Adriano, Rudy Ocampo, Dina Gaerlan, Josie Calvo, Amy Suemith, Neneng Daluyaya and Malou Visperas.

Music was provided by a three-man band that dishes retro-70s songs,

familiar pieces that induced the singing of a number of Magitings after sips of merlots and cabernet sauvignons. Willie Lorenzo showed that he can still belt out Don Mclean songs through sheer bravado (he remembers the lyrics but not quite the key) while Eloy Garcia surprised the group with his repertoire of Beatle tunes. Egay Galvante sang standard melodies and the class' Elderly Brothers (Nesty, Boots, Rudy and Egay) bravely regaled the merrymakers with their take on Everly Brothers favorites. There was dancing to the band's lively music and easily the ladies' favorite was Dancing Queen. Of course, the class anthem Hey Jude was the cue for Magitings to dutifully take their partners to the floor. Everyone went home with a bundle of exchange gifts and goodies, the latter courtesy of Nesty and Egay.

The ladies had their Wednesday group Christmas party earlier at Remy Gojo's place last 02 December. There was a special mass and thereafter came lunch, the lively parlor games, the raffles and exchange gifts. During the party the Mas Magitings also mapped out their plan of activities for 2016. The ladies in their inimitable way had lots of fun and very obviously had a good time. On 06 January, the ladies held their first of the year lunch meeting at Luk Yuen Glorietta in celebration of Josie Rabonza's birthday and a belated one for Enya Santillan. They

earlier had their mass at the Landmark Chapel.

Over at the US of A, just before the holidays, the Magiting SOCAL group had a get-together hosted by Pitong Heredia (while Annie was in Manila) to fete Irwin and Gemma Ver who were passing by on their way back to San Francisco from a road trip they undertook since August. Great to see Rudy Maluys and Marilen, Flor and Emma Domingo, Roderick and Maritess Castro (with their apo), Paco Francisco and of course Pitong, Irwin and Gemma in the photo uploaded by Flor. Edna Ballesteros and son Alex were there too but somehow didn't show in the picture. Looking forward to seeing you guys back here soon!

**Magitings Host Corps of 70s Golf**

The Magitings hosted the Corps of 70s 4th Quarter golf tournament at the Navy golf course last 11 December 2015 held simultaneously with the 7th DICOM 70 - Magiting Fellowship Golf. It was a successful staging of the tournament joined in by one hundred two golfers. The Corps of 70s tournament brought together golfers from the classes of '62, '68, '69, '70, '71 '72, '73, '74, '75, '76, '77, '78, '79, '80, DICOM and reserve officers led by Col Art Custodio. This is the first time that golfers from the classes of the 60s joined the games. As you would expect, the fellowship was warm as the games were intensely competitive. Class '78 bested the field with a 316 cumulative score followed by Class '79 with 321 and Class '77 wth 326. The Magitings ranked fifth with a 336 score The individual winners were:

**Class A Champion:** Mon Liwag '79, Runner-up: George Regis '80.

**Class B Champion:** Chris Datu '73, Runner-up: Rupert Pabustan '77

**Class C Champion:** Sonny Atienza '70, Runner-up: Bob Sacramento '71

In the DICOM- Magiting fellowship game nine Magiting players competed: Vic Signey, Jack Ligot, Ed Israel, Clyde Fernandez, Nesty Santillan, Boots De Veyra, Sonny Atienza, Roy Cimatú and Glenn Rabonza while DICOM's ten players which included 5 guest golfers were: Romy Narcida, Mar Teves, Fred Alegado, Edwin Vargas, Rene Lumbres, Ed Lena '71, Ding Niduaza '74, Alex Capina '82, Oddie Diapana '82 and Vir Garcia '82. DICOM '70 won over the Magitings by one point: 424 to 425.





Individual winners were:

- Class A Champion** - Ding Niduaza '74
- Class B Champion** - Agerico Kagaoan '62
- Lowest gross** - Allen Bantolo '83
- Lowest net** - Charlie Tanega '62

**Homecoming and Reception Day 50th Anniversary**

Plans are underway for the commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Class' Reception Day as plebos. The plan is for the Magitings to move up to Baguio on 31 March, be at PMA for the 01 April Reception of Class 2020 and have dinner with the Cadet Corps. The group leaves Baguio on 02 April. Details of the



sentimental visit will be further fleshed out in a class meeting. This early a number of confirmations had already been received, including from Mistahs based abroad.

Those attending the 18-20 February Alumni Homecoming however will still be able to avail of a 2-day hotel stay, charged to the class fund. Just present a copy of the receipt to our class treasurer.



**Happy New Year and Happy Homecoming to all!**

**The Red Fire Monkey Year**

**2**016 is the year of the Red Fire Monkey according to the Chinese calendar. This will start on 4 February 2016. Accordingly, the monkey is described as a smart, naughty, wily, and vigilant animal. This year will deal more on financial events. Thus, if you want to have a good return of your money investments, you have to outsmart the monkey according to feng shui experts. Think twice before you leap when making changes for your finance, career, business, and people relationship. So, everybody is forewarned to be careful. Was it Benjamin Franklin who said: Be at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbors, and let every New Year find you a better man? Cheers!

**February Homecoming 2016**

This February Homecoming event is significant for the Matatags if not a memorable one. Firstly, it is our 45th graduation anniversary. Secondly, the Guest of Honor and Speaker during the February Alumni Parade is no less than our mistah, Ambassador Marciano Paynor, Jr who was the Director General of the 2015 APEC activities in the country. It will be worthy hearing his speech touching on the preparations and holding of the APEC

events and also his inspiring thoughts for the cadets and the alumni. And thirdly, two of our classmates are awardees in two categories for the Cavalier Award. Egay Aglipay will receive his Cavalier Award for Private Enterprise while Rey Velasco will receive the Cavalier Award for Alumni Affairs. The whole Matatag Class congratulates Jun, Egay, and Rey for their respective achievements. Carry on!

**Christmas Party**

The class had their early Christmas party last 5 December 2015 held at the

residence of Egay and Mawie Aglipay. The party could have started earlier but due to the horrendous traffic (since it was a Saturday), many were late and some did not make it and was discouraged by the grid-lock traffic situation along their route. At any rate, it was a very happy event (as always) with the delightful dinner that was prepared, the games, and the gift-giving. Ruben and Fe Domingo, who arrived at about 9 P.M. were lucky to win the major raffle which was a 40-inch LED TV set donated by Egay and Mawie. Those who attended were Marte and Tet Chioco, Aris



and Nina delos Reyes, Bert and Marmie Sillona, Mel and Hazel Acosta, Rene and Sara Paredes, Romy and Elbe Dominguez, Dong and Lulu Tabamo, Rey and Fim Velasco, Boy and Barrie Castellano, Oca and Jinggoy Martinez, Rollie and Malou Garcia, Ben and Fe Domingo, and Jerry and Verna Albano, Art Lim, Manny Foronda, Cesar Gopilan, Lulu Runes, Tetet Domingo, Jennie Domingo and Lita Gil.

**Golf Fellowships**

The Matatag golfers for the past months had been the most prolific as far as fellowships are concerned. They play golf on a weekly basis (every Tuesday) in either the Navy or Villamor fairways but sometimes play in Malarayat, Southlinks, Orchards, and Southwoods Golf Courses. After the games and computation of the score bets, the bolahizing starts with topics ranging from plebehood, to active service, retirement years, health and medicines. And also, about apos. Ganyan talaga pag tumatanda. Those active and almost 99 percent present are Rex Piad, Rey Alcasid, Dan Belonia, Rollie Garcia, Boy Castellano, Egay Aglipay, Bing Alano, Jerry Albano, Ed Matillano, and this writer. Rey Rivera, Teody Viduya, and Doy Francisco are abroad. They are also the main participants in the Corps of 70 Golf Fellowship authored by the PMA Magiting Class of 1970.

**Class 71 Mini Golf Tournament**

For the start of the year, the Matatag Class hosted a mini tournament last 8 January in the Camp Aguinaldo Golf Course. Dubbed as PMA Class 1971 and It's Plebos, golfers of classes 1972, 1973, and 1974 were invited. Members of Class of 1970 were also invited as guest and were included in the individual awards. Class '74 won the Class Championship, followed by class 72, then class 71, and the

goat was Class 73. In the individual awards, mistah Rex Piad won the Low Gross while Monying Dizon '72 won the Low Net Category. In the Class "A" Category, mistah Rey Velasco won as Champion while Jun Noble'74 won the runner-up position. In the Class "B" Category, Glykes Sua '72 won the Championship while Rufo de Veyra'70 won the runner-up place. In the Class "C" category, mistah Egay Aglipay won as the champion while the runner-up was won by mistah Bert Sillona. All 35 participants received a jacket give-away and a minor raffle. A few lucky golfers won some major raffle prizes courtesy of Egay Aglipay and EMME Security Consultancy, Inc.

**Wency Cruz as newly elected Director in the BIRCI**

Last 8 January 2016, during its annual general membership meeting and election, Wency Cruz was elected as one of the Directors of the BIRCI. Matatag members trooped in said meeting to support Wency's nomination. Those in attendance were Bert Sillona (out-going BIRCI Director), Rex Piad, Rey Velasco, Jerry Albano, Jun Fabros (who came all the way from San Fernando, Pampanga), Dick de Leon, Joey Lalisán, Egay Aglipay, and Boy Castellano. Congratulations!

**FBMs activities**

The foreign based mistahs and their mas-Matatgs had also their share of Christmas, birthday, and golf fellowships. The pictures here will "paint a thousand words."

**Quote for this Issue:**

"You've gotta dance like there's nobody watching'  
Love like you'll never be hurt'  
Sing like there's nobody listening'  
And live like it's heaven on earth." William W. Purkey/JCL/10 Jan 2016



**W**arm greetings and belated happy New Year and Valentine's Day to all. Sama-samang pagbati.

Let's welcome 2016, the Year of the Monkey with great optimism and hope. A sort of advice for those born in this Zodiac sign : huwag mag-pa unggoy at huwag mang-ugoy. In other words walang "ungguyan" (no monkeying and stop monkey business for heaven's sake, he he he). According to my monkey astrologists, you are forewarn to refrain from lending money to others (except to your wives, of course) since there is a big possibility that you will never recover it anymore. It's your option to believe or disregard the advice of the sanamagan astrologist. Beware monkey guys ha ha ha. Hey, we don't realize how fast years are passing by. We have six(6) years to go before we celebrate our Golden Anniversary. With that in mind, let's fervently pray that all of us will be able to make it and celebrate jointly this momentous event in our life. Just be strong, healthy and vibrant. Let's go Masigasigs, go go go.

**YEAR-ENDER CLASS SOCIAL:**

The year 2015 ended with a bang for us. It was culminated with the traditional Christmas Party last December 2 at Philippine Navy Golf Club, the familiar and friendly ground for Masigasigs. As usual, there was a fellowship golf games among the 'parbusters' in the afternoon while the ladies and non-golfers busied themselves in bingo games to contest the handsome cash prizes at stakes while waiting for the party.

The Christmas party started at about 6:30 in the evening. Almost everybody was in red and green attire to welcome the advent of the holiday season. Fellowship, pleasantries and kumustahan blues were the order of the night. The foods were simple but deliciously prepared to suit the dietary needs of "senior citizens" around. Hot darns? There were plenty of "soft drinks"(sodas, juice and red wines) for moderate drinkers and of course "hard



drinks”(brandy, beer and whisky) for liquor lovers. The party became livelier with the presence of a band led by Queck Ebuena and Louie Abano and their song-mates who provided all time favorite music all night. With Queck as the lead singer the audience was enticed to go to the center stage and showed their dancing prowess. In between lull the Masigasig singers pitched-in to relieve Queck who hesitantly yielded the microphone. Mambo cha cha cha style. Not to be outdone, Mila Paguio and buddies (Egay not included ) showed their talents and belted songs to the delight of the audience. Expect more lively music next year when Queck assumes the Presidency from Gil. Of course the party was not complete without the raffle draws awaiting the lucky winners of fabulous prizes courtesy of our ever supportive Mistahs, Jun and Mely Espino. Thank you very much Mistahs, mabuhay kayo. The winners of the major prizes were: Bing Valencia, Cris Balaoing and Malou Joaquin. Congratulations folks. The party ended with mass singing of Christmas carols, beso-beso and greetings that seemed no end.

No doubt, that party is one of the best and most attended with seventy four (74) Mistahs including two(2) honorary members in attendance. Everybody was surprised with the presence of Paco and Zeny Fuentes who had been consistently

absent in the past class activities. Welcome to the fold Mistahs. From the bottom of our hearts we are glad you’re back in Masigasig arms again.

Kudos go to our Prexy Gil Batestil for ensuring the success of all class activities during his term particularly the last Christmas party which was a great success. Gil incessantly convinced Paco and Zenny to re-connect with the class and they obliged through his prodding. Thanks also to Neriz, and other ladies of Working Group and Class Officers for their whole-hearted support. MARAMING SALAMAT SA INYONG LAHAT, ANG BABAIT NINYO.

**NEWS UPDATES:**

We extend again our condolences and sympathy to Orly and Marido Ambrocio for the death of his beloved mother and her dearest Auntie respectively last December. Rest assure of our constant prayers for the eternal repose of their souls.

Congratulations to Ed Adan for his re-election (un-opposed) as President of AGFO for the 3rd time. We are proud of you ED. Carry on the good work.

As a reminder, next year will be our 45th Anniversary something we have to reckon with. I really don’t know what is the particular name of this anniversary. What I know it signifies loyalty. For us it is loyalty to the institution, class and Mistahs and importantly to the family.

The gemstone is Sapphire which is actually ruby; incidentally our gemstone. Got it?

Good luck to our Mistahs who are running for elective positions during the national elections in May. We have Jun Espine Espino seeking the congressional seat of the 5th district of Pangasinan. Also running are his sons Jumel “Pogie” for Governor and Anthony for re\_election as Mayor of Bugallon. Similarly his brother, Amadeo is also running for re-election as Mayor of Bautista, all of Pangasinan. Cel Navarro is poised to regain the position as Mayor of his hometown Bani while Med Pestano is running for Congressman in lone District of Capiz. To all of you, GOOD LUCK AND GODSPED.

**BIRTHDAY GREETINGS:**

Belated happy birthdays to the following January celebrators: Cora Oliveros, Vic Carag, Elmer Romano, Mila Paguio, Ed Adan, Mol Sales( dec), Teody Teodosio, Beth Adan, Sheryl Luga, Pogs Santillan and Cris Balaoing. Greetings also to all February guys: Ping Berroya, Albin Rivera, Marvin Concha(Dec), Pol Lacerna, Lorna Abesamis, Rudy De Castro, Rey Jucutan, Helen Evangelista, Bobby Del Pilar, Ludy Vidad, Ogie Alino, Manding Naval, Lily Romano and Babes Flores.

**2016 ALUMNI HOMECOMING:**

By the time you are reading this piece you are already enjoying the cool breeze of Baguio weather and roaming around the Fort waiting for the Alumni Parade. I can imagine plenty of “bolahizing” and “kayahazing” taking place with our lower and upperclassmen and even among Mistah(Dionix take note).

Happy reading and have a pleasant stay in the City of Pines....cgc.



**AP CRUCERO**  
President  
**WV GARCIA**  
Secretary

The Class celebrated this year’s Christmas party at the Tactical Intelligence School , Philippine Army Hqs, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City. It was a simple gathering of the Marangals and their Ladies to renew acquaintances and share the warmth and joy abounding this festive season. The affair opened



hoped that with the help of the newly elected batch of officers, festivities such as this would be a more frequent occurrence. For it is always good to know that there is a family that we can all come home to who will welcome us with open arms. Reunions and gatherings such as this serve as a reminder that ‘once a Marangal, always a Marangal’.



### Happy New Year and Happy Ruby Homecoming Anniversary to everyone!

The year 2016 is going to be an exciting year for the Magilas Clan.

Two major class activities were held on 13 December 2015 at Enderun, McKinley Hill, Global City, to seal the Magilas calendar of activities for 2015, the year-end general assembly meeting, and the Christmas fellowship among mistahs and their spouses.

### General Assembly Meeting

Class President Edong Acuna, serving in the capacity for 3 successive terms, presided over the meeting which started at 5pm with 60 Magilas members attending. Invocation led by Pastor Paul Mata was followed by the rendering of the President’s Report by Ed Acuna, the Treasurer’s Report by Gerry Defensor, and the announcement of the ratification of all acts and resolution of the Board by the Class Secretary, Joe Solidum.

The following are the salient points discussed in the meeting

a) President’s Report – Ed Acuna summarized the accomplishments of the Class under his stewardship and thank the class for their cooperation of the majority in attaining set goals. At the same time, he encouraged more involvement and participation of a few inactive members by keeping their communication lines with the leadership open.

b) Treasurer’s Report – Gerry Defensor updated the class in the status of fund resources by presenting a tally between the money going into the class coffer as against the expenditure to support class activities and projects.

c) Ratification of all resolutions

with a roll call of attendees followed by a prayer for the members of the class who have rejoined our Creator. The night’s sumptuous dinner, which was graciously prepared by Pons and Malou Crucero, was then served to the satisfaction of the attendees.

It was a night full of fun and jokes, dancing and drinking carried out without inhibition as it felt like one big family coming back ‘home’. Laughter and jeers abound as memories were reminisced during the early days in the PMA and while in the service in the AFP, PC/PNP and PCG. Funny moments were repeatedly told and retold and regaled with delight as we listened with rapt attention, never getting tired of rehashed stories and anecdotes. The Ladies likewise graced us with their lovely performances and prepared fun activities to be enjoyed during the night, such as the exchange of gifts and presents.

Hereunder are the names of Marangals and Ladies who attended: (names of attendees)

Danny & Sim Abinoja, Jun and Tess Abueg, Ed & Mariz Alvarez, Becky Aromin, Boy & Chato Bernal, Romy & Chu Buenaflor, Benny & Jo Cabrieto, Lorna Cabayao, Rogie & Mely Calunsag, Manny & Annie Carta, Eugene & Bong Cedo, Pons & Malou Crucero, Damian & Nini Carlos, Randy & Lulu Dauz, Bepbep & Cecille de

Luna, Ed & Maricel Doromal, Pete & Long Fernando, Lito & Cristine Gamit, Nap Garcia, Willie Garcia, Ruben Garcia, Lito and Malou Gutierrez, Aji & Judy Gutierrez, James & Grace de Guzman, Felix and Nellie Lagasca, Jun Lopez, Butch & Elsie Maglaya, Louie and Lilia Maralit, Nick & Mila Radovan, Bani & Irene Obaniana, Joe and Espie Ongchangco, Dobbit Palacios, Alex & Maryanne Pamplona, Nick & Merlie Pasionos, Ramby & Edith Ramboanga, Ricky & Mitz de la Paz, Tony & Bechie Romero, Teepee Salazar, Bert & Mylene Sylim, Pete & Tess Tan, Romy & Jeng Tolentino, Amy & Winnie Tolentino, Jun & Lorna Esperon, Tintoy and Ellen Tolentino.....Absent but whose spirits were with us were: Rene & Nora Rieza, Past President Ernie & Nell Belen....

Aside from Christmas festivities, class officers were elected/ selected by acclamation; President- Alphonsus Crucero, Secretary- Wilfredo Garcia, Treasurer- Antonio Romero, Class Historian- Ruben Garcia. Service representatives were likewise designated as follows; PNP- Ameto Tolentino, PA- Pedro C Ramboanga PAF- Estrellito Gutierrez, and PN/PCG- Damian Carlos.

Through the efforts of the former set of officers, the party has turned out to be one of the most well-attended gatherings of the Marangals in recent years. It is



(rooms initially reserved by Abner), dinner at the Manor hosted by the PNP Group.

**20 Feb** – movement from Camp John Hay to PMA, registration of the class at Melchor Hall, proceed to the vicinity of the grandstand to participate in the alumni parade, lunch at the Magilas Visitors Hall; return to billeting area to pack up, individual movement thereafter .

**Magilas Christmas Fellowship**

As in previous Christmas fellowship, this year’s yuletide celebration with mistahs and their ladies was filled with fun and enjoyment. It also provided another opportunity for the Magilas to keep the bond of brotherhood alive and strong. Dinner served was superb (Enderun being an international institute for culinary arts). The music played almost endlessly by the Los Caballeros while the Magilas and their ladies are enjoying the dinner. The Magilas gents appeared splendid in their newly tailored homecoming uniform while the ladies look gorgeous in their ruby colored attire. Magigilas talaga!

Photo coverage of the event was made available to include a booth for personal photos as souvenirs. Gifts of Christmas goodies were distributed and cash gifts were received by the ladies. The Magilas and their ladies danced until taps. Special thanks to Mon Punzalan who planned and made all arrangements with Enderun to make this fellowship a successful one and to Del Pomposo for emceeding the program.

**CONDOLENCES**

Our deepest sympathy and condolences to Ben Dolorfino for the passing away of his beloved wife Mary Ann on 15 December 2015. Inna lilaahi wa innaa ilayhi raaji-uun.

**Birthday Celebrants`**

Our birthday wishes to the following Magilas who are celebrating their special day: 6 Jan - Mel Dilodilo and Tess Rodriguez; 7 Jan - Lou Gaboy and Beck Perez; 9 Jan - Ramon Dela Cruz; 11 Jan - Vic Boco and Femar Defensor; 12 Jan –Bebet brado; 24 Jan –Anavelina Loyao; 27 Jan –Eleonor Legaspi and Myrna Divinagracia; 28 Jan - Sandy Javier; 29 Jan - Sammy Tayag; 30 Jan - Allan Bontuyan and Eleonor Soriano; 1 Feb - Emil Lucero; 4 Feb - Corina Carlos; 5 Feb - Olive Solidum; 7 Feb –Nong Ikbala; 13 Feb - Joey Salvacion; 15 Feb - Armand Rodriguez; 18 Feb –Robert; 19 Feb –Vel Cabalquinto; 20 Feb - Karen Javier; 24 Feb –Pajje Pajarito.

and acts of the board as announced by the Class Secretary Joe Solidum, for the information and guidance of all members.

**d)** Membership Committee Report – Jess Versoza – committee chairman discussed the policies for adopting new members to the class and the criteria for considering a member as active in good standing.

**e)** The Magilas Story Book – MSB editor-in-chief, Epoy Marayag updated the progress in the making of the MSB. He said the commemorative book is currently being laid-out and is ready for printing by mid January. He added that MSB will be issued on or before the celebration of the class’ Ruby Anniversary.

**f)** Magilas Visitors Hall – Pat Labiano who is based in Baguio City was designated to chair the maintenance and repairs of the Magilas Center at PMA.

**g)** The PMA Alumni Homecoming – Abner Cabaquinto, Chairman on the Committee on the Homecoming, announced the 2-day itinerary of the Magilas members attending the event as follows.

**19 Feb** – Jump off from Camp Aguinaldo via bus/individual vehicle, stopover in Pangasinan to visit Our Lady of Manaoag Church and thereafter have lunch at Laoac courtesy of Mayor Boying Alarcio. Thereafter, proceed to Camp John Hay and check in at the Manor Hotel



**RA DAVID JR**  
President  
**TO PAN**  
Secretary

**Happy Year of the Monkey everyone!**

The class Christmas party was held at the PN Golf Clubhouse in Naval Station Jose Francisco, Ft Bonifacio last 10 Dec. The following attended the star-studded event: Ric & Lulut David, Vixi & Nena Abat, Raffy & Annie Pabustan, Nickie & Florence Ojeda, Dick & Edith Morales, Dan & Lina Cortez, Benhail & Nila Sevilla, Mar & Ongkie Catacutan, Ted & Eva Pan, Percy & Bopeep Padla, Sunny & Beng Pequiras, Art & Farah Mancenido, Mon & Heine Gatan, Orly & Loy Pestaño, Raul Bacalzo, Eric Javier, Rene Heredia, Roque Marañon, Dads Domingo, Larry Atendido, Butch Supapo, Dan Casabar, Bob Estioko, Roy Camagay, Louie Serquina, Lulu Caumeron, Lilibar Ferrer, Leggy Sadiarin and Grace Padilla.

It was a well-attended gathering of Masikaps which was made more memorable with a Pinoy Henyo game and a ladies dancing competition, in addition to the usual raffle & exchange gifts. Ric delivered a Christmas message and laid the planned activities for this year and our 40th year homecoming come 2017. Dads presented the status of the class funds that we got from the previous class officers. The party was a success and the class is thankful for the contributions to the expenses from here and abroad. Special thanks to Butch for the two lechon which came all the way from Iloilo, and to JJ Romualdo for the electric fans in the raffle.



Marriage in the Catholic Church, also called matrimony, is the “covenant by which a man and a woman establish between themselves a partnership of the whole of life.” Marlon, the eldest son of Jimmy & Mercy Milla, confirmed his covenant with DJoanne Tan last 08 Jan at the Basilica de Señora de Peñafrancia in Naga City, CamSur. The couple, who are residing and working in New Zealand, were married last year in a civil court. Mercy, with the backing of Jimmy all the way, managed the wedding from the preparations before D-day up to the time the last guest left the reception at The Tent of Avenue Plaza Hotel. Rene & Juliet Bacolod and their two daughters, Raul Bacalzo and I attended the wedding and the reception. I had to honor Jimmy & Mercy’s invitation since both of them were my college classmates in Ateneo de Naga.

The affair was well orchestrated by a wedding planner and was covered by professional photo/videographers. The ambiance of the basilica and The Tent caught everyone’s attention. Ang masasabi ko lang ay “Wow!” There were the usual video presentation, games and remarks by special guests, relatives and the couple. But the highlight in the reception was the “Pantomina.” Pantomina is a popular dance in the whole Bicol region and is a long cherished dance that never changes with time despite of the current dance and music. Its movements are intended to be reminiscent of a mating dance between a rooster and hen. Just look at the picture and see how Jimmy was trying very hard to “mate” with Mercy again hehehe!

The PMAAA Annual General Membership Meeting & Elections was held at the AFP Theater/AFCOC last 23 Jan.

The class was modestly represented in the gathering by Ric David, Dick Morales, Joone De Leon, Omec Roderos, Sunny Pequiras, Benhail Sevilla and Ted Pan. Omec was very active during the open forum. All the while, I was thinking that he might question my being elected as member of the PMAAA Board of Directors for AY 2016-18. Of course, Omec didn’t do it to a fellow oragon and a mistah. At first, I was hesitant to be nominated by the BIRC Board of Directors as director of PMAAA kasi I know how hard it is to be one (I was a PMAAA director in 2009-10). And I have already served the 1st year of my 2 year term as BIRC director and Chair, Ways & Means Committee.

Thanks to the endorsement of Joone, marami pa akong bubunoin sa BIRC! Joke lang Oone! But I just could not say no to the insistent incoming President, BIRC and to the “by the looks” of the incoming Chair, PMAAA Board. Basta ang sabi ko doon sa nag nominate sa akin na PMAAA director again...”my acceptance is subject to”.... Joke lang po, Sir Jimmy! As to Omec, he was aptly rewarded as he went home with a new cell phone which he won at the raffle during lunch in AFPCOC.

The Chinese New Year falls between January 21 and February 20 and determined by the Chinese lunar calendar. Every Chinese New Year starts a new animal’s zodiac year. 2016 is a year of the Monkey. To our Chinese friends here and abroad- **Kung Hei Fat Choi!**

The class wishes the following February and March birthday celebrators a Happy Happy Birthday! Feb 16 Benjie Belarmino, 21 Roy Camagay, 26 Ronnie Javier, Zards Simoy & Jun Manga and 27 Raul Ticman; Mar 04 Henry Cinco, Spade Espadero & Mon Espera, 06 Dick Morales, 08 Ric David, 09 Joe Burgos, 12 Art Quilop, 14 Art Mancenido, 16 Piloy Melliza & Jake Cataluña, 27 Raffy Pabustan, 29 Chay Taganas, RicRic Ver & Dan Jimenez.

See you in Baguio at the PMA Alumni Homecoming on 19-21 February!



**F**or this Homecoming issue of the Cavalier Magazine, the members of the PMA Matapat Class of 1979 who are still around are truly grateful to have survived long enough to be part of the PMA Homecoming 2016, thirty seven (37) years after graduation. We acknowledge that we have served our own thirty seven years in the wilderness and have not only faced dangers and fears but have found many pleasant places along the way. The journey has not always been easy, but we have gotten it whole. We all have made it here again in Borromeo Field and, we have to admit that, on balance, life has been good to us. We attend the annual Homecoming because we are thankful for the role Philippine Military Academy has played in our development. Since 1979, we all have gone our separate ways and have lived, I am sure, very different lives. Across thirty seven years, we all had numerous successes and failures, marriages that succeeded and marriages that did not. Most of us have raised children, and today some of us have grandchildren, possibly

great grandchildren. According to our separate goals and interests, we chose a variety of endeavors, but one thing we all have in common is that we received our foundation from the same place – Fort Del Pilar. PMA was our training ground. We have been to many places around the world, and have participated in a lot of different events, but there is one that we shall never forget and that is our days in PMA. At this homecoming, we do not expect to recover the past. We cannot pick up exactly where we left off – too much has happened since then. We are different people from who we were back 37 years ago. Yet, we share a common bond, the experience of being a Class, PMA Matapat Class of 1979. Coming together after 37 years is like a return to hallowed ground. The fellowship we have been sharing during homecoming is special because we cannot attain it with any other group. We are unique. No other group of people on earth has the experience we shared 41 years ago. We are one kind of a Class today as we were 41 years ago, as we will be tomorrow and forever.

The PMA Matapat Class of 1979 held its 4th Quarter 2015 Fellowship and Christmas Get-Together at the Social Hall of Villamor Air Base Golf Clubhouse on 09 December 2015. It was a well attended

affair; even Frank Villaroman who came all the way from Davao City was there to once again entertain us.

Titan and Monli did an excellent job as instant Masters of Ceremonies. Without much planning, the duo have very well orchestrated the lights and sounds, the Philippine Air Force Combo and the Dancing Instructors as well as the program of the night which resulted into an enjoyable and memorable night for all of us. Through the generosity of Matapats, lots of raffle prizes appropriate for the occasion were brought home by almost everyone present. Among other prizes, we had one (1) Refrigerator, three (3) LED Televisions, and sacks of rice with accompanying rice cookers, Christmas Baskets and many other prizes. Titan and Blessy's famous Gardenia bread for all occasions was the favorite pick of everyone which was shared to all present including the support personnel. It was a very Merry Christmas indeed.

As conceived by the Matapat Ladies, instead of the normal Christmas Exchange Gift, they opted to just donate to the orphanage, specifically to the Concordia Children's Center, the money that will be spent by everyone for the minimum exchange gift amount of Php500. A total of Ten Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (PHP10,500) was collected from the Ladies as well as various items for children such as feeding bottles, diapers and sleepers during the Christmas party. Thanks to Atty Marievic "Tabi" Anonuevo who personally delivered the donation to Concordia Children's Center. Another Six Thousand Pesos (Php6,000) and sleepers were collected for Camillan Sisters in Antipolo which was also personally delivered by Ella Leyritana. This particular act of charity is one of the Matapats way of sharing joy and love in Christmas. Congratulations to our Ladies. Cheers!

Following the quarterly Class Fellowship format, the Matapat Golfers had a golf tournament early in the day which was participated in by those playing in the forthcoming 4th Quarter 2015 Corps of 70s Golf Tournament and the February 2016 Battle of the Classes. Rollie Anonuevo, the Matapat Golf Team Captain, as usual, won the Lowest Gross prize. Rey Lanada and the PNP Group



who sponsored the golf tournament prizes made sure everybody who played received an award. Congratulations to all the winners.

We look forward to the 1st Quarter 2016 PMA Matapat Class of 1979 Fellowship which will be hosted by the Navy Group. We wish everyone all the best for 2016.

For comments and or suggestions, please email to: tete41@yahoo.com.



**OP LOPEZ**  
President  
**AG VIDAD**  
Secretary

It is Christmas time again and the year is about to end. This will be the last Christmas and New Year that we still have Classmates who are in the active service in all the armed services. While almost all are already enjoying their retirement relaxing time and the lump sum terminal pay, the remaining five, the last of the “Dimalupig” Mohicans, will still be around in 2016. They are Benny De Leon (PA), Oca Lopez (PA), Richard Lagrana (PA), Omar Garbo (PNP) and Don Montenegro (PNP).

The Dimalupig had a great Christmas Party at the PN Golf Club House last December 6 (Sunday) which was well attended by about 90 Dimalupigs,

Manlulupigs and DM brats/apos. So much fun, music, raffles, games and singing that drowned the usual “plebe talks”. Thank you very much to the mistahs who provided raffle prizes and give-aways, and to those who helped in the preparation for the party. Our appreciation also to the PMA Band who provided the entertainment. Of course, to Beloy Gador for the excellent food.

And what is Christmas Party without golf? For the past months, the Class had been conducting monthly golf social event - mainly golf for the Dimalupig and lunch with the Manlulupig after the game. This December, the event is doubly colorful with the mandatory requirement of wearing golf attire with 4 colors (red, white, green and yellow). I thought golf is hard but I never realized that dressing up for golf is even harder. Not to be outdone, the Manlulupigs also made it mandatory to wear 4-color outfits for the Christmas Party so it was literally a very colorful party indeed.

We are already preparing for our 35th Homecoming activities in 2016. Except for BennyDL and OmarG, everyone will be in civilian attire already. We would like to enjoin everyone to wear the new suit of the class which will probably become our official suit, henceforth. So if you still don't have it, please have yourself one made by King Philip, Junnar's or any tailor of your choice. The material can be secured from King Philip, Pasay Road branch. For our upcoming activities, the Alumni Homecoming will be on 20 Feb. After the Alumni parade, the class picnic/lunch will be at the Lopez Hall of Leaders so that we will not have to go far. In the evening of Feb 20, is the Dimalupig Dinner/bonfire at the Dimalupig Picninc Area in PMA. The following day will be open time for all. If there will be any queries, you may see our FB site and read your e-mails for updates. See you all in PMA on Feb 20, 2016.

As they say, a picture paints a thousand words so I will let the pictures talk about what has been happening to the DMs (Dimalupig/Manlulupig).



*The Dimalupig Christmas Party and golf fellowship.*





**“Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him.”**  
 – Proverbs 30:5, KJV 1611.

**S**TART THE YEAR RIGHT BY WISHING ALL DISTINGUISHED SANDIGANS – A BLESSED NEW YEAR, ONE & ALL! Likewise, Happy Wedding & Birth Anniversaries, as well as Wonderful Retirement to all concerned SANDIGAN CAVALIERS and Spouses:

**Birthdays (January):**

06 – Ms Chie Madarang; 08 – Cav Ed Valmonte(+); 10 – Cav Henry Losanes; 14 – Cav Fort Revillas; 16 – Ms Precy Barba; 19 – Cav Vic Cejoco; 22 – Cav Jess Gatchalian; 25 – Cav Zaldy Salimbangon; 28 – Ms Charmaine Canillas; and 30 – Cav Martin Canillas

**Weddings (January):**

02 – Cav Pete & Ms Girlie Dulos; 06 – Cav Gil & Ms Lerma(+) Laurena; 09 – Cav Willy & Ms Criselda Galedo; 12 – Cav Chito & Ms Jovy Trinidad; 23 – Cav Jet & Ms Imelda Velarmino; and 29 – Cav John & Ms Joy Bonafos.

**Birthdays (February):**

01 – Cav Natz Obligacion; 02 – Ms Esmeralda (Reggie) Dela Cruz; 04 – Cav Ernie Benitez; 04 – Ms Joy Bonafos; 04 – Cav Johnny Torralba; 05 – Cav Dan Alcoriza; 07 – Cav Abe Celzo; 08 – Cav James Bucayu; 08 – Ms Pinky Vivar; 09 – Cav Cris Acosta; 12 – Cav Tiny Taguinod; 12 – Cav Alex Tamondong; 13 – Ms Nelia Valmonte; 15 – Cav Joey Cabanig; 15 – Cav Romy Salamat; 16 – Cav Onie Banaga; 20 – Cav Rocky Samonte; 24 – Cav Jinggie Alano; 24 – Cav Demy Ramon; 24 – Ms Fe Estropia; 24 – Ms Ma. Cecilia Desquitado; 25 – Cav Jun Castro; 25 – Cav Alex Go; and 26 – Cav Rolly Picar;

**Weddings (February):**

08 – Cav Bien & Ms Rowie Casis Jr  
 14 – Cav Popong & Ms Tet Andolong.

Rejoice in your celebrations, Mistahs!



**A** great blessing came to Cav Rudy & Ms Tess Isorena, whose daughter, Chef Andi garnered the highest honors: Chef’s Award for academic & culinary excellence and the President’s Award @ CCA, Manila on December 11, 2015. Congrats, Mistahs Rudy & Tess!

**N**oteworthy also of mentioning are the daughters of Cav Luis & Ms Rosalie Ares: Ms. Amber Lea for graduating with BSEE degree from the University of Texas, San Antonio, Texas, USA on December 12, 2015; and, Ms. Anne Lorraine for graduating with BSN degree from the University of Texas, Arlington, Texas, USA on December 17, 2015. Congrats, Mistahs Luis & Rosalie!

**D**ecember SANDIGAN CHRIST-mas Fellowship and Party was held on the 19th day at the Multi-Purpose Hall, Camp Crame with the Chief, PNP hosting the well-attended affair! So much foods, fellowships and funs drowned the nite away! It was even made more exciting with the many gifts and raffle prizes which flooded the evening and filled the vehicles of the attendees! It was, indeed, a memorable occasion! Thank you, Mistah Ric! Mabuhay Ka!

**I**n the government service, some SANDIGAN CAVALIERS have bowed out from the active duty to join the BIRC Chapter in the last couple of months of 2015! To our new members, welcome to the club, Mistahs! For sure, you will have

refreshed looks minus the wrinkles of stressful office hours! What now, Mistahs!

**G**reatness knows no bound! This has been true to our SANDIGAN CAVALIERS who got promoted still despite of many Mistahs who have bowed out of the service! Those who are still active, though, hold key positions in their respective fields! Keep doing great for the Country and the Filipino People! Keep up with the SANDIGAN virtue of ever dependable, ever reliable, The Class You Can Lean On!

**A**nother year has passed by; a new year has arrived! Let us wish every CAVALIER all the best of this year! MAY EVERYONE COME TO THE SAVING KNOWLEDGE OF OUR ALMIGHTY GOD AND SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST THE LORD and enjoy HIS blessings the whole year round and beyond!

**N**EW YEAR IS ROUNDING THE CORNERS OF LIFE AGAIN; HENCE, CUT CORNERS PROPERLY! MEANTIME, HAVE A GREAT YEAR AHEAD, DISTINGUISHED SANDIGANS!

**“Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.”**  
 – Matthew 5:9, KJV 1611.

(For comments and suggestions, please contact: Cav Bien Casis Jr @ 0917-802-2245).



Sad way to start New Year 2016, we lost Mistah Cenon Realubit last 02 Jan around 4am LA US time due to cancer. He was survived by his wife Carla and 6 kids. Last November, Roy Fradillada likewise passed away due to lingering illness. Roy...Cenon...we know you are in Good Hands now. We will always treasure our memorable cadet and junior officer days. We will sure miss you both!

Incidentally, we are coming up with a program wherein we will reach out and maintain our class link with all surviving family members of our 25 departed Mistahs. We regret to say that we lost track of most of them.

Uncle Bobo is PMA mascot that originated after the war in 1947 when PMA re-opened. There are varying interpretations why Uncle Bobo was the adopted representation of a cadet. But, definitely, he does not stand for the Academy character coz he is not what a cadet should be. Some Bugo Bugos say Uncle Bobo is a Forever Cadet coz he could not graduate due to persistent poor grades. From a more acceptable perspective, probably Uncle Bobo is a Forever Plebe. Unlike what is being depicted in modern day Corps Magazine, he will never be an upperclassman with all those chevrons and class strips on his sleeves. He can't be a Yearling, a Cow or a Firstie because he epitomizes the stature of a Plebe, the lowest mammal in the Corps who "should" know nothing (kaya nga bobo) but only to obey the orders of the upperclassmen. Conversely, by the name "Bobo" alone which is the Tagalog word for being dumb, an upperclassman, most especially the immaculate Firstie, cannot be an Uncle Bobo coz the former should always be the Cream of the Crop, so to speak, projecting dignity "snappity," knowledge, wisdom and leadership, not a very lax, dumb cadet.

Perhaps, Uncle Bobo was created to convey to all cadets the basic virtue of humility, as it is the first lesson a Plebe, fresh from civilian life, should learn. It is the very core value any soldier should learn to practice at the beginning of his service.

He cannot take order wholeheartedly if he lacks this very basic trait. The moment a successful PMA applicant enters the portals of the Academy, he has to start from the bottom, divested of all his civilian ego, pride and self-esteem as well as worldly possession. Foremost, he is divested of all the knowledge, skills and behavioral antics he'd learned during his civilian school days so as to prepare him immediately for transformation to a military man.

***In 2013, the annual Cavalier Family Sportsfest adopted Uncle Bobo as the official mascot and introduced a totally new concept of fun games, far different from those dead-boring, vault-file and "pa-cute" fun games like Tug-of-War, Tire Obstacle Course, 4 x 100 meter relay, Egg Throwing Contest, Singing – Dancing Contest, Paluan ng Palayok, among others. The objective of the innovation was for all participants (grouped by companies) to re-live Plebehood by competing in a series of relay events that reminisce our never-ending rotment, compliances, and "mase-mase" days when we were still plebos. To institutionalize this innovation, the Uncle Bobo Perpetual Trophy was hence born. It is a 16-inch resin statue of Uncle Bobo standing on parade rest position, atop a pedestal to hold for one year the guidon of the Company that would be declared the Champion for the current year's Sportsfest. It is displayed at the sala of PMAAAI Center for all to see.***

Relay events under the new sports concept include, among others, the following: (a) Fix Your Bunks Ducrot; (b) Huh! Load-n-Load, Mr Boodler!; (c) Commence Exercise, Plebos!; and, (d) Dressing Formation. For this year (2015-2016), Hawk Company holds the distinction to place its guidon for a period of one year on the Uncle Bobo Perpetual Trophy. This new scheme promoting Uncle Bobo as the official mascot started in 2013 when Mistah Gani Nerez was the PMAAAI President. Galing ng concept, Mistah!

Congratulations and More Power to all Mistahs reaching the peak of their career recently with more twinkling stars: Rey Guerrero, COMEASTMINCOM; Jun Loyao and Harold Cabrerros, newly installed AFP TIA and ID Commander, respectively, who are both expecting their 2nd star; and, of course, our Valor Boy, Noel Buan, the new AJ9. Jiri A and Pat M are both in line as recipients of the falling stars.

In the Navy chapter, we only have a

quartet left keeping the Maharlika flag high up in the open seas...Aaron, Ernie... and soon-to-be Rear Admirals Bani and Tio Paeng. Sabi ng isang upperclass, "Nu ba yan, diminishing class ng navy!" Anyway, go navy all the way pa rin, Mistahs! Mag ooooya-oooya nalang tayo ng malakas para mapansin. Hehe...

With their two career daughters abroad – Jenna in UK and Nadine with hubby Didd in US, our ex-Navy rotary pilot-Mistah, Jess De Castro and Nancy are enjoying the peak of their romantic life in this planet. Sweet na sweat! Too much ang pag re-relax nga lang!!! Keep going, Bok.

Ey, Jess-Nancy and ex-Marine Milner (Khru)-Amy of Charlie Coy are mag bala-eh. Pretty boy Khru's son Didd is married to Jess' girl Nadine. Astig naman!

Meanwhile, ex-Marine Col Rowell Julian was in town from UN Mali, West Africa for the Holiday Season. He had a 2-week break. He is the same July, the strongman as ever. A long distance runner in his own right, he still does his daily physical chores, this time pacing the cheetahs, lions and zebras. Ah...God Must Be Really Crazy! By the way, sound off naman dyan, Amado Orac from Pakistan! Halluuuuu Mistah!

We are in close contact with Jun Penola of Toronto, Canada. Warmest regards to Mercy and their 2 lovely daughters.

RG Reyes "dFrog," sound off too! How's the mango magnate of the class?

Welcome to the growing number of BIRC 84 Club as more Mistahs are slowly and meekly bowing out of the service. In this Year of the Monkeys, Art O & Marine fixed-wing pilot Aaron F are set to join. Recently, Engr Mutiangpili and Mart Topines got rid of their uniform. Let's explore doing real business.

***We do have Mistahs whose sons / daughter followed their footsteps in PMA & PNPA. Ronnie Estilles had three PNPA sons plus a daughter on lateral entry; Bob Vilanueva, Jay Junsay and Egay Gonzales have one PMA each. Aside from Jay's female yearling, he also has one at MAAP. Astig Mistahs!!! Super snappy!!!***

Latest updates on our Law Enforcers: Hunk Armilla is the DRDA, PRO ARMM; Perrie Bucsit, the Dep DIPO, West Mindanao; Donats, the Dep Dir, Eng'g Service, PNP; Feds Dulay, the DRDA PRO11; ex Police Attache in Washington, Jojo Gentiles, Dep to Mistah Cerbo, PNP

Intelligence; Maligalig, the Dep Maritime Group; Noli Talino, the Dep DIPO in Northern Luzon; Bob Villanueva, a USEC in DILG; RT Sindac, the Dir for Log Support Svc; and, finally, Ronnie Santos, DRDA PRO3. Those who are now with BIRC are the following: Jojo Angan; TJ Basa; Corny Barrios; Job Marasigan; Allan Parreno; Ding Sevilla; Rod Reyes; and, of course, my snappy squadmate, Raul Petrasanta.

We are continuously accounting all Mistahs, their whereabouts, status and situation. Please share your information to us so we can update all the rest. Email anytime to: marine8968@gmail.com.



**RM DELA ROSA**  
President  
**RB LIMOSO**  
Secretary

**H**appy New Year Sinagtalans! We hope that 2016 would be a banner year for us careerwise, familywise and otherwise. First of all, congratulations to our star ranked mistahs who were promoted last year, the other year and many years ago just like Aaron Reconquista. Congratulations also to our mistahs who are to be promoted anytime soon to star ranks as they are already occupying star rank positions. Here is the list:

**PAF**

- MGEN Gems Molina, J5, AFP
- BGEN Ross Briguez, Commandants of Cadets, PMA
- BGEN Laurcris Tumanda, Wing Commander, 710th SPOW, PAF
- COL Sonny Lim, Wing Commander, 355AEW, PAF



- COL Rolly Acop, Wing Commander 530th ABW, PAF
- COL Arnel Duco, Deputy Commander, WESTCOM

**PNP**

- PCSUPT Jojo Mendez, Director, PNP Intelligence Group
- PCSUPT Barry Baraceros, Director, CPSM
- PCSUPT Eddie Benigay, RD, RIAS7
- PCSUPT Maymay Sarona, Director, FED
- PCSUPT Ding Acio, Director, WCPC
- PCSUPT Omar Buenafe, Director PRBS
- PCSUPT Ted Carranza, Deputy Director, PNP SAF
- PCSUPT Nestor Bergonia, Director, PNP NOC
- PCSUPT Archie Gamboa, Ex-O, DL
- PSSUPT Bato Dela Rosa, Ex-O, DHRDD
- PSSUPT Jovic Ramos, Ex-O, DIDM
- PSSUPT Oca Albayalde, Ex-O, DPL
- PSSUPT Roel Obusan, Director, Legal Service
- PSSUPT Lyndon Cubos, Ex-O, DPRM
- PSSUPT Edwin Roque, Ex-O, DRD
- PSSUPT Picoy Cascolan, DRDA, PRO6
- PSSUPT Val Tabian, DRDA, PRO 18

**PA**

- BGEN Ronnie Evangelista, Commander, SFR
- BGEN Pesyong Respicio, Commander, CEISAFP
- COL Felimon Santos, Commander, 703 IB

- COL Felicisimo Budiongan, Commander, 1MIBde
- COL Ading Murillo, Commander, 103IB
- COL Bob Dida, Commander, 202 IB
- COL Gavin Edjawan, Commander, 203 IB
- COL Bien Datuin, Commander, 701 IB
- COL Guido Rimando, Commander, 801 IB
- COL Clyde Yucot, Commander, 901 IB
- COL Ador Tabuga, Commander, 902 IB
- COL Macairog Alberto, Commander, 1001 IB
- COL Arnie Fernandez, Commander 52 EB
- COL Trece Robles, Commander, 53 EB
- COL Zaldy Limoso, Commander, AFPFC
- COL Guilbert Gapay, Commander, 2MIB

**PN**

- BGEN Alvin Parreño, Commander, Naval Reserve Command
- COMMO Bob Empedrad, Commander, Offshore, Combat Force
- COMMO Rene Medina, Commander, Sealift Amphibious Force
- COMMO Gao Collado, Commander, Littoral Combat Force
- CAPT Danny Rodelas, Deputy Commander, NETC
- CAPT Allan Cusi, Commander, Task Force Malampaya

**PCG**

- COMMO Aaron Reconquista, Commander, CGETC
- COMMO Bon Dan Chan, Commander, CGLOGCOM





With more and more stars expected to fall on our shoulders, 2016 which is our 30th year in the service would surely offer us plenty of opportunities to serve and protect the community, to love and care the less fortunate and the needy, to fight the evils of society, and to lift up the spirit of humanity.

We wanted to maximize everything in the forthcoming reunion and homecoming 2016 that is why we tried our best to raise funds to support once in a lifetime activities planned and orchestrated not only by the class gentlemen but also by the ladies who exerted so much effort to make this homecoming a very entertaining and very memorable one since we are in the homestretch of our career. This is not only a class activity but a Sinagtala family affair.

Our Sinagtala Cup Golf Tournament netted us Php 1,039,245.00. Thanks to Nonoy Gardiola, Jovic Ramos, Jong Jorado & Bob Empedrad for spearheading this fundraising activity. Our raffle tickets bonanza delivered very well as expected with the mandatory Php 25,000.00 worth of tickets good as sold per Sinagtalan. Our earnings amounted to Php 2,159,287.00. Thanks to class service representatives for the positive results: Art Macogay & Zaldy Matito for the Army; Cris Tumanda & Pepoy Concepcion for the Air Force; Bob Empedrad, Bon Dan Chan & Alvin Parreño for the Navy/Coast Guard/Marines; Ted Carranza & Dorouy Dela Rosa for the PNP.

The class is bereaved by the early departure of PSUPT DANY PEÑA due to a lingering illness. May he rest in peace. As decided by the class, the coverage from our group insurance should be divided equally to nine shares, seven shares go to the second family in Iloilo City while two shares go to the first family in Baguio City. The shares of the second family was duly received by the eldest son, Alexander Angelo Peña last Dec 9, 2015 at Camp Crame while that of the first family is yet to be received.

**“Loyal sons of pride and dignity, our spirits raised for victory, 86ers with pride this song’s for THEE...”**



**“A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way, and shows the way.” – John C. Maxwell.**

**G**reetings fellow Hinirangs! Let us all have a Happy and Prosperous New Year ahead. It is a very opportune year for the class because we have a lot to look forward to in 2016 and onwards as we move on in our careers. We have plans and programs lined up in conjunction with our preparations for our awaited 30th

anniversary next year. I strongly enjoin everyone to participate and spare a little of their precious time in planning and preparing for this milestone event. I am calling on all Hinirangs to unite efforts to support every member of the class who are at the forefront of their careers be it public, private or business. Allow me to congratulate our new general officers in the Armed Forces of the Philippines, Philippine National Police and the Philippine Coast Guard. Mabuhay kayong lahat sa inyong mga kumikang na bituin! Let us further strengthen teamwork to help accomplish our objectives not only in our careers but in our families as well. Lastly, we have hurdled and journeyed far in our jobs and family life and making time for class projects is essential to achieve a better future for a stronger Hinirang.



*Donning of P/Chief Superintendent Rank of Hin Alfred Corpus*



*Hinirang Christmas Party @ PAF Aerospace Museum on Dec 6, 2015*



*Hinirang Christmas Party with the Ladies*



**JC FAUSTINO JR**  
Chairman  
**AMB BURGOS JR**  
President  
**RR ACORDA**  
Secretary

**Greetings to all MARINGALS and their families as we usher in 2016!**

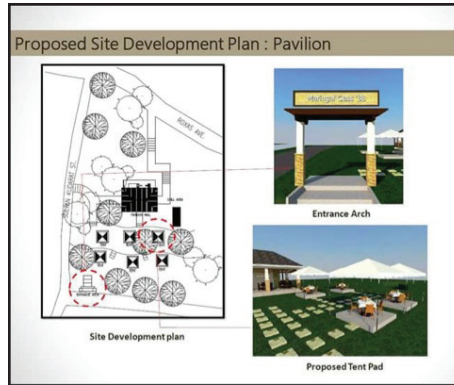
According to the Chinese zodiac, 2016 is the year of Monkey (Fire Monkey) starting from February 8, 2016 (called the Lunar Chinese New Year) and up to January 27, 2017. The monkey is a clever animal. It is usually compared to a smart person. During the Spring and Autumn Period (770 - 476 BC), the dignified Chinese official title of marquis was pronounced 'Hou', the same as the pronunciation of 'monkey' in Chinese. The animal was thereby bestowed with an auspicious meaning.

**Alumni Homecoming**

It's Alumni Homecoming once again and all available Maringals are expected to flock the slopes of Loakan. Here is our schedule of activities during the homecoming:

**18 February 2016, Thursday**

MGA Werfast Cup Final at Camp John Hay Golf and Country Club



**19 February 2016, Friday**

0700H - Tournament Proper for PMAAAI Battle of the Classes  
1200H - Check-in at New Town Plaza Hotel and other hotels  
1800H - Maringal Fellowship Dinner, New Town Plaza Hotel Ballroom

**20 February 2016, Saturday**

0700H - Open House, PMA  
0900H - Alumni Parade, Borromeo Field  
1200H - Groundbreaking Ceremony/Class Lunch, PMA Picnic Grounds  
IF - Check-out

One of the highlights of our homecoming activity is the Groundbreaking for our Maringal Pavilion at the PMA Picnic Grounds before our class lunch.

Shown above is the proposed development plan for our pavilion which will be constructed at our permanent class picnic area. Funds for this project will be

sourced from our fund raising activities and donations from our benefactors and friends.

And speaking of our generous benefactors and friends, they have also offered scholarship grants for the dependents of our departed Maringals. Maaraming salamat po sa inyo!

**Maringal Golf Association Update**

The Maringal Golfers are now ready and very much prepared to defend our Overall Champion title for the PMAAAI Battle of the Classes 2016 Golf Tournament in Baguio City during the Alumni Homecoming. Our principal players for the tournament: RJ Hinanay, OT Veslino, Pio Dinoso, Anto Florida, Rene Pamuspusan, Boyet Baraquel, Gene Ponio. Alternate players: Peter Ramos, Wilkins Villanueva, Joel Orduna. Good luck to our MGA golfers!

**The 11th SECNS**

Congratulations to Gary Nigos, Dado Suarez, Mike Pestano, Jojo Regondola and Boogie De Leon who have just finished their Senior Executive Course on National Security (SECNS) Batch 11 last December. Punky Rivera is assigned with the NDCP to supervise them while they are thinking deeply, praying intently, or simply dozing...

That is all for now...Mabuhay ang Maringals! See you in Baguio!



**RO SERMONIA**  
President  
**RS BRAWNER JR**  
Secretary

The year 2015 up to the start of the 2016 made many of Makatao members to break new grounds in their career as well as personal achievements.

It was a back-to-back blessing for Makatao's 2015 Outstanding Filipino Soldier Awardee Cavalier Ariel Caculitan and 2015 Cavalier Awardee Cavalier Jose Chiquito Malayo, the Vin Diesel of the class who remains single, late bloomer and elusively available.

Cavalier Rhodel Sermonia, aside from being the national president of the Association of Chief of Police of the



Philippines Inc. (ACPP) and actively immersed in his game changer strategy in fighting illegal drug in Bataan province, he is also an emerging ultra marathon and triathlon “athletic saver”. After an impressive feat through a 24-hour back-to-back hardcore race events - Bataan International Triathlon race in the morning in Bagac and Morong and in the evening 50 kilometer Bataan Death March ultra marathon race from San Fernando City, Pampanga to Capas, Tarlac - he greeted 2016 with a 42 kilometer ultra marathon race in Corregidor last January 9. The injuries he incurred at the Bataan Triathlon Race last November 28, 2015 did not stop him from conquering the relay race of the 50 kilometer in the evening. Cavalier Ernesto “Jun” Torres and Cavalier Kiram Grajo were equally determined to prove they still got the youthful stamina as another marathoner way up to their golden years.

In the Marine Corps, here are their whereabouts: Cavalier Ariel Caculitan is now the Chief-of-Staff of the Philippine Marines Corps; Cavalier Raul Caldez is the Philippine Navy’s Provost Marshall; Cavalier Reuben Candelario is the Deputy N3 of Philippine Navy; Cavalier Eugenio Hernandez is the Deputy Brigade Commander of the 1st Marine Brigade stationed in Sultan Kudarat; Cavalier Nestor Marcelino is the the Deputy Brigade Commander, CSSB; and Cavalier Charleston Sean Gaerlan is the Deputy Brigade Commander, 2nd Marine Brigade in Sulu.

Elsewhere in the Navy group: Cavalier Toribio Adaci, fresh from a yearlong senior officer’s course in the US, is at the AFPCGSC; Cavalier Alberto Carlos and Cavalier Nichols Driz are at the N4 and N2 of Philippine Navy, respectively; Cavalier John Garana is PNPC; Cavalier Francis Gabudao is the commander NCEBDE (our navy honorary, newly designated to a flag rank position); Cavalier Dorvin Jose Legaspi is assigned AFPCGSC (fresh from a yearlong senior officer’s course in the US); Cavalier Charleton Suniga is enjoying his retirement in the US; Cavalier Ferdinand Picar is detailed J5 at Camp Aguinaldo; Cavalier Reginald Rapanan is the N7 of Philippine Navy; and Cavalier Rommel Anthony Reyes is the NICTC.

The Makatao flyboys are similarly preoccupied with their demanding positions: Cavalier Toto dela Pena is the

Assistant Chief of Air Staff for Plans, A5 HPAF, VAB, in Pasay City; Cavalier Leo Peralta is the Deputy Wing Commander, 420th Supply Wing, CAB, based in Pampanga; Cavalier Chris Marquez is the Chief Division Staff, 1st Air Division, PAF, CAB, Pampanga; Cavalier Resty Rayos is the Commander and General Manager, AFPCEs, GHQ, Quezon City; Cavalier Larry Tianchon is the Group Commander, 900 Air Force Weather Group, VAB, in Pasay City; Cavalier Connor Canlas is in Australia as Assistant DAFA; Cavalier Lito Villanueva is the Chief of Staff, Air Force Reserve Command, CAB, in Pampanga; Cavalier Aldrick Dela Torre is schooling abroad; Cavalier Paul Mendoza is with Cebu

Chief Recruitment and Selection Division of DPRM; Cavalier Bartolome Bustamante is still the Chief of Police of Caloocan City; Cavalier Sterling Raymund Blanco is the Chief of the Regional Investigation and Detection Management Division in PRO1; Cavalier Ulysses Caton is Chief in the Retirement and Claims Division of Finance Service in Camp Crame; Cavalier Valeriano De Leon is the Chief Management Division, Directorate for Comptrollership; Cavalier Rex Delarosa is the Chief Regional Investigation and Detection Management Division of PRO 12; Cavalier Edwin Paras is the Chief Regional Comptrollership Division (R6) in PRO 7 based in Cebu City; Cavalier Erwin Robles is the PNP Group



Army New Year’s Call with their gorgeous ladies.



Cavalier Rhodel Sermonia poses with members of the PNP who took part in the 42-kilometer marathon in Corregidor Island last January 9, 2016 and while showing the heavy medal.

Pacific; Cavalier Jerry Cabe is also working abroad, and Cavalier Caloy Cristobal is the flag carrier Philippine Air Lines.

PNP is beginning to feel the “Makatao Spirit” in the different Directorates and Offices in Camp Crame. The class president is the Provincial Director of Bataan Province; Cavalier Albert Ignatius Ferro, Ph.D. is busy with employing his doctorate know-how as Provincial Director of Compostela Valley; Cavalier Manuel Abu is the Chief, Morale and Welfare Division, Directorate of Personnel & Records Management (DPRM); Cavalier Eduardo P Acierto is detailed at Sandiganbayan and Court of Appeals; Cavalier Rodolfo S Azurin Jr from Chief Personnel Plans and Policies of DPRM is the newly designated

Representative to All Nation & Culture; Cavalier Jose Chiquito Malayo is the Chief Personnel Plans and Policies Division of the Directorate for Logistics; Cavalier Joseph Ulysses Gohel is the OIC Chief Directorial Staff of Anti Kidnapping Group in Camp Crame; Cavalier Jesus Cambay is the Chief PNP Liaison Office of Legislative Agenda in the Senate; Cavalier Jireh Omega Fidel is Chief in one of the most prestigious Division in the Directorate of Investigation and Detective Management in Camp Crame; Cavalier Norberto Solomon is the Chief Directorial Staff of the Intelligence Group in Camp Crame; Cavalier Mario Sinacruz is the Deputy Provincial Director for Administration of Isabela Province, PRO 2; Cavalier Manny Chu is the PNP

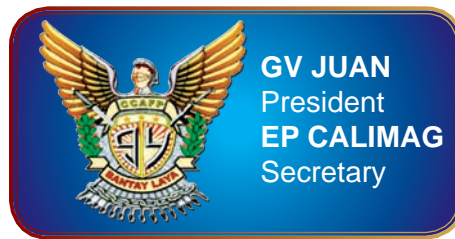
Group Representative detailed in Miami, Florida USA; Cavalier Norberto Solomon is also CDS of the PNP Intelligence Group; Cavalier Hammy Geonzon is the PNP Group Representative in Las Vegas, Nevada, USA; Cavalier Anthony Connors Canlas is the PC Group Representative in PAF, AFP; Cavalier Aldrick Dela Torre is also the PNP Group Representative in the PAF, AFP; Cavalier Ramon Tampil is the PNP Group Representative in Ireland; Cavalier Jun Borromeo is in Region 4AM; and Cavalier Antonio Salamat is our PNP Group Representative in all Philippine Golf Courses.

The Army Group to which the majority of the Makatao is where assigned, here is their whereabouts: Cavalier Romeo Brawner Jr. is the Chief of Staff of 6ID, Philippine Army; the Army's marathoner is now the G1 of the Army; Cavalier Wilbur Mamawag is the CS of HHSO, PA; Cavalier Francisco Ariel Felicidadario is the Executive Officer of OJ3 at Camp Aguinaldo; Cavalier Mauricio Licudine is the Deputy OG3 of PA; Cavalier Adonis Bajao is SJS at the General Headquarters; Cavalier Lowell Tan is DBC 802Bde, 8ID, PA; Cavalier Noel Plaza is DAFA Japan; Cavalier Alberto Desoyo is Chief APM; Cavalier Rodolfo Batang is CS, AFPRESKOM; Cavalier Bagnus Gaerlan Jr. is the Commandant of CAS, TRADOC;

Cavalier Alex Luna is at the Army's G2; Cavalier Ricardo Bayhon is Chief J1TF-M in General Aguinaldo; Cavalier Dante Barotilla is Chief GSMO 2ID; Cavalier John Oberio is Acting Commandant, ATS, ARESCOM; Cavalier Kiram-Azgar Grajo is Chief GSMO at the Southern Command; Cavalier Juvymax Uy is GS, ISG; Cavalier George Joel Lalaquil is Deputy Commander TF Davao, 10ID; Cavalier William Gonzales is Commandant OCS, TRADOC; Cavalier Rufino Ramoran Jr. is CO, APMC; Cavalier Greg Almirol is G3, AFPRESKOM; Cavalier Jose Narciso is Chief, GSMO of 8ID;

Cavalier Rogelio Migote is Ex-O, OTIG; Cavalier Rowen Tolentino is Chief MFO; Cavalier Camilo Ligayo is U3 Central Command; Cavalier Ramil Bitong is CS, AFPCGSC; Cavalier Lincoln Francisco Tagle is Deputy Commander AFP JSOG; Cavalier Efrén Baluyot is Chief, GSMO MID; Cavalier Manuel Sequitín is CS of 10ID; Cavalier Emmanuel Magpayo is Chief Admin Division of OJ8; Cavalier Marvin Licudine is DAFA China; Cavalier Bernie Langub is CO, DTS, 6ID; and Cavalier Leomar Jose Doctolero is CO of 15IBn, 3ID.

To all Makataos, watch for your health always. Definitely this year will be a busy year for all of us due to so many big events that would shape the destiny of this country in becoming "great again." See you all in Borromeo Fields for final coordination, dissemination and of course to rekindle our old memories during the "very" to "every" Saturday's we were together after lunch during our "plebe years" which made us what we are now.... GO MAKATAO! FIGHT MAKATAO! AWUAH!



It's time again to renew our powers in the sacred mountains of Loakan or so. Converging people of different classes and generations in the hallowed grounds of Borromeo Field at this time of the year feels great and excites everyone. There is something in there that attracts every bugo-bugo to stand proud and march along the long gray line once more. Reminiscing the good old days as we chat, converse and verbalized the history of our laxities and boyhood realities to our heart's content without even trying to notice that somebody out there in the stage, there is someone saying his or her piece to the corps and the band of rowdy nor noisy alumni along the field. Well, as they say this is the moment of acquaintances that we see those classmates of ours in different stages in life reminding each one that we were once a plebe trotting our way in this hallowed place and this give as the rejuvenation that we need and recharge again the power we once had.

Homecoming is a never ending phenomena for people like us. It goes to say that we cherish the roots of our mold. It's this place that we become what we are today. Nostalgic to check our very beginning of how it is today relative to what we had achieve so far. But this occasion also serve as the jumping board or the start up for the next journey and chapter of being a peemayer. Standing proud along the long gray line is something that everyone has to take into account. What does it symbolizes to one's being, how does it affect one's principle and where does the pride go from here? This

questions linger to all unknowingly.

But what is there to cherish anyway? Will it have something amazing to look and see? Ah... basta.. Yun na yun.. something unexplained moments. To the bantaylayans, such would be the majority attitude. Most of us, attendance to this event is almost always a priority one way or the other. This would only be the time that a formal election of officers is set either by votation or appointment sometimes pinpointment. News of other mistah flourish in this event sometimes even to the extent of having someone being the talk of the moment.

Speaking of news, those who have just finished the CGSC class went to their respective units. The army boys were distributed according to their AFOS and spread to the different divisions and fields OS specialty. Example of which are Lcols Flores, Hamos, Villanueva, Lucero and Rodel Esguerra went to the 1st div. while for Lcol Camarao I have yet to see his assignment, maybe it is still a gray area or it's still in the dark. Others like Inyong Hernandez is with the 51st Eng Eng. It pays to browse the facebook once in a while. For the others, I will mention you in the next issue, however, the next secretary will the one doing it. Aha, oo, nga pala, it's my time to be replace as such since I will be completing my two years this February.

For the Airforce guys who graduated, I have no significant news for them except that LCol Genete stayed with the unit next door to AFPCGSC, JTF NCR, for the reason that he misses his jogging area. The navy guys on the other hand can still be seen eating in their favorite hang out.. Tong Yang. They were distributed as well to line units, LCol Aragonés will doning a batcom role.. while Larry is poised to be the MC4 at Brown Hall. The whitecaps went to their respective shipboard assignments, Cdr Delfin meanwhile will be sitting as the F4 of Philflt in Sangley, while Cdr Bautista is the Supt of NASSCOM School. LCol Ariles meantime stays in Brown Hall at BNS. LCol Celebrado is with the Naval Installation Command and LCol Marceliones is with the training institution for now.

For the next Bantay Layans who will be entering the next round of CGSC routine, I guess majority would be army guys except for the boys nearby the school who intends to skip in the meantime to join next after class 61, goodluck mga bossing, if Larry Palma can do it why can't

you. The Manipula Hall waits for you, just bring along your pajama discreetly. Roger Luna will more than be happy to wack you mentally. By the way and on the highway, he will be the next course director kuno on the succeeding class if all things remain ideal.

Those people going up earlier in the cold mountain, just get in touch with Edwin Popa and Kit Villacrusis who are still with PMA and eager to see you, so that they can arrange your immediate departure as soon as you set foot in the area of Loakan. For the past years PMA boys were very instrumental in every homecoming activity especially for food and location of picnic area.

Expect also a heavy traffic within the confines of the city proper since tourists are abound during this time and enjoying the cold weather for free like you. Planning a trip would be wise and timing should be set intelligently to combat the road rage that can be experience in traffic greedlock Baguio. And always remember that we are not just an ordinary tourist out there but we were once the sought after local matinee idols of the bygone era of the 90's in this place of the universe, so be reminded of decorum gentlemen. Of course don't forget to bring a ballpen, malay mo may mag pa autograph sa yo na taga dun (dreaming of it). So gentlemen good luck on hiking the plains of Luzon... and be safe



*The gentlemen seem sober in front of the camera on 5 December 2015.*



*Marilag ladies pose for posterity during the Family Day.*



**RM BAUTISTA**  
President  
**IV SAN JOSE**  
Class Historian

### A Great 2015 but a Better 2016

The past year has done a lot for the Class yet the current one promises better things. 2015 served as a great culmination of years of preparation for our 20th anniversary as graduates; mainstay activities as that for Fallen Marilags last summer, some fund-raising during the fourth quarter, and Christmas family day were supported well by the members; and CGSC saw what rare grey matters Marilags are made of. Yet, this is not only what the Class is all about – Marilag is always about better things, and 2016 promises just that.

### Two Zero One Five

Last year, of course, started already in full throttle with members looking forward to the 20th homecoming – barongs and lady's outfits being distributed and refitted, billet and affair venues being finalized, etc. All, in the end as expected, went well with a new set of officers looking forward to some adjustment in Class policies, activities and renewed foresight to 2020. The Class also never failed to support traditional activities, particularly that for its departed members and, most importantly, for the untimely demise of Cav Roderick T Azurin who the Class has fond memories of. Meanwhile, as Marilags recovered from the sad event, school boys burned the midnight oil (?/!) at the CGSC, resulting to voluminous academic laurels, which the Class is really proud of. Also, there is no truth that Ben Leander has been doing his number one at the school; he IS the number one !

Now, culminating 2015 was a well – prepared, well – attended, and well – liked Christmas party and family day on 5 December 2015 at the AFPCOC Swimming Pool. Thanks mainly to the efforts of HE Bote and Joy. Despite the diluvian traffic

at EDSA and C5 that day, some 200+ Marilags and members of their family attended. Sonny and Gary, the latter in long-sleeved shirt, were tipsy too because of the hotdarn and the never ending frolic in the middle of the unkind noon sun. All went home that day, groggy, with either a sack of rice or some housewares from the raffle, save perhaps for LA who in addition to the usual loot, surreptitiously had two heads of the lechons with the apples.

### Two Zero One Six

Now as the year starts, all indicators seem to point to a great year ahead. Some may say that this part of the call is speculative but I will rely on some theories on predicting outcomes that consider “trends” that will probably shape 2016 for the Class.

The word may be “transformation”, if I may borrow the overused term, as it probably sank in the subconscious by mandated readings, camp tarps and billboards, scorecards, etc. The year really starts with a great foresight to be better members of the Class. Definitely, the officers are now thinking of better activities, greater participation by



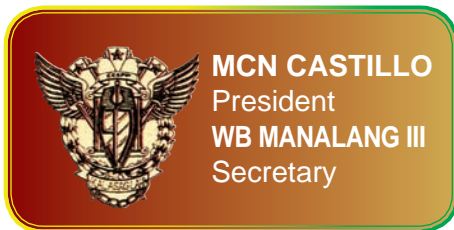
members, more involvement in activities and more responsive Class programs. Individual members may be thinking too of shedding some pound off their bellies, more fruits and juices, more time for the wife, kids and families, better PFT performance, more books to read, among others. Indicators are emerging grey hairs, prudent but sensible social media commentaries, alone-in-the-room pictures, family-oriented posts, Biblical verses, ideas how to do better, and a lot more that I cannot mention lest the long held image of some will shutter – for good

of course. New and exciting endeavors also await, as intimated by some. To those in the active service, there is increase in salary and, I don't know if this is good as it connotes ageing but will mention it anyway, the fifth longevity pay. To those in the BIRC, some new bright horizons beacon too.

But really, what makes 2016 something to look forward to is the company of the gentlemen who remain steadfast to the aspiration of being Marilag. All will always be there – to assist, to pep-talk, to motivate, to

challenge, to remind, to “attitude”, to pat the back of each other. Yes, Sir, you – the one reading this now during this homecoming, or wherever you are, are the reason for a year to look forward to. (It's ok to grin while reading the call.) Your drive to be better for yourself and for others is contagious to those around you; it defines how beautifully unchanging yet dynamic our Class is. Your attitude and deeds are the “trends” that make the year something to look forward to. For that, thank you for 2016, Mistah.

**Happy homecoming !**



**Charity Golf Tourney**

To help our mistah, Heherson Layugan, in his time of need, the Class held a Charity Golf Tournament last 29 January 2016 at the Camp Aguinaldo Golf Club. Proceeds of the said tourney were given to Sonny to help defray his urgent and substantial medical expenses.

**Navy updates**

Congrats to our first mistah to be designated as Battalion Commanders: Joel Bonavente (Armor Bn, PMC) and Neph Padua (MBLT-12). Oliver Reforba is busy drowning the young bloods in naval knowledge and compliances as Head, DNW at PMA. Welmer Base is now the Ex- O of PF16, Nerry Martinez is the Ex-O of PF11, Ariel Halasan is the Deputy Commander of the Naval Air Group, Dom Tulen is the Acting CO of PG394 while Elmer Toriado is the XO of AT298. David Hontiveros is usually seen in TV side by side with Code1 as his primary buddy.

**Other updates**

It is now official: Vicky Agoncillo, the Army's GAD-dess/GAD-mother, is the Army Branch's new President as she took over from Criz Fernandez who went on GSC schooling at the UK. Criz stays at London, England where he is often seen singing “London bridge is falling down...”

The Army Jacket that will be perpetually used during Alumni Homecomings is now available. Army Warriors may get theirs at ISG, PA c/o Pasky.

Gani Nato and Jet Flores are the Class' newest James Bond as they joined Señor Don T at ISAFP. Hopefully as of press time, Ray Tiongson have joined other mistah at HPA as OG1, PA's latest recruit.

The Army and Air Force group both held separate Christmas Parties that were well attended by mistah and their families. Di yata uso sa Navy ang christmas party, hehe.

Hope to see you all during this year's Alumni Homecoming. Wiliboie, signing off.



**Masikhay Living Up With PMA Values**

It is February once again and all roads lead to Baguio City for all graduates of the Philippine Military Academy (PMA), the country's premier military institution, as everyone goes “home” for the annual alumni homecoming. It will be the 17th time that our class, the Masikhay Class of 1999, is going back to our alma mater to attend the reunion.

While it is true that what makes every homecoming a glorious event for the attendees is the chance to catch up on the lives of fellow alumni, it is also an occasion when we pay tribute to the academy and the time to recall how we, along with fellow officers, were honed during our

cadet days on the grounds of the academy. It is good to be among “mistahs” and fellow alumni during homecoming and recollect about the experiences we all went through. Moreover, it is important to note that those who once marched at the grandstand of the academy would always be reminded of the three most important values we learned in our four years in the institution; Courage, Integrity and Loyalty; words that were inculcated in our minds, instilled in our hearts and made to embody our actions and words.

We all know very well that Courage, Integrity and Loyalty are big words that carry huge responsibilities. But to a PMAer, these are words to live out all the time and in every place or situation. We are aware that as an officer of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, the PMAer is expected to have the undoubted courage to do what is right, show unquestionable integrity and practice undeniable loyalty to God and Country.

As proud members of Masikhay, we shall embrace these three characteristics more so now than before. We need to be courageous in making decisions for the Class, as well as initiating actions that would benefit all our stakeholders. We also have to ensure that we conduct ourselves in upright manner; and make certain that our actions conform to the laws of God and man. But of course achieving this can only be materialized by having the support and cooperation of each and every member of the Class. We consider ourselves fortunate to have the support of each “mistahs” in all endeavors we embarked on in the previous year and the plans we are going to undertake this 2016.

In carrying out the plans that the Class has for this year, we shall be guided

by the wisdom of Aristotle when he said that we “will never do anything in this world without Courage. It is the greatest quality of the mind next to honor.” We will keep in mind the words of British novelist, Clive Staples Lewis that says “Integrity is doing the right thing, even when no one is watching.” And lastly, we will take to heart a quote from former United States Secretary of State Bainbridge Colby that “the test of good citizenship is Loyalty to country.”

On a more personal note, I am certain that with all members internalizing and practicing Courage, Integrity and Loyalty, Masikhay Class of 1999 will always be on the right path in its quest to being of service to the entire membership as well as their families and dependents. Here’s wishing everyone the best in 2016. #SolidMasikhayPower



**W**elcome back Banyuhayers. Hereunder are the current updates of our Mistah’s whereabouts.

#### PN updates by Ryan

Jimboy “Kilabot” Alagao - nagsusunog ng kilay sa Dltc, RAAF Williams base, Laverton, Victoria, Australia (CGSC). JP “Bigboy” Alcos - patapos na schooling (CGSC) at Defence Services Command and Staff College, Bangladesh (No night life daw dun). Poks Apillanes- so far so good sa HR ng PCG. Mark “whatamove” Arabe – Director, MOC. Ian “Muscle” Badecao- Political Affairs Officer for Magdalo Partylist. Bai “Jorge” Baranda – DAO, DND. Victor “Bagman” Brazal- MFO of Philippine Fleet. Mark “bossmanager” Buhion- Chief, Research and Doctrine Branch, N6, HPN. Wendelboy Buntag – schooling abroad US (CGSC), Rhode Island. Dexter “Poks” Caganan - Executive Officer of Naval Manpower and Development Center. Alladin Caluza – Deputy, MC5. Angelito “loverboy” Diaz – Chief, Plans and Programs, N2, HPN. Ronald Diso- Aide-de-Camp of Senator Trillanes. Charlie Domingo – Secretary General Staff and Acting Flag Sec, PM.

Marineth Domingo – Asst Director Naval Public Affairs. Rey “Long” Fuggan – MFO, Naval Logistics Center. Jimar Gementiza – NF2 Naval Forces West. Charity Gimay Fuentespina – PMA Instructor. Kenneth “Papsy” Lozañes – Singapore. Frank “Kiko” Madduma – School Commandant PMMA and at the same time CMO officer of NRC. Emerson “mocha” Namoca – nagpapalamig sa PhilFleet an skul bukol, Command at Sea Fleet Up Course. Edwin “master pogi” Pagaling -Deputy U5, EastMinCom. Rommel “Pee” Panol- Commander, Ocean Littoral Affairs Group. Glynn “machine” Pahilanga - skul bukol sa PhilFleet, Command at Sea Fleet-up Course. Jun “Dingdong” Pelonia – PVAO. Jaymund Poblacion- Logistics Officer of Naval Intelligence and Security Force. Kenneth “Bai” Rosalejos – MFO of Fleet Marine Ready Force. Marvin Salvan-. CS3 ng 12MBLT. “Baby” Keith Tanedo- Chief, Manpower and Organization Branch, N3, HPN. Ryan “Saray” Tumanda- Commander, Multi-Purposed Fix Wing Squadron. Ignacio Umali – Commanding Officer of PG371. Geraldo Uy – Private Entrepreneur. Zyril “Chowking” Villacorta - Squadron Commander, Aircraft Inspection and Maintenance. Thomas “Patrick” Yu-ing – BOC and Harold Taguinod- MAAP

#### PA updates by Glenn

Isang mapagpalayang umaga sa ating lahat mga mistah, First of all, I would like to greet everyone a happy new year! This is me, yours truly, ang inyo pong lingkod na army marcher, signing in... for my task which is our class update, here it is: Paul Agustin – after spending more than seven years here at Jsog, has finally reached his precious destination which is at the Supt’s Office, PMA and formerly as Mess Sgt of the cadets; John Aling – aid to the SND; Van Almonte – instructor and at the same time maintains his being Cadet Brigade S6 at PMA; Mau Austria- runs the family-owned Mistah Travel and Tours based in Palawan and trainer of their two lovely daughters and a son who are all champion swimmers; Tony Bacus, Lea Bellotindos-Pangaduman, Eugene “pinakabatang batcom” Esgue, Greg Inumpa, Marvs “the very brave Ranger” Maraggun, Toto Pacheco and the genius and my idol as well Heriberto Sanggalang are all busy doing their research at SOC. Jeff Balingao and Rene Gimena are with the IG, PA; Chris Baloran is somewhere in the “heart of

operations” inside CGEA; Untoy Basanes- a busy family man, as per Botong, who tries to compete with Mr Jhonnie Walker, Jose Cuervo and Carlos Uno with their family-owned “House of Domecq and Lambanog;” Thomas Bawayan, Roden “idol” Orbon and Jean Robles are also busy molding future officers and leaders at PMA; Julio Binuhhi is the life of every party and dinner meeting here at CGEA being the Asst Manager cum Mess Sgt at AFPCOC; Jessie Bucalen-Austria- aside from being a 21K-Finisher during the recent Heroes’ Run, is a hardworking staff at WESCOM; Ritchie Caballes, our former marcher, is now with DISG; Marion Cayat, Cuarts Mike, Cesar Deocampo, Jerico Managluz and Andy John Tupas are all working unseen, unheard, doing their share without fanfare nor trumpet’s blare, my idols!

*Tinong Constantino- magiting na alagad ng PSG (thanks for all the support during the security coverage for APEC bok), Dodie Imperial- billboard top model, Officer of the Year Awardee, and mas magiting na alagad ng PSG, and lastly, Anthony “the Man, Bossing, Idol” Kuinisala- pinakamagiting na alagad ng PSG, hehehe, also known as the Holder of the Key of the Third Largest Gate in Malacanang, I tell you, you won’t be able to pass by the gates without undergoing proper scrutiny and security procedures, now that’s the way to go! Mark Cleofas- still in the US? Bok, pls contact us and it’s been a long time since we’ve heard from you; the ever-reliable officers at G8, PA are Francis Cuntapay, Dan Mira, and Jerzon Rodriguez; while the ever-reliable, world-class, source of national pride staff at LRR, SOCOM are Rhomer “Daloydoy” De Guilo and Jumping Sniper Villy Manaais.*

Toits Delos Santos is still MIA somewhere in Bangkal, Makati City; Marc Deslate and Jason Que are having their Masters Degree under the 22K Program; while the hardworking Francis Sprite/ Styx Espiritu is always busy supervising the warm-up and cool down stretching exercises of the volleyball players at the Army Gym, as per Botong, who plans to volunteer as his assistant in this very intricate and arduous task; ever-dependable Marg Galera-Minggoy – still with the OVCPA so if in case you need any assistance, you know who the right person to call; Randy Galiza just finished the SOC

and went back to 2ID; Carlo Ganancial-still with the corps of engineers based in Manolo Fortich, Bukidnon; Ranger Guidangen- at HPA, also very willing to assist you in case you have concerns in Bonifacio; Manny Laroa-still with the ops of 6ID; Felmax Lodriguito-plans to replace or rather secure the SND, hehehe; Bambam Mabus- with the OVCSAFP; Janb Molero –instructor at SITS; my Bonkee Eugene Monchang Ramon is working silently at WESMINCOM while William Rodriguez is in charge of safeguarding the largest vault at NOLCOM; Leober Samudio is still working as an Armor Officer in Camp O’ Donnell, Tarlac; Ronnie Suyu is with the Corporate World in Dole, Surigao; Lakschmi Talidano –still posted as Seconded Officer in Australia; Idol Buddy Victor Teleron- with the artillery, but, I just don’t know where his howitzers are.

Christian Uy is the very effective PAO of 4ID, now on schooling in the US while Noel Wamil is with 703rd Brigade. Anjo Ylanan is still with the ops of 1ID while Mike Yuson is with the 3ATG. Me, together with Kuya Botong and our pinakamabangis na Operations Officer here at Jsog, Reynir Nirza, are busy doing this article inside our Room 7 Jungle Base. Actually, they are the ones dictating to me what to write and I am just the one typing it so if in case you find anything disturbing or erroneous, they are the guys!!! I almost forgot, Don Donaldo El Sia-ed is also with us here at JSOG but because he is also one of the “pinakamatinding” officer here, Rey Nirza deployed him to Basilan and Jolo, hehehe.

***Ingat and mabuhay ka mistah! Lastly, never shall we forget those who have traveled ahead of us, to Dickson Daguro, Alexon Domingo, Charlie Salcedo, rest in peace brothers. And to all of us here who are still enjoying the gift of life, stay happy while trying to achieve a balanced work and family life despite of the constant pressures and challenges. We all know that a life dedicated to service is never an easy trek, so just hold on while we live up with the ideals that were taught to us by our Alma Mater! Godspeed, maraming salamat po and mabuhay tayong lahat!***

**PAF updates by Fong**

Yuletide season is over, and with the setting of the year 2015 comes the rise of the year 2016. Since it has been said that

one has to learn history in order to create a good strategy, let us first ponder upon the things that transpired last year:

- Career Upgrades and Accomplishments. As we slowly and deliberately take the counsel of years, some of us were blessed with opportunities that our class can be proud of. Special mention goes to the following: The First Force Fighter Stucka Estoque – the class fighter pilot, Stephen Von Calizo – ang siga ng Villamor Air Base, Papa “M” Magbanua – the King Horny, este Hornets of the Mindanao Hueys, Mike Mallari – boss ng unang Composite Tactical Training Squadron sa Sangley, Melkie Tadz – PIC of the newly acquired AW 109, Besoy – IP of C295, Marc Yamps and Noy Bugash – IP/TP of no less than the presidential chopper, Papa Sam Molve- boss for maintenance, Papa Guanix – boss for Supply, Perot-director for CMO, Cary – director for HA, Papa Pars- Deputy Chief, OESPA, and Bossing Makoy- ang bagong lider ng pangkat! Let us also acknowledge the newly promoted Jojie “the pogie” Bravo for the well deserved promotion and Tom – ang isa sa mga topnotchers ng Financial Management.

- Family upgrades. As we look forward

to the projected increase in our salary come this year, some of us were fortunate enough to be blessed with what really matters in this world – life. Congrats Boss Makoy, Gimo – ang hari ng Champion, Noy Bugs, and Stephen Von

- Taking it slow. The rest of the epoxy mistahs were taking it slowly but surely with strategic plans: Tikoy, Papa Vergs, Shawie, Maggie, Gims, Fong, Jutabs, Papa Mel Mones, Maky, Somar, Carrie (things they change, my friend huwwoodoo), Perot and Papa Parz. Taking it slowly and covertly – Idol Owen Florenda, Lakay Felix, Idol Eric Pua (mas covert at mas kalmang kalma... :)

- On the other side. Mr Calaunan, Batman and “bai” Jigger the Slasher also did great on their respective fields. We are looking forward to having at least a bottle of beer with you both!

The past year showed that our class has no other way to go but forward, for the better. Time definitely flies, and we’ll again be seeing each other (hopefully) at the Alumni Homecoming. May the past year’s accomplishments and experiences guide us to make this coming year a success for the Banyuhay. Mabuhay!

#Throwback pic. Remembering our cadet days.



Yearling Year. (Circa 1999)



Cheering Squad “Charlie Company”. (L-R) (Standing) Mark, Jericho, Jessie Rose, Makoy (Kneeling) Al, Dado, Fong. (Circa 2000)



**RDR ABALOS**  
President  
**TV CAYTON**  
Secretary

The Mandalangans' Christmas Raffle Bonanza 2015 was a great success. 13 prizes were given away. Congratulations to all of the happy winners!

1st Prize – Suzuki Alto 800 2015 (Emil Bote); 2nd Prize – Samsung 48” Smart LED TV (Aizalyn G Sobrevega); 3rd Prize – iPad Air 2 (PFC Ma Cristina C Gayo); and Consolation Prizes – Five (5) solar-powered power banks (SSg Cleto, Joanna Mendoza, Hana Apercho, Alejandro Sotto and Michael Acosta) and five (5) baskets of groceries (Nikko Monato, Acong, Christian Barela, Carmencita Ruby and Jocelyn Afura).

Proceeds from said fundraising project were donated to the dependents of our fallen heroes and for the medication of Tappy the Great.

Fundraising can be challenging but is also incredibly rewarding. So fundraising pa more mga mistah!

Another great Christmas celebration was hosted by the class with special thanks to the Mandalangan Tuesday Group who remarkably organized it.

The Mandalangan Christmas Party 2015 held at PAOVILLE Park, Fort Bonifacio, Metro Manila on 12 December 2015 was a success with the following



mistahs (with their lovely ladies and cute kiddos) in attendance: Tips, Ruby, Mogs, Goofy, Ante, Gem, Aris, Papapax, Capili, Gabo, Madums, Cendana, Balanay, Acong, Mabix, Gargar Liit, Taning, Degz, Magisa, Brey, Nick and Dcru.

For those who were not able to attend, hope to see you on the next activity of the class. Til our next get-together!!

Mandalangans meet weekly in Manila (usually Tuesday). Just text Goofy the President for the exact time/date/venue. Likewise, PM us in our FB Group what you are doing so that we can publish it in this class call column. Keep in touch. There is always a Mandalangan near you.

Long live Mandirig Mang May Karangalan 2003! Kung Hei Fat Choi!!!





**10 Abbreviations Learned in 10 Years**

**1. TOTGA (the one that got away)**

We have learned that people and things that did not make it to our tenth year are meant to have slipped away from our lives. They got away for a good reason and our paths are way better without them. No use of crying over spilled milk or broken ties because everyday is a new opportunity to work our ways toward relationships. Mistahs will never go away, they are brothers and sisters that were born from different mothers, they are the people that will forever be at our side. We have no choice but endure them no matter how annoying they may be at times, they are the OTWGA (Ones That Won't Go Away). Take note Pakoy and James Phub Phub.

**2. ILY (I love you)**

We learned that there are people of unbelievable endurance of keeping a wife and a Mistah at the same time. To the To-Ongs, Escanuelas, Servidads and the most specially the Dys, way to go and continue loving your Mistah!

**3. FOMO (fear of missing out)**

As one of the largest class to graduate from the Academy we learned that kahit sang sulok ka ng Pilipinas mapadpad, may Mistah, tiwala lang. We will never be missed out, there will always be a Mandalan ready to shabbitize and bolahize you.

**4. LOL (laugh out loud)**

Nothing is more fun than talking about cadetship and plebehood. We learned that we laugh the loudest when beside Mistah and you can go on and on the whole night talking about the same topic. We have proven that the subject cadetship holds an unlimited number of sub-topics and limitless stories.

**5. TBH (to be honest)**

It seems like 10 years passed like a breeze and we have to be honest with

ourselves with the truth that we are no longer getting any younger.

**6. OOTD (outfit of the day)**

We have learned that it takes a man to wear tight slacks with matching body fit barong and yellow shoes. As nearly Majors, maybe we could learn fashion from Mandala Fashion Guru - Jordane "Alden" Sumabong.

**7. BB (baby)**

We learned that nothing is more fulfilling than holding your child in your arms. Congratulations to the new Mandala Parents: Andy, Abe Pasion, Fajuts, Tabaj, Gabs and Non and Expecting Parents: Upay, Kevin, Mrs Futoy and hopefully more to be added in this list.

**8. FTW (for the win)**

Basta magkakasama, panalo! We are proud to announce that Army Intel Peeps just finished their Advance Course and Tops 1-5 has been occupied by Mandalans, lead by JayPee DeeCee, James Phub Phub, Gemma Davong-Dalid, Niño Jay DeeCru and Gem Diway. For the Infantry Guys, Mandalans became consistent Number Ones: Pezlo, Mua and Erap. Congratulations also for the Finance Officer Advance Top One and Two: Talming and Dobends. Villarín also topped the Army Aviation Course. Yron FTW as Number One in Navy Staff Officer Course. Noah- graduated Valedictorian in the Public Management Development Program (DAP).

**9. FYI (for your information)**

**Army Updates:**

We have SF COs: Poblacion at Peejay De Castro in CARAGA Region, Ryan is conquering Jolo, Lakay Pulido and Soco are in Basilan. Robles, Balais and Moymoy Rayot just finished their CO stints in Basilan. We have incoming SF COs: Macatual, Joe Vergel, Penera and Siguenza. LRR Boys COs Sagario who will graduate soon, BJ Lim and Macansantos.

And "The Future" Ads Mua temporarily left SOCOM to perform other equally important duty, observing the ins and outs of the OCG. Shayne and JP are attending to the needs of our CSAFP. Campoy, Bantoy, Ferot, Zamora, Bambico, Talban and Tingson are attending to the

needs of the President. Digol and Espinas are in MechDiv. Chichi is newly assigned in OESPA, AFP. Futoy and Gabs are in OLA.

Welcome back Kuini from SG; Barranda and Puhayon from US of A; and Chevening Cyber Security Expert Ely. Foreign schooling: Bentong to CONUS for MCCC, Tala to Fort Huachuca for MI Advance Course. Local schooling: Rudy, GQ, Nikki, Rolly, Moi, Bernie, Cesar, Banjo, Potpot and Sandra and other mistah taking advance courses in CAS and 3ATG,

**Airforce Updates:**

They have just finished the interview for Major. Randell Medina was newly checked-out as pilot of C295 while Ombao checked-out as instructor pilot/ test pilot of the PZL W-3A.

**Lyndon Del Rosario has a new lovelife hehehe**

**Navy Updates:**

NMFO- Molina, RMO- Hernandez, Allanigui, CNS- Charo, N5- Tihume. Aide ni Pnoy- Las, NPmC- Miranda, Abrenica, Roxas, and Cristy na kakapanganak lang, Acobapalakang nagbabarko, CO navsog Zambo-Rosete, ISAFP- Conato and Pazziagan, US Expeditionary Warfare Schooling- Naranjo, PMA- Sembrano, Mogol, Carullo, (Melad not sure), OTIA- Tabajonda who just gave birth, Chat is a busy DWDD DJ, G2 MARSOG- Jandusay, PMC- Ubaldo, PSG-Naval, PF- Abiso,, NLC- Pines and Andor(busy breasfeeding), NIC- Soria, Navsog- Dmax, Nelvis, ex-o NRC Davao- To-Ong, NISF- San Joaquin, Lagula, Fajardo, student intel- Calucag, BNS MFO- Robles. Pines is burrying his head in law books. Errol just tied the knot while Estillote will get married in December. Our Mistahs in the US: Morrell, Mana-ay and Pacit (Navsog Pilot). Some are also undergoing Navy Staff Officer Course: Original Diway, Pogi, Jumi, Dyosa, Rio, Nelson, Tiny, Jay, Blinks, Jabu, Fufu, Kingking and Gulay.

**10. YOLO (you only live once)**

In the nature of work that we have chosen to traverse, this is very true. We remember our fallen Mistahs, our lives truly come only once but their bravery will be forever be remembered. To Onrubia, Ariel Toledo, Soloren, Samera, Dongail, Taganas, Valdez, Pinera, Amat, Evangelista, Cordero, Palma, Baya and Gamboa, you are our heroes.



**CAV ENRICO Y JAVIER '66**  
 13 October 1943 – 3 January 2016  
 Last rank held: COL PAF

Eulogy by Cav Vicente C Belo '66



**G**ood evening to everyone. Flying is the perfect time for reflection. Up there you have a totally different perspective. Flying is the perfect time to come back to yourself. The

turbulence in life could actually help you fly high. An eagle cannot fly without the resistance of air under its wings thus wrote John G Magee Jr. a pilot of the Royal Air Force. And so, Rico and some members of PMA Class 1966 decided to join the Philippine Air Force. All of us soloed and up there, we touched the face of God. By the grace of God, all of us first and foremost became military pilots in 1968.

Fernando Air Base was our home for the duration of our flying training. Rico was an exceptional and excellent student who always passed the check rides in solo, formation, night flying, navigation, trail acrobatics, instrument flying and other risky lessons. The much admired Rico was very helpful in sharing his talents like cooking the meals for us. He was good at it, the Kapampangan way of cooking. And we always welcomed his turn to cook because his preparation was palatable, unlike others of our scheduled classmate cooks who prepared "maski paps" (maski paano) meals which were forced feed on hungry members of the class.

**He also dominated the golf course. With flight instructors, and senior officers seeking his talents to teach them a good**

**round of golf. He was a very effective bridge to the instructor – student gap. Our relation with them was not only cordial but spontaneous. Our flight instructors, most of them junior to us, were supreme and assertive in the flight line yet they understood our feelings, and were friendly to us.**

Our careers in the Air Force, as officers and pilots took different paths and circumstances. Rico was engaged in even non-pilot task, such as the population growth of the Philippines, among others... All of us had trials and tribulations throughout our lives, which we consider as the "tests of faith" given to us by our Creator. THAT WE ALL UNDERSTAND, as St. Thomas Aquinas wrote "Things are in motion, hence there is a first mover. Things are caused, hence there is a first cause. Things exist, hence there is a creator. Perfect goodness exists, hence it has a source. Things are designed, hence they serve a purpose."

Rico was my partner in a Class 66 golf tournament sometime after our retirement from the service in 1999. I do not play golf but Rico my partner then taught me the rudiments of the sport, right in that tournament. I won and I told everybody, I don't have to play golf. Even without practice, you can be a champion in golf provided Rico is your partner. I donated my winnings to the Class fund.

Cicero, a first century AD philosopher wrote. "Seek not a rich or long life but a well spent and honorable life. The life given us, by nature, is short, but the memory of a well spent life is eternal. The life of the dead is set in the memory of the living. Not to grieve forever for those who died, but let their memories live in our acts, our words, our ideas which reflect their ideals and aspirations. Let us live a life of gratitude." On February 2016, Rico's memory will be there with his living classmates of PMA Class 1966 to celebrate our Golden Anniversary in the grounds of

our Alma Mater, the Philippine Military Academy in Baguio City.  
 May his memory be enshrined in the yearbook that his still living classmates are preparing. Rico, you have known the will of God and have done it. That is the greatest achievement. Go now into the dark for the lantern which you have carried, has God's light that will bring you to His Kingdom where life for you is eternal. We ask for your intercession. Our condolences to your bereaved family.  
 Thank you so much for the memory.

**CAV FRANCISCO V GATMAITAN '52**  
 7 August 1928 - 24 December 2015  
 Last rank held: BGEN PA

Eulogy by Cav Gregorio R. Vigilar, '53 (USMA)



**W**e are gathered here to honor and share our memories of BGen Francisco Venadas Gatmaitan, an officer and a gentleman, who throughout his adult life steadfastly

rendered dedicated and truly outstanding service to our country and people. We take this opportunity to offer our deepest condolences to Cora his wife, his children: Risa, Erwin, Jomini, Eric and Carina and their spouses and his relatives and friends here present.

Paco (as his comrades call him) and I were classmates at PMA. We served with the AFP Corps of Engineers for many years together. Paco was the Best Man during my wedding, and our two families have been continuously in touch with each other for over fifty years now. Although Paco was only five days older than I am, I have always looked up to him as a dependable older brother.

Paco was born on 7 August 1928. He grew up in Manila. He graduated from Mapa High School, and spent a year at the U.P. College of Engineering. In April 1948, we entered the Philippine Military Academy, together with 65 other young men who would comprise the PMA Class of 1952, the second post World War II PMA Class.

Academics did not pose any difficulty for Paco. He breezed through the mental and physical challenges of the Academy. In March 1952, Paco graduated with PMA Class '52, stood No.4 in that class, and

was awarded the AFP Chief of Engineers Saber. Even during those cadet years, Paco already showed resourcefulness and rugged determination in the pursuit of his goals, which would later be his distinct trademark in coping not only with the challenges and trials usually encountered by officers of the Armed Forces, but, later, also those while holding positions of high responsibility in the private sector.

Shortly after graduation, Paco was assigned with the 17th Battalion Combat Team which was then operating against the Hukbalahap in Central Luzon. PMA Class of '52 graduated at the time when the Communist-inspired Hukbalahap movement was at its height, so that all PMA graduates, Paco included, invariably engaged in actual combat operations almost immediately upon leaving the Academy.

**Subsequently, Paco was assigned with the Presidential Guard Battalion. Shortly afterwards, he was selected to train as a fighter pilot at the PAF Flying School. Paco stayed with the Air Force only long enough to "solo", and earn his wings as full fledge fighter pilot. However, Paco's heart was with the ground forces. He left the Air Corps and joined the Armed Forces Corps of Engineers.**

It was also around this time when Paco met Cora and succumbed to the charms of that very gracious and winsome lass from Batangas. They were engaged and married in 1954. This faithful union lasted 61 years, ending only with Paco's recent demise. This union has been blessed with five children- Rissa, Erwin, Jomini, Eric and Carina, all professionals and with their own families now and ten grandchildren.

Subsequently, Paco returned to the University of the Philippines, as an Armed Forces pensionado, where he obtained his Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering degree in 1956. He passed the Board Examinations for Civil Engineers and became a duly- registered Civil Engineer.

Immediately after UP, Paco served as the Project Materials Engineer during the construction of the initial phase of what is now the Mactan International Airport, one of the largest construction projects in the country at that time.

After Mactan, Paco was among the group of selected registered engineer officers who established and operated the

Armed Forces Centralized Construction Group (AFPCCG), which was tasked to plan and supervise the construction of all USAID-funded military installations of the AFP. At that time, practically all of AFP constructions were USAID-funded.

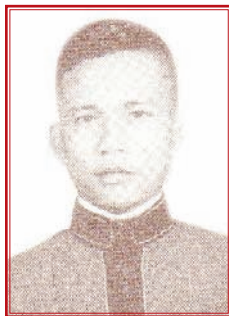
**Among his assignments while with the AFPCCG, Paco supervised the construction of the PAF Early Warning Radar Station at Lubang, Mindoro Occidental. This was one of the largest and most technically-challenging projects of the Armed Forces at that time, an assignment that ought to have been given to higher ranking officers no lower than a LtColonel. Paco was only a captain at that time.**

During the Vietnam War, Paco served with the Philippine Civic Action Group (Vietnam) or PHILCAGV, as the Group's Head Engineer Officer. Although PHILCAG operated in Vietnam as a non-combatant unit, the PHILCAG engineers continuously operated mostly at night, very often under intense enemy fire, repairing roads, bridges and other infrastructure,

*continued on page 16*

**CAV RAMBERTO B SAAVEDRA '63**  
 5 July 1939 – 29 December 2015  
 Last rank held: BGEN PA

**Eulogy by Cav Guillerr R Ruiz '63**



The man who lies in state before us is retired BGEN RAMBERTO B. SAAVEDRA of the AFP and a member of PMA "Matindi" Class of '63. Dodong, as we fondly called him, lived his more than 76 years of life in this world to the fullest with magnificent milestones - from a normal childhood, to a fearless soldier of the state to a noble warrior of God.

I first met Dodong almost 57 years ago when we both entered the PMA in May of 1959. There were 156 of us new cadets or "PLEBES" as we were called. We both joined Delta Company where the supposedly taller and handsomer cadets were normally assigned. We were in the same company until we graduated 4 years later on March 24,1963. Out of the original 156, only 75 finished the course that year.

The general impression that Dodong had manifested as a cadet can very well be described by what was written about him in the Class Annual of '63 and I quote:

*"Dong is soft-spoken, even reticent. There is an unmistakable aura that accompanies his lovable person. It is no wonder, then that while his silent ways shroud the man, he is far from being misunderstood. For Dong has a heart of gold and the glitter reached the other person in a quick flash so much so that there has come about a feeling, that the Corps has yet to find his equal in the goodness of his heart. He has therefore shown that a man does not have to be a Baron to be well liked, respected and even loved. How he has succeeded in this respect is not phenomenal - For anything comes and goes with young Dong"* Unquote

After graduation, we went on separate ways - he joined the Army, while I went to the Marines. In the Army Dodong was an operations man and he excelled in all his assignments. We met again during the start of Muslim secessionism in Mindanao in the early 70's. I was only a Battalion Commander then and he was already the Operations Officer of Southwest Command. He was well ahead in assignment for his rank for he was feared by the enemy armed groups and he was really a soldier of the state. He could have easily attained much higher positions and ranks in the military, but then he made a sharp turn and opted to use the bible instead of the sword. For this, he was later appointed Commander of the Civil Relations Service AFP.

Our career paths crossed again when my brigade in Basilan was sent to Cagayan De Oro to recapture Camp Evangelista which was taken over by a renegade army colonel and his group sometime in 1990. When we were already inside the camp, I was surprised to see GEN SAAVEDRA there (he was then with CRS) and I asked him why he was not taken hostage by the group. His answer surprised me - he said the Bible was his weapon and God provided him the shield.

Mistah, it's time to say goodbye. I hope that your loving wife Ching and the rest of your family will be consoled with the thought that you have now reported to your ultimate Supreme Commander in heaven.



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