

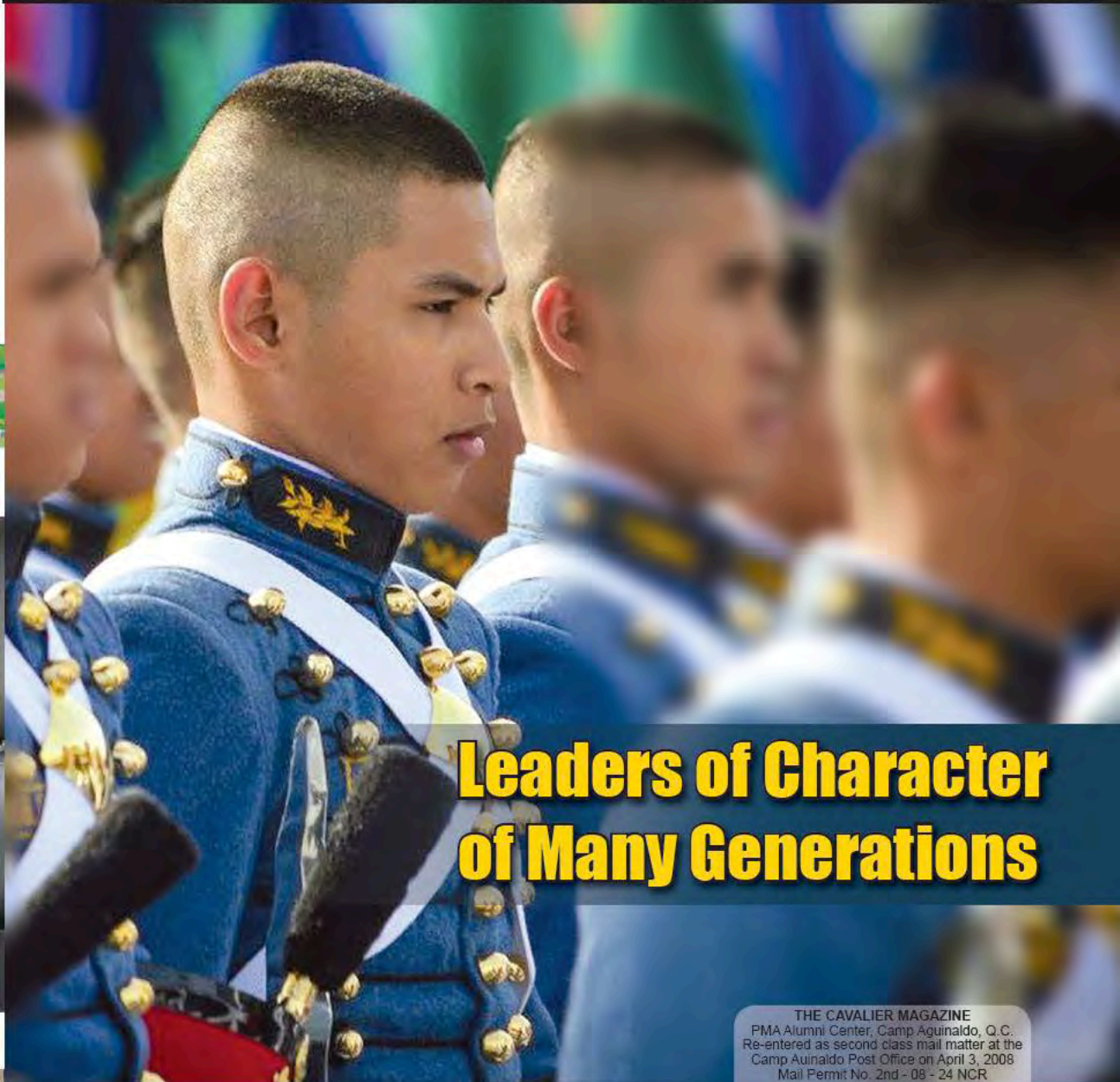


# The CAVALIER

COURAGE ★ INTEGRITY ★ LOYALTY

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

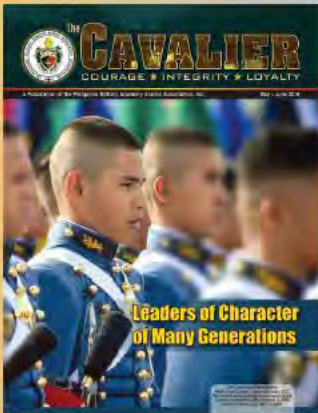
May – June 2018



## Leaders of Character of Many Generations

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## ABOUT THE COVER

Being a cavalier starts from being a cadet at the Philippine Military Academy. Our four-year rigid training at the Academy prepared us to be steadfast as we trekked our respective military careers. We have acquired the discipline the Academy had taught us as well as the sense of duty and honor. Such values were complemented by the proverbial Courage, Integrity, Loyalty that every Cavalier imbibes in his being.

As Cavaliers, we continue to uphold such virtues in our everyday life because they are deeply rooted in us.

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# The CAVALIER

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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 about The Cavalier and the articles in this issue would be appreciated.

Readers may now view The Cavalier online at [www.pmaaai.net](http://www.pmaaai.net)

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 Some articles have been edited to meet space requirements.





# FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S DESK

CAV JAIME S DE LOS SANTOS '69

## Empowering Our Alumni

The long history of the PMAAAI is marked by the stories of our honored alumni and the assistance it has extended to them. Yet, this age also brings with it problems. Rarely has there been any dent or change in our organizational structure. The expanded strength of our membership representing multiple generations has overstretched our absorptive capacity. To maintain our relevance, innovation is necessary. Our training as military professionals is also showing its downside: our “can do” attitude. We are taught that if we believe in ourselves and in our team, we will never fail. And in the end, failure is never an option. However, this line of thinking resulted in a feeling of superiority and a fear of failure. While this served us well in the field, it is now holding us back as an organization.

If there is a clear need for change then why do people resist it? The answer lies in our natural human tendencies and the design of our organizations. Firstly, if so much time, effort, and money have been expended in one particular course of action, why change it? These are called vested interests: some people have more to gain by staying on the old track. However, no amount of effort and money can fix a path that is wrong to begin with, hence the need for change. Secondly, we tend to look at things from a limited perspective shaped through years and years of repeated habits: these are called behavioral barriers. A novel idea that will result in growth for the organization may be shot down by a manager with a limited or outdated perspective, resulting in a net loss for the organization. Lastly, the systems we've designed to run the organization may also prevent change. This is especially true in bureaucracies with multiple layers and strict procedures, as in the military.

The multiple layers of command to go through and the numerous documents makes it easier to just keep doing the same thing over and over again instead of innovating. These are systemic barriers to change. And of course, when change threatens those with vested interests they will not give up their positions easily.

Yet, despite all the seemingly insurmountable obstacles to change, there can be no other way. Any business or organization that believes in sticking to the status quo is doomed to fail. What we need is to disrupt the status quo towards growth for the organization. Disruption means to invent new solutions to the problems we currently face. We cannot do this if we view innovation as a waste of time or a fool's errand. Rather, we should take risks and encourage each other to create fresh ideas to solve our problems. To simply surrender to the status quo would be abandonment of our mission as leaders. After all, leaders are change agents whose success is measured by how much the organization changes for the better. We will begin from the status quo but we will guide ourselves to a better state based on our strategic vision and mission. In the process, there will be inevitable clashes of personalities and perspectives. However, the disruption will work as long as we do it properly: there will be systems in place to capture and explore new ideas while the rest of the business maintains the status quo and stability.

One area that may merit a need for disruption is empowering the Alumni. It is essential to revisit the composition of our membership and how our organization accommodates their views. Does our current organizational

setup give Cavaliers an opportunity to express themselves and use their fresh ideas to contribute? Let us examine the changes in our membership: the number of Cavaliers has doubled, a great number belonging to the “millennial” generation: those who came of age during the 21st century or Cavaliers belonging to batches 2000 and above. Each generation of Cavaliers also carries with them the culture of their time. This diversity in thought can be a strength and at times a weakness: there is a tendency for older classes to dominate the leadership, clashing with the mindset of the younger generation.

Compounding this generational gap is a geographical one: the majority of Cavaliers are now based outside Metro Manila yet the leadership remains Manila-centric. There is also the dichotomy between our active and retired members. Each has his own interests and concerns that may conflict with each other. Resolving these clashing mindsets, concerns, and interests is an exercise in compromise, balance, and prudence. At the end of the day, whatever resolution is made, it must always preserve the integrity, reputation, and stability of the organization.


Under the vision of Leadership through Positive Change, there is a need to empower alumni and delegate certain tasks and responsibilities to them. Empowerment seeks to give subordinates the tools and freedom to successfully accomplish their missions, rather than concentrating everything in the hands of one leader. Key to empowerment is delegation. Individuals feel empowered when they receive tasks designed to challenge them and are given the ability to decide on matters relevant to them. Both empowerment and delegation are essential in strengthening an organization.

True, empowerment can be difficult as it clashes with traditional top-down management. Yet, the evidence is undeniable: empowered people are more productive, produce higher-quality outputs, and feel much better about their work. They come up with innovative solutions to problems by harnessing their and others’ creative energy rather than simply wait for orders from the boss. In today’s fast-paced and unpredictable environment, both inside and outside of the military, the importance of empowerment cannot be understated.

To this end, the PMAAAI Council of Class Presidents (PCOCP) has been conceptualized and in the process of undergoing an in-depth study. It aims to give alumni the freedom, mechanisms, and guidelines to resolve issues and help one another. Its functions are fivefold: 1) a forum for the resolution of issues among classes, 2) to support the strengthening of ties among alumni and outside organizations, 3) select Class Presidents to serve in the PCOP’s Board of Directors and the PMAAAI Board, if allowed, 4) assist in the crafting, dissemination, and implementation of relevant PMAAAI programs, and 5) help promote the general welfare of PMAAAI members.

The PCOCP shall be composed of the Presidents of the PMAAAI class organizations. Thus, it will be able to represent every generation of Cavaliers, young and old, active and retired, nationwide. This generational representation will be the key to forming a space for Cavaliers to discuss and resolve their interests and concerns.

To give them the freedom to manage its own affairs, the PCOCP will be independent yet supportive of the PMAAAI. Managing and leading the PCOCP is its Board of Directors, composed of the PMAAAI Chairman, Decade Representatives, and a representative of the last class which graduated from the PMA. The Decade Representatives not only serve in the PCOCP but are also members of the PMAAAI Board of Directors. This allows each generation of Cavaliers to have a say in the decisions of the PMAAAI. In turn, the Decade Representatives represent the Class Presidents of each class of their decade, giving each class a channel to express themselves.

The PCOCP is a new concept yet is based on time-tested principles of effective management. Alumni can look forward to a more responsive PMAAAI that empowers them to voice out their concerns and seek out solutions to common issues. All of this is just one component of the PMAAAI’s thrust of Leadership through Positive Change. 

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References:

- Developing Management Skills* by Whetten Cameron
- Secrets of Great Leaders* by Carol O’Connor





# PRESIDENT'S CORNER

CAV RODOLFO S AZURIN JR '89

## PMA Cavaliers as Brothers

"Opportunity and talent go hand in hand," I always heard that from one of my former bosses.

You might be given all the opportunities to show what you've got but if you do not have the necessary talent to do what it takes, you will not last. You might have acquired all the skills in the world but without the opportunity to show it, it is nothing.

Under the Duterte Administration, a number of Cavaliers are given the opportunity to serve and be part of the change of our nation to improve the lives of all Filipinos here and abroad.

Throughout time, we have seen cavaliers being appointed to government posts, especially in the defense establishment. Long before the appointment of Cavalier Delfin Lorenzana, many of our upperclassmen have already served as the Secretary of National Defense. We have played a lot of roles in the majority of areas in our society whether in a private entity or in the public sector. Our presence is felt in the different agencies, department, offices in the Executive Branch of government. We even have our own share in the religious sector wherein we have a graduate who became a priest. Much is expected from them to help change the course of our nation.

I always look at the positive side of being a cavalier, many of our graduates want to share ideas that might be of help to our fellow cavaliers who are in position. If you are an avid follower of the on-goings in the Academy Cavalier's Forum, Plebe and Cavaliers, Long Gray Line, Western Canada Group, AGFO (viber group), and many other fora where members are cavaliers, you can feel the passion of every member written over critical issues are being discussed and solutions are being offered across the globe. But how can we maximize the inputs of our fellow cavaliers if there is divisiveness within our ranks?

Lest we forget in our cadet's prayer: "Teach us to make our play in every game, whether, in mere sports or in life's

*mightier struggles, one where our desire to win is second only to the love of the game itself, where we triumph as considerate victors or lose with grace and a determined will to win".*

While in the academy, we compete amongst our fellow cadets in academics, sports, non-academic activities, and many others. Win some, lose many, and yet our brotherhood remains. For at least four years, the academy taught us the full meaning of "brotherhood" and politics has never been an issue. Because these things were all part of our "mightier struggles" in our life and our chosen careers.

Our cavaliers working in government under this administration need all the help from our fellow cavaliers. Let us continue to unite as one, respect the idea of everyone and avoid name calling. We should act as professionals and set aside our personal indifferences. Let us help our fellow cavaliers who are in need of help. We are a diversified organization but we should continue to agree despite our varying opinions.

At the end of the day, especially during our homecoming celebration and we see each other at the Borromeo field, it will always be nice to greet each other "Hellos" and "His" rather than want to kill each other. Let us be a kind brother to everyone especially those in need. Let us start working together for the organization and for the country.

Self-Discipline is one of the qualities of a great leader stated by John C Maxwell, author of "The 21 Indispensable Qualities of A Leader."

The key thrusts of the current leadership in the PNP are strict discipline, self respect, leadership by example, team work and performance.

During the assumption speech of our 22nd Chief of the PNP, PDG Oscar David Albayalde, he stated:

*"We shall impose and breathe discipline 24/7 and implement reforms in all levels in the PNP. We will show respect both to ourselves and to the public. Self Respect is what guide*

*our morals as individuals and our collaborative action as an individual. We will serve with all honesty, honor and integrity.”*

*“I will lead by example. I will not demand of you what I cannot demand of myself. I will be with you in the frontlines.”*

*“I shall set high expectations for performance, but I will be fair and just. We shall seek to put the right person at the right position.”*


*Whatever your personal beliefs, interest, and motivations in life, let me end with a very inspirational quote from the Chief: “I do not expect your loyalty to me, but I will exact obedience from you. I may be tough, but I am fair” unquote. PDG Oscar David Albayalde, Chief Philippine National Police.*

The current leadership in the PMAAAI Board is presently studying some reorganization and restructuring plan in order to make our organization responsive and relevant.

One of the plans is to organize the Council of Class Presidents to assist the PMAAAI in facilitating disseminations needing to reach every member of the association.

Another issue that needs to be addressed is the suggestion to reorganize, restructure or rename the AGFO. There will be one organization called Association of Generals and Flag Officers (AGFO) for those who are still in the active service and another association called the Association of Retired Generals and Flag Officers (AREGFO) for the retired members.

Maybe it is worth to take a look at the proposal. Organizing the Council of Class Presidents can be done in two ways – one for the active while one for the retired. As to the AGFO, it should also be viewed in two ways, the active and the retired.

The advantage in separating the active from the retired is to avoid placing our members in the active service in a very compelling or compromising situation especially if the views are contrary or opposing to one another. We need inputs and participation of our cavaliers regarding the proposal. An example of issue being actively discussed in the social fora of cavaliers are the BBL or Bangsa-Moro Basic Law, our retirees Pension Indexation, Federalism, as well as making the four (4) PMAAAI affiliate foundations in one. 







# SUPE'S REPORT

CAV DONATO B SAN JUAN '84

## Coping with Modernization: PMA in the digital age

June 1 has become such a historical moment for the Philippine Military Academy because for the first time, we welcomed a new breed of incoming plebes in the traditional Reception Day.

In my previous article, I have explained as profoundly as I could the reasons why we needed to shift our schedule. The bottom line was the need for the academy to respond boldly to the developments in higher education landscape. Such was not the only change we embraced at the start of the Academic Year.

Last month, too, the PMA Network and Information Systems (PMANIS) project has taken off with the winning bidders and the Academy's IT experts taking the lead to improve four major IT components namely: hardware, software, connectivity, and network management. The project does not only complement the education and training of our cadets, but also an indispensable figure in organizational development.

The PMANIS is generally intranet in nature with the Academy's data and systems now combined with external data sources in a more secured and systematic way. The interconnection of various systems both internal and external allows the sharing of information in a more accessible yet secured way. One value added capability on this area is the integration of Major Service's Personnel Information System to the PMANIS.

Another distinct feature of the PMANIS is the digitalization and automation of data such as cadet information and aptitude rating. It also simplifies existing systems and processes such as reporting delinquencies and the monitoring of cadets confined in the PMASH or those on SIQ. Originally, when a cadet is reported for delinquencies, say, from one of his instructors, the report has to go through proper channels, as it has to be endorsed by the Department Heads, before it finally lands on the table of the Company Tactical Officer (CTO). The CTO then endorses the DRs to the Company First Sergeant who distributes them to the reported cadets. Such process is tedious and usually takes about a week before the DRs are received by the concerned cadets for their explanation. The electronic DR simplifies this process as it provides seamless reporting of offenses. From its originator, both the Company Tactical Officer (CTO) and the reported cadet are immediately notified and the latter can easily explain himself on line without his report having to pass through different levels of authority. His explanation can also be seen by the CTO immediately and in no time, awards

appropriate punishment for the report. With the Electronic DR System, cadets can monitor their merit and demerit allowance.

With the popularity of technology, the role of IT in the education and training of our cadets cannot be discounted. Some may view these two integral parts of our educational system as oil and water, but the Academy thinks of them more as peanut butter and jelly. They have disparate flavors and consistencies, but when put together, they form a perfect union to better the teaching-learning environment. Having this in mind, the PMANIS targets specific core processes stipulated in the PMA Roadmap 2028, particularly in the conduct of quality education and training. Through the PMANIS, one computer laboratory is created in addition to the five existing computer laboratories. The library is also now equipped with additional computers where cadets can search catalogues and resource materials faster and easier. In academic instruction, teachers are encouraged to upload lesson files for easy access by the cadets especially those on guard duties. The PMANIS also ensures the availability of decision support system such as report generation, for example grades and course and curriculum evaluation, with basic analytics for future studies, research, and reference materials.

While the PMANIS has laid the foundation for the BSIT course with the upgrade of our computer laboratories, the Academy continues to address the national minimum requirements as mandated by the Commission on Higher Education for the other new course offering-Electronics Engineering. During the last Academic Board, we identified the need for additional space by 2020 to accommodate the laboratory requirements of the course totaling to ten. The laboratories, such as circuit, digital electronics, and communications laboratories, will have to contain highly specialized equipment, software, and programs which are not supported by the current laboratory upgrade.

With these changes in our midst, our leadership commitment to ICT transformation and materiel support systems for the new courses is stronger than ever. For now, we are grateful for the support of the current AFP administration, the Department of National Defense, the PMAAAI, and many other individuals for their continuous support to the Academy. As always, the Academy cannot do this by itself. We will be knocking doors and storming heavens to be able to deliver these requirements in the coming years in time for the offering of the BSIT and BS Electronics Engineering in 2019 and 2020, respectively.





# EDITOR'S NOTE

CAV ARNULFO MARCELO B BURGOS JR '88

## Of Generations, Character and Patriotism

Reception Day or April 1 marks the first day of the military career and last day of civilian life for a Philippine Military Academy Cadet. This fact stands true for Class of 1941, the first PMA Class that reported to the Academy up until the Class of 2021. This year, the Class of 2022 was received by the Plebe Detail on the 1st day of June. This is the Academy's answer to the need to align with national higher education trend which is part of the ASEAN academic integration. To other educational institutions, the change in the date of the first day of school is merely an adjustment to the the students' summer vacation and does not significantly impact their way of lives. For an institution such as PMA which is built in the foundation of shared beliefs, customs and tradition, the said shift signifies a dissolution of the decades long "April Fools" tradition among the graduates.

Throughout the years, PMA has undergone rudimentary changes, such as how cadets clean their floors and major generational changes such as the acceptance of the Female Cadets to the academy and the substantial impact it had to its culture. These changes are shaped by underlying values and attitudes that have been undergoing gradual evolution throughout the decades. Within a society, processes leading to change may vary but it is mostly either technological or ideological. Innovations and trends lead to an inevitable result of old cultural patterns being replaced by new ones.

Most people are inherently predisposed to change and, at the same time, to resist change. There are dynamic processes operating that encourage the acceptance of new ideas and things while there are others that encourage changeless stability. The PMA has learned to embrace these changes, and adapt with the changing times. However, to understand these changes, one needs to delve deeper to the multi-generation membership of the Long Gray Line. If one is estimated to graduate at the age of 21, indicated below is the generation one belongs to and a general description of the age group.

### THE SILENT GENERATION (Born 1925-1945) (Class 1951-1966)

They are civic-minded, cautious and had a loyalty and respect to authority. The classes trained in the post-war era when remnants of World War 2 are still clear and fresh in their minds. The Classes that first occupied the present location in Fort Del Pilar.

### THE BABY BOOMER GENERATION (Born 1946-1964) (Class 1967-1985)

The generation's traits are labeled as nonconformist, highly competitive and hard working. Most of the classes were able to witness the Martial Law era. The ones whose courage and loyalty were tested as who they considered as the Commander-in-Chief and the lawful President of the country.

### THE GENERATION X (Born 1965-1979) (Class 1986-2000)

The time when both parents entered the workforce. As a result, many developed independence and self-reliance. The then advanced Information Technology in PMA Computer Laboratory

during the late 80's exposed the cadets to MS Dos, Wordstar 2 software and use 3 ½-inch floppy discs, terms which bewilder the generation of today.

### THE MILLENNIALS (Born 1980-1994) (Class 2001-2015)

Millennials are known to be tech-savvy, self-expressive, narcissistic and prone to jump from job to job. The generation is also less religious, less likely to have served in the military. Today's generation's techie vocabulary include Microsoft Windows 10, macOS High Sierra, cloud storage, Google Drive, Airdrop and SHAREit.

### iGEN (Born 1995-2012) (Class 2016-2033)

Social media is key to this generation. The generation sees social media as impacting popularity, happiness, and self-esteem — more than any other group before them.

However, some things remain the same no matter what era one is trained in the Academy. Character development is the main reason why a cadet undergoes such rigid process, the nucleus of all knowledge acquired onward to becoming a leader.

Character is not dictated by age or its period in time. No matter what generation one is born, PMA Cadets go through the same temperament test, and subjected to adamant military training to survive a screening of leaders of courage, integrity and loyalty -leaders who are servants and exemplars not only among soldiers but also among civilians. These reflect the preparation given by their Alma Mater that transcends generations among Cavaliers. Trained beyond military strategy and soldiery, they are molded to steer change and empowerment.

In most periods of Philippine modern history, a Cavalier always plays a role towards the conclusion of significant events. However, no one has been excused from the disruption of peace in the past, whether you are in the military or a civilian. From World War 2 to the fight against insurgency and terrorism, we mourned for the loss of lives. Conflicts have bruised our relations with one another. It is in this torment that we came to a sense of consciousness of love for freedom and country.

Whether one is a traditional or a modern Cavalier, patriotism is an undebatable ideology and a shared responsibility of every Filipino. No matter how taut one's training is, no matter how unbending one's character is, and no matter how strong one's will is to pursue, without the plinth of support of the people, we cannot stand.

Patriotism is not advocated as a shared responsibility just because tasks are to be distributed but because it cannot be fulfilled without the collective love and sacrifice of everyone for the country. No one is powerful enough to be on his own. Even the strongest and most undefeated hero needs a platform to step on, needs his source of endurance, and needs his own hero to be inspired. We are all patriots, we need to be a platform for each other, a source of strength for one another and an inspiration to become heroes of one another.





# CAVALIER NEWSLINE

By **CAV ROSALINO A ALQUIZA '55**

### PCSupt Eleazar Designated NCRPO Director

PCSupt Guillermo Lorenzo T Eleazar '87 has been designated as director of the National Capital Region Police Office (NCRPO), replacing PDir Camilo Pancratius P Cascolan '86, who earlier replaced PDGen Oscar D Albayalde '86 who was earlier designated as the PNP chief



**Eleazar**

Cascolan, who was transferred to the PNP Civil Security Group replacing PDir Federico L Dulay Jr '84, was replaced as chief of the Directorate for Operations by PDir Mao R Aplasca '87, who himself was replaced as head of Calabarzon Police Office by Eleazar.

PCSupt Edward E Carranza '86, formerly Director of Police Regional Office Cordillera, has replaced Eleazar as head of Calabarzon Police Office. PCSupt Rolando Z Nana '85, from NCRPO, has replaced Carranza as head of PRO Cordillera.

PCSupt Cesar Hawthorne R Binag '87 has moved from Region 6 to head the Directorate for Information and Communications Technology Management (DICTM), replacing PDir Napoleon Taas '84 (USMA). PCSupt Rolando B Anduyan '90 from ARMM has replaced PCSupt Joel Napoleon Coronel as Manila Police director.

### PCSupt Esquivel Designated as QC Police District Director

PCSupt Joselito T Esquivel Jr '88 has replaced Eleazar as QC Police District director. PCSupt Tomas C Apolinario Jr '87 has assumed earlier as director of the Southern Police District under NCRPO.



**Esquivel**

Meanwhile, the PNP chief has designated PSSupt Benigno B Durana Jr '88 as the new PNP spokesman, replacing PCSupt John C Bulalacao '88, who was appointed Director

of Western Visayas Police Office.

Likewise, PDir Rolando B Felix '85 has assumed earlier as Head of the PNP Directorate for Integrated Police Operations (DIPO) Visayas.

### MGen Dela Vega is new WestMinCom Commander

MGen Arnel B dela Vega '85 has been designated Commander of Western Mindanao Command (WestMinCom), replacing Gen Carlito G Galvez Jr '85 who was earlier designated as AFP chief of staff.



**Dela Vega**

BGen Cirilito E Sobejana '87 has replaced Dela Vega as Commander of the 6<sup>th</sup> Inf Div, PA, which is operating in Central Mindanao

Sobejana is a recipient of the Medal of Valor.



**Sobejana**

### PDGen Dela Rosa Assumes as BuCor Director General

Retired PDGen Ronald dela Rosa has assumed as the new Director General of the Bureau of Corrections under the Dept of Justice,

Dela Rosa used to be the Chief, PNP before his retirement



**Dela Rosa**

### Gen Guerrero Designated as Marina Administrator

Retired Gen Rey Leonardo Guerrero has been designated as Administrator of the Maritime Industry Authority (Marina).

Before his retirement from the service, Guerrero was the AFP chief of staff.



**Guerrero**

### PDDGen Avenida Elected PETFI President; PDGen Marquez, Vice President

Retired PDDGen Anselmo S Avenida Jr '67 has been elected as the new President of the PMAAA Educational Foundation, Inc. (PETFI), replacing retired MGen Jose C Lapus '65.



**Avenida**

Newly elected trustee, retired PDGen Ricardo C Marquez '82 has been elected Vice President. The other officers of the Foundation are retired BGen Rosalino A Alquiza '55, chairman; retired Commo Salvador Q Esguerra '74, corporate secretary; retired PDir Jose C Lalisán Jr '71, treasurer; and retired RAdm Rodolfo R Rabago '68, corporate auditor.



**Marquez**

Marquez has been elected as a new member of the PMAAAI Board of Directors representing PETFI, to serve the unexpired term of retired MGen Lapus.

### New heads of AFP Financial Institutions Named

Retired MGen Emerald C Magnaye '83 has been elected as the new President of the AFP Savings and Loan Association, Inc., during its annual membership meeting on 19 May 2018. Formerly the EVP, he replaced retired LtGen Virgilio O Domingo '81.



**Magnaye**

Retired BGen Rolando M Aquino '83 has been designated as the Acting President of the AFP Mutual Benefit Association, Inc., following its annual membership meeting last 9 June 2018. He replaced retired RAdm Primitivo P Gopo '83.

In the AFP General Insurance Corporation, retired LtGen Oscar P Lopez '81 has been designated as the EVP – Officer in Charge, replacing retired LtGen Alan R Luga '81 who has been earlier designated as a member of the GSIS board.

### Col Niembra assumes as PSG commander

Col Jose Eriel M Niembra '91 has recently assumed as Commander of the Presidential Security Group (PSG). He used to be the PSG deputy chief.

He replaced BGen Lope C Dagoy '87, who was designated commander of the 802<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Brigade, 8<sup>th</sup> Inf Div, PA.

# ADJUTANT'S BULLETIN

## Six PETFI Scholars Graduate, one Magna Cum Laude

Six scholars of the PMAAA Educational Foundation, Inc. (PETFI) have graduated in June 2018 with a baccalaureate degree, one of whom with magna cum laude honors.

Maria Jessica dela Cruz Jarque, daughter of the late Cav Jose Rene N Jarque '86 (USMA), graduated magna cum laude, with the degree of Bachelor of Science in Travel Management from UST.

The other five graduates are: Mark Augustine Payeo C Awingan, BS Basic Medical Sciences, UP Manila; Michael Rodolfo S Dorado, BS Aircraft Maintenance Technology, PATTS College of Aeronautics; Louise Anne S Dorado, BS Airline Business Administration, PATTS College of Aeronautics; Marianne Mae S Laplana, BS Architecture, Saint Louis University; and Marco Leo L Lucero, BS Mechanical Engineering, De La Salle University.

Last school year 2017-18, PETFI had 54 scholars, 22 in college, 22 in high school


and 10 in the elementary. Of those in college, seven were special scholars, those who had a general weighted average (GWA) grade of at least 85% in the previous school year. The special scholars are given additional stipends as incentive for them to strive for excellent academic performance.

The seven special scholars are : Erwina Jean P Golla, 92%, 2nd year, BS Psychology, Assumption College; Marco Leo L Lucero, 90%, 4th year, BS Mechanical Engineering, De La Salle University; Francis Mako Alfonso R Javier, 89%, 2nd year, BS Culinary Arts, De La Salle - College



JARQUE


of St Benilde; Mark Augustine Payeo C Awingan, 87.5%, 4th year, Intar Med, UP Manila; Louise Anne S Dorado, 87.5%, 3rd year, BS Airline Business Administration, PATTS College of Aeronautics; Michael Rodolfo S Dorado, 87%, 3rd year, BS Aircraft Maintenance Technology, PATTS College of Aeronautics; and Maria Jessica dela Cruz Jarque, 86%, 3rd year, BS Travel Management, UST

PETFI is one of the four affiliate foundations of the PMAAAI. It was established in 1976, at the height of the Moro secessionist movement, when young alumni were among the casualties. Its purpose is to raise and administer funds to support the education of the less fortunate children of our deceased and disabled alumni. Since then, PETFI has supported the education of 524 scholars, 305 of whom have earned their baccalaureate degrees. /raa 

## BIRCI First Quarterly Fellowship Meeting



The BIRCI held its 2018 First Quarterly Fellowship Meeting on 17 May 2018 at the Dimalupig Hall B, AFPCOC, Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City. The occasion was highlighted by the induction of officers with LTGEN JAIME DE LOS SANTOS (Ret) as the Inducting Officer, Chairman of PMAAAI, and a refresher

on Estate Planning and Management with Mr. Patrick B. Lim, Head Training of BPI Philam-Life Assurance. There was also an administration of Anti-Pneumonia Vaccine for interested members courtesy of Veterans Memorial Medical Center (VMMC) and the Philippine Veterans Affairs Office (PVAO). 







# Guardians of Political Stability

By CAV JAIME S. DE LOS SANTOS '69

*(Note: This article was published in the Business World on 21 May 2018 under Management Association of the Philippines Insights)*

On March 22, during the celebration of the 121<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of the Philippine Army, former Commanding Generals across generations were honored with a parade and review. The Philippine Army leadership traces its roots to Capt. General Artemio Ricarte, who is regarded as the father of the Philippine Army, and the first chief of staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines. Those who attended represented almost seven decades of service to the nation from the '50s to the present.

In the profession of arms, leadership provides the human dimension in the full range of combat. Under different commanders-in-chief, during martial law, post-martial law and

up to the present, the Philippine Army has been consistent in its professional conduct, because the Commanding Generals have remained true professionals.

Its slogan of "Serving the People, Securing the Land" rallies every soldier under all seasons to remain true to his oath. Aside from leadership excellence, former Commanding Generals followed a typical pattern that extracted the best in them to achieve high goals.

Political stability is a condition when equilibrium exists in a nation where public governance operates normally, in order that the private sector can pursue their normal course of business, and



the rights and freedom of all citizens are protected. It is determined by the following: management of power, management of wars and conflicts, and the quality of leadership and discipline of its Army.

#### MANAGEMENT OF POWER

The struggle for power is an act of domination that involves the imposition of will. Our political system has been designed to impose influence and subjugation to the less fortunate and weak. Hence, political dynasties have emerged and been nurtured to perpetuate power.

Worst, it has been used as a retaliatory tactic to penalize and incarcerate political opponents term after term.

Due to the unlimited ambition, and insatiable thirst for material wealth, political leaders at times have exceeded the limits of human patience. This gives rise to corruption and sometime in our history, people were no longer outraged by the political and moral abuse of their political leaders that instead of demanding laws to advance common good they followed in the footsteps of abuse and immorality. Under these circumstances, people emulate the self-indulgence of their leaders giving rise to more corruption.

The Army under these conditions have diffused the impasse and acted as the balancing factor to maintain political stability. They never usurped power. In many cases in history, the politicalization of the Army to the point of siding with corrupt political leaders have forced societies towards turmoil and chaos. One can only look at some European countries during the middle ages and some African and Asian counties in contemporary times to understand the gravity of such situations.

At every stage of our nation's history, the Commanding Generals have exercised their command authority with restraint and dignity, though they possess extensive and massive physical power due to the Army's arsenal of weaponry. It has and will always side with the people.

According to Gen. Colin Powell, *"Of all manifestations of powers, restraint impresses men most."* Army leadership neutralized and mitigated the irrational application of political power that could have pushed the nation to instability. People Power I and II are proofs of their professional conduct.

#### MANAGEMENT OF WARS AND CONFLICT

The Army has never lost its core competence as a warrior, even if the main government agenda is peace. It vigorously prepares for war. Its high state of morale and discipline, and the exercise of the highest quality of leadership has always made it possible for the nation to eschew the taste of defeat. The institution has neutralized and mitigated political inadequacies, and the inefficiency of governance.

National discipline defines the state of order of society. Political stability is its by-product. Freedom that champions democratic space emasculates national discipline. Military organization provides the culture of national discipline.

In its strictest sense, the Army is the repository of strict discipline. Generally, human beings have an innate resistance

to obedience. Discipline eliminates this resistance, habitual or subconscious. Humans are afraid to go to war but discipline produces in individuals a form of vicarious courage which produces victory in battle.

#### QUALITY OF LEADERSHIP AND DISCIPLINE OF ITS ARMY

The Commanding Generals represent a leadership of a team professionals that have transformed and insured the desired discipline of every soldier. These enduring values shape the Army's culture in war and in peace. Military preparation is the real test of character that creates a pool of military leaders. Political strategy can be further strengthened if the citizenry manifests a modest form of discipline to complement the Army. Corruption of our political leaders saps the national resolve to prepare the war. Peace as an agenda deflates the will to win.

An environment of ease, comfort, and opportunity countenances materialism. Let us not be deceived by political talk that we can achieve absolute peace, because peace is only a space between two wars. Preparation and readiness for war lengthens that space. CGPAs (Commanding Generals of the Philippine Army), by virtue of their position, professionalism, and will to win have inspired many generations of soldiers to be true warriors and undaunted defenders.


All the CGPAs share a common thread that has guaranteed political stability. These lifelong legacies are essential to their success.

**A sense of destiny.** The cost of leadership is constant sacrifice. It is because they live for a cause greater than and outside of themselves.

**The pattern of successful military leadership.** It is the reality that every senior leader has exemplified some leadership traits and principles while at the pinnacle of his military career, exercising the noble authority to command the Army.

**A shared and communicated vision.** The dominant perspective that the 40 Commanding Generals shared in common was a smart vision, which helped the Philippine Army evolve into what it is today. This vision has drawn the thin line between the leaders who reached the pinnacle of leadership and those who do not. They had the ability to "see" and place things in their proper perspective.

**A mixture of toughness and sentiment.** Molded by the harsh realities of their calling, their character is a mix of toughness and compassion. But they also possess a high sense of self-confidence, a source of strength in standing by their convictions and making decisions. The CGPAs reached the highest pinnacle of leadership distinction as their triumphs reflected the soul and substance of leadership.

There is much that can be learned by business leaders and professionals from how the Army applies management and leadership theories to the challenges of leading a fighting force. Solid successes and enduring legacies are the fruits of leadership and management applied with vision and commitment, insights that can enable stability and progress on many fronts. 

**CAV JAIME S. DE LOS SANTOS '69** is a member of the MAP National Issues Committee, presently Professorial Lecturer of Management (Part-time) UP — Diliman, Project Coordinator, Banaue Rice Terraces Restoration Project.



# Emerging Leaders in Public Safety and National Defense

By CAV LEO ANGELO D LEUTERIO '88

Cadetship has prepared the cavalier for this!

Verbatim, every Philippine Military Academy graduate can recite the institution's mission; can, on a snap of a finger, orally state the Honor Code; proudly define the academy motto; and, in some instances, narrate to any audience, the words in the essay entitled "The Essence of Cadetship." In a lot of ways, these are the guideposts which frame how cadetship began, was pursued and was concluded in the, at least, four years of stay in these hallowed grounds. They, it may be proposed, moulded the professional, even the personal, make-up of each PMA cavalier.

The PMA mission is simple in its statement, measurable in its goals, attainable in its objectives, realistic in its vision and bounded by the time of stay within the Cadet Corps Armed Forces of the Philippines. It says:

"...the mission of the Philippine Military Academy is to instruct, train and develop the cadets, so that each graduate shall possess the character, the broad and basic military skills and the education essential to the successful pursuit of a progressive military career..." (The Academy Scribe, 1st edition, 1988)

Even in this pursuit, the development of CHARACTER is, observably, primordial; clearly out-ranking the development of the skills needed in the practice of the profession; AND, perhaps, eclipsing in importance the acquisition of knowledge in this particular setting. There are, of course, management gurus who advise that, between skills and character of a personnel, any Human Resource manager should "...go for character..." anytime and at any day. It is tempting to emphasize skills and knowledge, because they are more visible; and "sexy," however, there are evidence-based studies which point to the enduring durability of having the "C" word.

On the other hand, for cavaliers, CHARACTER cannot be measured better than thru the lens of the PMA Cadet Honor Code. It is so simple in its language that any "interpretation" of it outside of the simplicity it portrays could dangerously corrupt its essence and its meaning. The PMA Honor Code says that:

"...a (PMA) cadet does not lie, cheat or steal; nor tolerates anyone who does..."

(This author would not even dare explain the "verbs" contained in the Honor Code.) They are what they are in their most simple forms. Their substance lay in their everyday meaning, and in the daily engagement of the cadets with each other, with the HR of the PMA and the systems which run it. "...it is what it is..." and the several attempts to box it in a set of rules and procedures only succeeded to weaken the system in its quest for character development. And while, clearly, it speaks of an individual decision, it compels an organizational pressure to make it relevant and clear. An author once said that "...character is what you are, when nobody is looking..." and in many instances, the individual observance of the Honor Code lays between the all-seeing, omniscient God and the cadet.

Finally, the PMA Motto of Courage, Integrity and Loyalty ring true and persistent in the heart of all Alumni. Each understand Courage to be the "...capacity to stand for the truth..." Integrity

is understood to span the realms of "...moral uprightness..." And, Loyalty is that love for "...God, Country and People..." These are, in many ways, big and vague words especially when facing the real world. It would be bold of anyone to claim monopoly of such values as translated into the academy motto. That would be too much hubris. Yet, the meaning of these words and the individual interpretations in the lives of Alumni, attend in their everyday transactions, e.g.; in the decisions they have to make, and even in the subjugation of personal positions to pursue directions they may not necessarily be in agreement with. I stand with the Greek philosopher and military strategist, Thucydides, when he said, "...let me pay tribute to courage, as it is in its observance that other virtues may be exercised..." This rings true. It would take Courage to be Loyal. It would take Courage to stand one with the fight! It would take Courage to be Honorable! It even takes Courage to love, especially, unconditionally. While equally important, the underpinnings of Integrity and Loyalty, even love, would always be Courage, both moral and physical.

At this point, the reader may rightly ask how do all these, relate to the PMA cavalier's readiness and emergence as leaders in the Defense Establishment, and even in the Public Safety department. This author asks for more indulgence and more patience as the groundwork is necessary to prove the thesis, that, from the very beginning, as a cadet enters the portals of the PMA, it is expected that the cavalier become leaders of both the defense and public safety establishments. This is expected, and frankly speaking, this



is what the PMA cavaliers owe the people whose money were spent on their PMA stint. To be less than this, is an assault on the generosity bestowed upon each PMA cavalier.

## DISCUSSION

Armed with these facets of training engraved in their hearts, minds and souls, the cavalier is actually equipped with the tools to lead, especially, in the areas of defense and public safety. While they may be “new” to the world and the politics of public safety, the PMA alumni is thus thrust into this sphere and they are expected to learn its rudiments in “...ten counts, dumb guard!!!...” While learned in the foundations of strategies and tactics of national defense, the cavalier is steeped, by training and experience, in the fundamentals and intricacies of management.

Their experience actually transcends the usual management requirements, as they manage in an environment of crisis with lives on the line with one fatal mistake. More than this the cavalier is not daunted by the lack of resources when endeavouring to accomplish a mission. Often the mantra is expressed that “...with or without resources, the sun will rise in the East by morning and shall set in the West by evening...” Hence, the culture is to proceed, find the “do-ables” and do something to advance forces to the objective. It is explained clearly in the statement “mission-orientedness.” but, it is not only in this aspect that the cavalier could and should stand head and shoulders over the rest in terms of leadership and management of the defines and public safety establishments.

The culture of giving “...feedback...” to orders given and received. I remember speaking with the late Cavalier Larry Mendoza '69 about this when he lamented the lack of its observance in some civilian posts that he has held. He even said that it is this culture of giving regular and relevant feedback which is much-appreciated by event the highest levels of the civilian leadership. It harkens back to the injunction, even as plebes in the cadet corps, to “...keep the commander informed...”

The managerial experience is nothing to sneeze at. From cadet days, the exposure to small unit management is deliberate and calibrated as the years of experience increase. Hence, the exposure to platoon, company, battalion, brigade and division sized units are embedded in the very system of governance in the organization. This is true to the Armed Forces of the Philippines and even more defined in the Philippine National Police organization, where cavaliers go thru the hierarchy of the police organization. it will not be unusual for cavaliers to have led units with personnel strength reaching three thousand to seven thousand, at the middle officer-levels (lieutenant colonels or police superintendent) and even twenty-five thousand at the senior leadership (colonels, generals) or police senior superintendents and police chief superintendent) levels. The Regional Mobile Group director of the National Capital Region Police Office is a police superintendent or police senior superintendent who manages at least three thousand and sometimes on very special circumstances seven thousand personnel. A Regional Director of a Police Regional Office usually manages a five-thousand-strong organization. it can be gleaned that a force of this size would have tremendous demands for a clear direction in terms of operations, special projects, material-resource and human resource management.

This is notwithstanding, the management of linkages, conflicts, internal and external politics plus other factors which weigh-in on the determination of the success or failure of the organization.

The network established between and among cavaliers allow access to the highest echelons of governance and the most varied classes of organizations. There are cavaliers in the most sensitive posts in government, even in those which are traditionally not perceived as covered by the core competency of the cavalier training and experience. The Senate at one time had four cavaliers in its halls. The House of Representatives count several of them,


too. The academe boasts of cavaliers who are and continue to be significant contributors to its discourses. That they are to be found anywhere and everywhere, is a strength which allow cavaliers to lead in the defines and public safety departments effectively.

Civilian and/or Community Relations is a positive aspect of the cavalier experience. It is said that any police or military officer wears several hats in the course of their service. They can be teachers, guidance counsellors, preachers, court prosecutors, judges and even event organizers where they are found. It is an imperative, therefore, or maybe it is better stated that, it is a natural consequence of their vocation to foster healthy, robust, enriching and responsive relations with peoples, communities, organizations and other relevant sectors of society. The tendency to be “...of help...” when and where they can endears cavaliers to the community and the civilian sector. This, too, prepares, the leadership of cavaliers, even tests their acumen, on an important management skill.

There is no challenge too great or mission too complicated or difficult that cannot be surmounted with the proper study, preparation and the right positive mental attitude. Having stead this, it is worth mentioning that this trait is imbibed even in plebehood; and just continues to be fortified with the years of exposure to challenges and hurdles while in the service. That “...there are no problems, just challenges and opportunities for learning and growth...” is often mouthed by every commander worth the title. The cavalier-commander-manager is an enthusiastic disciple of this teaching. In the field of national defense and public safety, this is essential.

Finally, nowadays, it is urgent upon a cavalier to master the art of communication. Packaged in the form of strategic communication, the defense and public safety establishments, the cavalier are wily implementers of Information Operations. In the light of the discovered “strengths” of social media to shape public opinion, the cavalier experiences the need to be ahead of known enemies of the state, in reaching out and touching the hearts, minds and perceptions of people. This necessity to be able to control the information environment is real, demanding and necessary for success and victory. Its application is a skill obtaining in cavaliers.

## CONCLUSION

The cavalier, even before this administration, have been at the forefront of nation building, defines and public safety. They are found where good governance and management efficiency and effectivity are imperatives. Their experience allows them to sift thru the complications of situations and go for that basic, but transcendent, solutions to address them. It is not a surprise that in various leadership positions in the public safety and defines departments, the cavalier is there, acquitting himself with excellence and with great success. The cavalier will “...do or die...raise their knees waist-high...” to contribute if not architect to the solution and never to be part of the problem. In the essay “Essence of Cadetship” it says that “...not to substitute words for actions, nor to seek the path of comfort, but to face the stress... the difficulty of challenge...” Cadetship developed in the cavalier “...a quality of imagination...a vigour...an appetite for adventure...” cadetship created “...in the heart a sense of wonder, the unflinching hope of what’s next, and the joy and inspiration of life...” That we find cavaliers in leadership roles in the defines, public safety and in other departments, speak of the kind of preparation given to them by their Alma Mater. It should not surprise anyone. Training and experience have prepared the cavaliers for these roles. This a beginning of a trend. Martin Luther King said that in his dream there will be a day, and I paraphrase and borrow from him, when cavaliers “...will be able to sit down in the table of leadership, where they will not be judged by the limitations of their training or credentials, but, rightly, by the content of their character...” 



# Why Do We Celebrate the Outbreak of the Korean War on 25 June 1950?

By CAV JESUS T DIZON '51 (20<sup>TH</sup> BCT PEFTOK)

Every year we celebrate the outbreak of the Korean War on June 25, 1950.

I have often reflected on why we do this. Why do we commemorate a day of infamy, a day of madness, a day darkened by man's inhumanity to man? And also man's greed and contradictions imbibed in man upon his creation.

Why do we resurrect the anger in our hearts to remember an event when without provocation, an aggressor imposes its political will and military power to overrun and destroy its peaceful neighbor as an act of territorial aggrandizement?

But nations, like individuals, use remembering as a relief from cathartic pain, using it as a process of healing, a means of continually developing national consciousness and a sense of patriotism that such a dastardly act of aggression will never happen again. It is often said that there is no gain without pain.

We celebrate this day because we value human life. We mourn even the loss of one life whatever caused it. How much more with South Korea which lost millions of lives in a war not of its own making.

We do this also because we remember the men and women who did the fighting – the known and unknown heroes who sacrificed their lives in defense of their countries and their priceless values of peace, freedom and democracy, even in a foreign land.

We also do this because we remember the enduring friendships written in blood between South Korea and the 20 countries including the Philippines that responded to its call for help. It was to the credit of our country to be the first Asian country to send its PEFTOK contingents in spite of its limitations in resources. This has raised the image of the Philippines on a high moral plane. And this kind of friendship has been the bedrock in all aspects of our external relationship with South Korea and our allies.


For the Philippines, coming to the aid of South Korea, was not only a matter of commitment as member of the United Nations,



but a matter of Christian faith and doctrine, that the true friend is one who is willing to die for his friend.

Given my preceding thoughts, I will end my remarks with a rather long footnote. Over the years, we have been celebrating this day as a war memorial day. Is it not more relevant if we consider this day instead as a day of thanksgiving and prayer? And a day of forgiveness?

If we look at the history of great nations, all without exceptions went through a "cleansing process" involving loss of lives and territory, and the crumbling of institutions and infrastructure. But never, never, has the human spirit ever been destroyed or conquered. South Korea is our best example. From the ashes of war, the Korean nation and people rallied to convert their country into a powerful economic and military power within 60 years – a phenomenon by any standard.

With the new geo-political landscape that is unfolding, let us consider today not only for remembering but also an occasion to set aside the past and our anger and pray and thank God for the first positive steps being taken towards an enduring peace in the Korean Peninsula and the World. 

## Turnover of Donation of Books to PMA Library



Cavalier Alejandro T Flores Jr CI '72, 4<sup>th</sup> from right donates his family's books to the PMA Library. LTC Lope Domingo, 5<sup>th</sup> from left, receives the donation on behalf of the PMA and witnessed by studying cadets using the resources of the facility.

# *AFP Vision 2028: A World-class Armed Forces, Source of National Pride*



## **Challenges Confronting the AFP in Northern Luzon**

By CAV ROMEO B DOMINGUEZ '71

AFP's Vision 2028 states "A World-class Armed Forces, a source of National Pride." It is mighty ambitious, but doable. Our soldiers, however, should not delude themselves into believing that the journey to 2028 will be smooth sailing.

### **AFP STRATEGIC PLANNING**

The country is confronted with new challenges, foremost in the theater north of National Capital Region are the issues developing in the West Philippine Sea, and the Benham Rise northeast off Cagayan Valley. The AFP is mandated to defend our territory. No, we are not looking for war, but we should prepare for one; and we don't move only after the first shot is fired. This was the essence of the now-forgotten "AFP Strategic Operation Planning" that GHQ erroneously jettisoned from our year-round program in the mid-70's. Perhaps it was a forced omission as the nation was then faced twin threats: from the armed Communists nation-wide and Southern Philippines' Separatist rebels.

It's time to revisit the old procedure. We need to go back to the planning table, make a thorough Estimate of the Situation - a 24/7 effort- and come up with plans that should be tested through CPXs, FTXs and TEWTs - and the plans be evaluated and revised based on these exercises and factoring - in ever-evolving national and international developments. The AFP's various training institutions should orchestrate the activities to ensure that ours will be a

comprehensive effort; and all these while we put a final closure to current internal security issues including terrorism and the AFP's critical support role in the Anti-Drug campaign.

### **TRINITY OF WAR: ENEMY, SOLDIER, PEOPLE**

In all these, I wish to pitch the book, "Trinity of War"- written and published in early 2000's by a team of Army officers in 8<sup>th</sup>IDiv and NOLCOM. Its thesis, a spin of Sun Tzu's famous guidance to warriors, was "Know the enemy; know yourself; know the population- and win the peace!" Even during WW2 - from the Pre-War preparation up to the rehabilitations in the Post-War period, the populations of countries at war were involved in each one's national efforts. The initial book of this trilogy was based on the experiences of an infantry battalion that was deployed in the 90's in Central Luzon.

Over-all, in addition to exploiting advancement in weaponry and communication- the inevitable computers, our generals will have to review past battles in and outside our own shores. We may never match the war materiel inventories of other countries, but we have excellent assets- our soldiers. They are good but they can be better if their actions are properly synchronized through intensified unit training with their comrades in whatever levels they may be assigned: squads, platoons, company, battalions. And with plenty of imagination, we should succeed in disabling the enemy's superior machinery before they are committed to the theater of war.



# AFP Core Values: Honor, Service, Patriotism



## LEARN FROM PAST BATTLES

We learned how the Allied forces of World War II sabotaged the production of the Nazi's atomic bomb prototype; scuttled the jet propulsion engines that could have enabled Berlin's early entry into the jet age; foiled the mass production of the much dreaded Wehrmacht's Tiger II Panzers/MBTs. Or, how the Navajo Indians frustrated Japanese radio monitors? We do have dialects that even Filipinos find difficult to understand. Military planners agree that computers will be disabled within a day or two in an armed conflict. So, shall we recruit the best among juvenile hackers instead of prosecuting them? They can help us reduce the enemy's war materiel to a heap of junk!

And by now, our intelligence community should have a good list of sleepers in our midst and those LGUs which allowed the digging and transport of black sand from our shores.

## ALLIANCES A MUST TO WIN WARS

And, there's the importance of alliances with friendly neighbors which our statesmen should focus on. Manila should be smart enough to understand that as *"there are no permanent enemies, there are also no permanent friends"*. We may not act as referee to warring hostile neighbors; instead, we should learn how to fan the fire to keep them busy parrying each other instead of allowing them peace - and time - which they might use to pursue their malicious design against us.

## AFP MODERNIZATION

To this end state, the country's economic performance will be critical along with developing a disciplined, patriotic citizenry who are ready to report for duty in the nearest camp on order. Top foreign economists say that the Philippines will rank within the top 15 economies by 2050 or earlier- placing us above traditional economic powerhouses, like Italy. And they haven't factored in the potentials

of Philippine (Benham) Rise and the glorious century it promises for our country. Just make sure we pursue with urgency the AFP Modernization not only in terms of equipage and infrastructures and concomitant intensified individual drills and unit exercises; but as importantly, to keep the thinking of all commanders and leaders in tune with paradigm shifts.

To ensure funds are properly used, as per approved programs and appropriation- pray that all citizens in general to exercise wisely their right of suffrage that we may all prevent plunderers from returning to power again.

## APOLITICAL MILITARY

Voting in elections is about the only political exercise soldiers may involve themselves in – and most of the times, we can't vote due to our assignments elsewhere, and are mandated to be in our respective posts to do our share in ensuring an Honest, Orderly and Peaceful Elections.

And, most definitely, soldiers themselves should not involve in any political destabilization. A professional military should remain united and ever-focused on its legal mandate to be effective, efficient and dependable. Commanders at all level should hammer this into the consciousness of their troops. Hence, commanders must ensure they themselves don't pander to politicians. As someone once said, "People will not believe the message if they don't believe in the messenger."



**Cav Dominguez**, PMA'71, retired on 31 Oct 2005. His last AFP assignment was as Commander of Northern Luzon Command (Feb 2003- Jul 2005). He was President of PMAAAI (Philippine Military Academy Alumni Assn, Inc.) from Feb 2000 to Feb 2001 (serving as its Chairman in the last two months).



# Writing History on a Historic Day

By CAV MARCO ANTONIO A MAGISA '03

One hundred and twenty years after our forebears fought, died and won our country and people's independence from tyranny and oppression of a foreign power, more than 400 people converged by Lake Caliraya amidst the gathering storm.

The gloomy weather and prevailing humidity did not bother them as they patiently waited for history to unfold on that historic day beneath five tents which can barely accommodate the audience turn-out.

About 25 meters from them stood an edifice – on top a 7-foot pedestal where it rightfully belongs – wrapped in an Army green-colored silk cloth held by a ribbon at the base against the blowing and howling south-westerly winds.

It was Independence Day.

The event's solemn theme mixed well with the festive atmosphere brought about by a Lyre and Marching Band demonstration, traditional song and dance performances and a magnificent display of talent by a local choir.

The people knew that it will be worth the wait because its not everyday that you get to celebrate our motherland's freedom in a more than the usual manner, beyond the simultaneous flag raising and wreath-laying ceremonies.

That day was June 12, 2018, a day that will go down the annals of Philippine history as the day that our land's ordinary people started actively and overtly expressing their support to their soldiers.

Those people were Filipino citizens from Cavinti, Laguna – the gracious hosts of the Philippine Army's 202nd Infantry (UNIFIER) Brigade. That day marked the day that they will forever be known as heroes of our country's heroes.

In first world countries, soldiers are normally complemented with the words "thank you for your service". Those are heartfelt words of gratitude expressed by a grateful nation for willingly leaving their families behind and putting themselves in harm's way so that a greater number of their citizens can live their lives together in peace.

In Philippine society, however, a soldier's sacrifices would normally go unnoticed by the very people whom he or she has sworn to serve. Such unfortunate reality can be attributed to the stigma of martial law era abuses.

But the norm is about to change.

As the Filipino nation looks back to the most historic day of Philippine history, the locals of the municipality of Cavinti, Laguna decided to deviate from tradition to tell everyone that they are cognizant of the organizational reforms and individual professionalism of the soldiers who are serving as vanguards of the national government's southern frontier.

They took their expression of support a step higher as it came in the form of a tangible and enduring memorial – not just mere words – built on a public land, outside the comforts and security of a military-controlled facility, for everyone to see.







Thus, as the country simultaneously commemorated the Filipino people's 120th Independence Day, the monument gained its "independence" as well.

With crisp snips of scissors cutting the ribbon and lace which holds the cloth cover in place, the statue was unveiled.

Lo and behold, the bronze-colored image of a smiling soldier kneeling before a smiling and flag-waving Filipino girl greeted the audiences – elected and appointed government officials, teachers, government workers, students, religious and soldiers, to whom the statue was dedicated.

The edifice, despite its simplicity, bears numerous symbolisms that are similarly relevant to the allegory of the inauguration's timing.

The soldier's act of taking a knee is an affirmation of every soldier's recognition of the constitutional provision of civilian authority's supremacy over the military. For soldiers, it is also a sign of readiness to serve and sacrifice in order to protect our nation's present and future generations.

The soldier's hand on the girl's shoulder, and the fact that the child is also touching the soldier's arm, signifies the great degree of trust and enduring cooperation and collaboration between and among the civilians and the military to attain our common dream of peace and prosperity across our motherland.

On the other hand, the image of a child – a Filipino youth – highlights the military organization's unwavering belief that the future of our great nation lies and depends upon the shoulders of our youth. It emanates from the fact that at the core of every Filipino Soldier's service is the indomitable faith that the Filipino nation can and will rise above the challenges to achieve lasting peace and prosperity for the generations to come.

Furthermore, the child is a girl because it represents the Army's commitment and aspirations for equality and gender sensitivity in our society.

The girl is smiling back to the soldier as a symbol of a grateful nation's eternal appreciation to our service and sacrifices to our God, flag, country and people.

Finally, she is holding a Philippine flag as a lasting reminder to everyone that patriotism and love of country is an inherent and shared responsibility of every Filipino citizen. It is a reminder that each one of us plays a very important role to ensure that that flag will eternally fly high over our territory because our country's welfare is larger than our individual desires.

Amidst the civilians' loud cheers and applause and the seemingly unending race to snap the first selfies with the monument as backdrop, ordinary soldiers silently stood on the sidelines with smiles across their faces, tears of joy welling in their eyes.


The soldiers' prevailing sentiment and emotions during that moment were captured, summarized and encapsulated by the words of Brigadier General Arnulfo Marcelo B Burgos Jr, the commander of the 202nd Infantry (UNIFIER) Brigade, when he said that "we are both humbled and proud. Once in a while, even heroes need heroes to succeed. You are the heroes of our country's heroes."

In their minds, they cherish the fact that they are Unifier Soldiers – being members of the Unifier Brigade – who are loved, appreciated and respected by the very people whom they have sworn to serve.

When they joined the noble profession of arms, they never expected to witness such an event, much more to be a part of it. It was a defining moment of their career, of their service. They will forever look back to that moment as it shall serve as an eternal inspiration to remain steadfast in accomplishing their mandate of serving the Filipino people and securing the Filipinos' land.

Indeed, the 12th day of June is a historic day for the Philippine Republic.

It has been said that history was written by extraordinary deeds of ordinary persons.

Undeniably, another history was written on that historic day by the ordinary persons of Cavinti by virtue of their extraordinary and unprecedented deed of dedicating a statue in honor of their soldiers. 







# Will the Philippines be involved in a conflict between United States and North Korea?

By CAV MANUEL P OXALES '60

*(Editor's Note: This article has been written by Cav Oxales way before the North Korean and South Korean leaders forged an agreement between the two countries.)*

"The first, the supreme, the most far-reaching act of judgment that the Statesman and the Commander have to make is to establish by what test the kind of war they are embarking..." Clausewitz, on War

In the Korean war from 1950 to 1953 between the United Nations coalition led by the military forces of the United States and South Korea against North Korea backed up by Chinese troops, the Philippines sent three battalions of some 7,000 personnel equipped, supplied by, placed and fought under U.S. operational command. (The PMA post WW II Class 1951 had an early graduation, sent to and had their first baptism of fire in Korea).

In August last year, North Korea hurled missiles over islands north of Japan towards the sea over a distance of 3,600 kms. Again, in October it launched a missile over Guam, a U.S. territory about 3,400 km from Pyongyang. It boasted that it had tested nuclear weapons. In Guam are based U.S. B-52 long range and B-2 Stealth bombers capable of carrying nuclear bombs. U.S. nuclear tipped Patriot missiles and anti-ballistic missiles and Pacific Fleet are based in Japan. Top U.S. officials responded to the North Koreans threat to massively retaliate if Guam would be attacked.

The exchange of threats by two nuclear capable states alarmed Department of Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana who said that the Philippines could be hit by debris from an errant missile directed at Guam, 2,500 kms away. He added that the country has no defense against a missile attack and vulnerable to a nuclear fallout.

In the event that negotiations between U.S. President Donald Trump and North Korea leader Kim Jung-Un fail and war between the two nuclear capable states is inevitable will the Philippines be involved?

The Philippines could be involved because of its close identification and association with U.S. in the past and its obligations under two bilateral treaties, the 1951 RP-U.S. Mutual Defense Treaty signed on September 23, 1951, MDT, one year after the Korean war broke out on June 25, 1950 and the 2014 RP-U.S. Enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement (EDCA) signed February 10, 2014.

Philippines close partnership with U.S. was unmistakably demonstrated by its support and loyalty in WW II and in two regional wars in the Pacific. A few weeks after the Japanese sneak attack on Pearl Harbor Hawaii on December 7, 1941 a newly organized and fledging 100,000 Philippine Army of



the Commonwealth government of President Manuel Luis Quezon was inducted by President Franklin Roosevelt into the service of the United States Armed Forces in the Far East (USAFCE) and placed under the command of General Douglas MacArthur. Together with some 20,000 American soldiers they fought a heroic defense of Bataan and Corregidor in the face of overwhelming and superior Japanese Imperial Army. In the Korean War from 1950-53, the Filipino soldiers fought side by side with the American defending the South Korean territory. In the Vietnam war of 1970's, the Philippines provided some 2000 civic action personnel to the South Vietnamese people. In the two regional conflicts Clark Air Base in Pampanga and Subic Naval Base in Zambales were used intensively as assembly, training, staging of military forces, rest, recreation and hospitalization of American personnel, supply and support of U.S. aircraft and naval vessels.

(In the last year of the Korean War, China supported North Korea with 100,000 soldiers that contained and drove back the U.S.-led United Nations coalition forces below the 38th parallel and culminated in an Armistice in 1953. North Korea is a close economic and trading partner and receives military aid from China. Both countries signed in 1961 a mutual defense agreement obligating to assist each other in the event of attack on each territory).

Under the 1951 MDT its principal provisions states that, *"Each Party recognizes that an armed attack on either Parties in the Pacific would be dangerous to its own peace and security and would act to meet the common danger according to its constitutional processes"*.

The Parties referred to are construed to include their territories, military forces on land, on sea and air, aircraft on flight and naval vessel on sea or and equipment or weapons in space.

The constitutional processes' referred to is the sole power and authority of Congress under the 1987 Constitution which states that 'Congress by a vote of two thirds of both Houses in joint session assembled, voting separately shall have the 'sole power to declare the existence of an emergency or a state of war'. It would deliberate on whether 'an emergency or a state of war exist' and on the whys, what, hows and when it 'would act to meet the common danger'. It would consider many factors among which are the present utilization of the AFP, its capabilities and the character of the next conflict in the Korean peninsula and its environs.

Since the end of WW II, the AFP has been preoccupied with fighting internal threats like the decades old leftist insurgency, century old separatist movements and more recently a non-state foreign inspired and funded secessionist organization. Except for a three-year involvement in the Korean war, its armed forces have not had experience in conventional warfare which is characterized by large deployment of ground forces on a wide open battlefield supported by heavy fire from aircraft and sea vessels and employing tactical maneuver and strategic movements to destroy the enemy's capabilities and support structure.

Unlike the Korean War of 1950-53, the next conflict in the Korean peninsula would be fought with weapons and equipment with much advance technology, precision and destructibility. The combatants would employ air, sea and land based missiles, smart precision bombs, tanks with precision guided rockets, laser guided guns, drones armed with bombs,

cyber attack devices, equipment in space for surveillance and tracking, and other destructive weapons. The use of chemical agents or nuclear weapons launched by artillery, aircraft and missiles would result in casualties in the hundred of thousands in an instant. God forbids!

With its present utilization capabilities and weaponry, the AFP could not be much of help MILITARILY to U.S in a warfare characterized above. It could not make a decisive impact on the battle field. At best, its contribution would be symbolic and very limited support. It is not expected to do so.

U.S. expectations are availability of and access in military bases in the Philippines to U.S. forces and personnel as provided in two bilateral treaties, the 2014 Enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement (EDCA) and its responsibilities under the 1998 Visiting Forces Agreement (VFA).

Under EDCA signed on April 28, 2014 by Philippine Defense Secretary Voltaire Gazmin and U.S. Ambassador Philip Goldberg, the Philippines allows U.S. forces and contractors to operate out of 'agreed locations' which are facilities and areas provided by the Armed Forces of the Philippines. These are: Clark Air Base in Pampanga, Subic Naval Base in Zambales, Ft Magsaysay in Nueva Ecija, Basa Air Base in Pampanga, Ebuena Air Base in Cebu city, Antonio Bautista Air Base in Palawan and Lumbia Airport in Cagayan de Oro and other areas as mutually agreed upon. It allows 'U.S. forces to preposition and store defense materials, equipment and supplies.' which do not include nuclear weapons. Also, U.S is allowed build structures and facilities to be occupied by its personnel and storage of equipment on a rotational basis and not allowed to have permanent bases. The Agreement is renewable after ten years.

The selections of the sites are significant. Two were former U.S. military bases, Clark and Subic, used intensively in support of U.S. military operations during the Korean and Vietnam wars. These bases, one in Luzon, closed a jet fighter aircraft with a runway and facilities which could be made operational. One in Cebu was used as a transit hub for disaster and humanitarian assistance for the victims of the Yolanda typhoon and the one in northern Mindanao and Palawan conveniently selected for future missions is Southern Mindanao and South China (West Philippine sea). EDCA supplemented the 1999 Visiting Forces Agreement which provides guidelines and procedures for the treatment of U.S. personnel on temporary visits to the Philippines for the annual bilateral exercise with the AFP on matters such as jurisdiction and trial for crimes committed against the laws of the Philippines or the United States and immigration requirements like visa, passports and customs and other related issues

The 2014 EDCA was entered into to correct an incongruous situation. Under the 1951 RP-U.S. MDT U.S. is obligated to defend the Philippines against external attack. But with the termination in 1992 of the 1947 RP-U.S. Military Base Agreement the U.S. government felt that without bases or 'locations' in the Philippines on which to preposition and operate its military forces it cannot effectively comply with its obligations under the treaty.

On the part of the government of President Benigno Aquino III, it wanted a more visible and concrete evidence and manifestations of U.S determination and resolve to comply with its obligation under the 1951 MDT in the face of China's increasing assertiveness and claim of historic rights over islands and waters in the vast South China sea. These

disputed islands are claimed, occupied by and form parts of the territory or exclusive economic zones of Taiwan, the Philippines, Vietnam, Malaysia, Brunei and Indonesia. With the signing of EDCA former Secretary Voltaire Gazmin would later say, "We will not be bullied anymore".

After the civil war and subsequent takeover of China by the communists by the late 1940's the Philippines has not had any official government contacts with China until President Ferdinand Marcos established full diplomatic relations in 1975. (It was with the Kuomintang government of Taiwan that the Philippines had official contacts). Since then, the Philippine has had vigorous exchanges with China in trade, commerce, investments, tourism, employment and other fields. The government of both countries have had very cordial and harmonious relations.

The mood seemed to have changed from 2009 when China submitted to the United Nations its claim over islands in the vast South China Sea with an 'old map with nine dashes (9-lines) that extended from Hainan island in southernmost China to south in Borneo northward to Taiwan in a U shape figure'. The line encompassed the entire sea and overlapped the territorial claims of four Southeast Asian countries including the Philippines and Taiwan. When China began building structures on and expanding the disputed islands the claimant countries were alarmed.

For the Philippine government, the tipping point was a month stand off between a navy ship and a Chinese Coast Guard that occupied and guarded the Scarborough Shoal located some 150 km west of Zambales but 550 kms from southern coast of China and a traditional fishing ground of Filipino fishermen. President Aquino likened it to Nazi Germany occupying a Sudetenland, a territory with a German minority in Czechoslovakia, before the start of WW II and the Allies not doing about it. The historical reference riled China as unfair and unfriendly and soured the relations between the governments of China and the Philippines.

In 2013 President Aquino filed a complaint before the Arbitral Tribunal of the Permanent Court of Justice in Hague Netherlands which ruled in 2015 invalidating the claim based on historic rights of China over the Scarborough Shoal and that the disputed islets and sea are within the exclusive economic zone of the Philippines. China had declared it would not recognize the court and its decision not binding. Of the ASEAN countries which have similar claims in South China Sea it was only the Philippines which filed a case before an international court despite the urgings and position of China that such matters should be resolved bilaterally by two neighbors.

President Rodrigo Duterte sees it in a different light and perspective. He felt that an adversarial position by the Philippine government to a neighboring state economically dominant and a rising military power is not good for the country and its people. Corollary, too close an alignment with a big Power who has rivals for world domination and spheres of influence and also faces lower level known but highly lethal adversaries could be disastrous to the Philippines. If a disaster strikes that country its after shocks could place the Philippines in peril.

To put it more picturesque when two elephants quarrel, the ground will shake and quake. So the frog and mice should stay away or keep distance otherwise they will be hurt or crushed to death by the big stomping feet of the two beasts or by the movement of the earth, roots and twigs.

As writers on international relations postulate: weak state may relate with a very strong state by three stances; adversarial, bandwagoning or by appeasement. Simply stated, adversarial is confrontational, bandwagoning is getting along and appeasement is giving in.

But there is another way as one author says, that is 'hedging' which is usually practised by a player in the stock market. By buying other stocks he hopes that a loss in stocks in his possession can be recovered from a gain in others. If all stocks gain, then well and good.

Explaining the paradigm shift in Philippine foreign policy Ambassador to China Jose Sta Romana stressed that the Philippines is not separating from its historic alliance with U.S., a close ally but improving its relations with China and Russia. He meant increasing contacts through trade, commerce, social and people exchanges, more jobs for Filipinos overseas and attracting more investment and tourists to the country. With China the focus is how to lower tensions and resolve maritime dispute over certain islands and seas west of the Philippines.


U.S is a big donor and patron and has given much more economic and military assistance and humanitarian aid to the Philippines than any country. During the ASEAN Summit last November President Duterte especially thanked U.S. for the help given in the fight in Marawi city against the ISIS inspired and funded rebels. He also acknowledged the equipment given to the armed forces by China and Russia and welcomed pledges for the rehabilitation of the conflict-ravaged city. These gestures of goodwill, however, did not escape cynics who warned of a possible Trojan horse. Assuring many sectors in the country: political parties, business, military, academe and others the President categorically stated there would be no military alliance. No more entangling alliances!

As Secretary of Foreign Affairs Alan Peter Cayetano succinctly stated, "The core of Philippine foreign policy 'is to be a friend to all and an enemy of no one.'"

Six decades ago a great nationalist Claro M. Recto, a senator and later ambassador wisely counseled,

*"No hagamos enemigos, donde no podemos tener amigos"*

*Let us not make enemies where we cannot have friends.*

With the shift in its foreign policy, will the Philippines be involved in a second Korean war? 

#### BOOKS BY THE AUTHOR

'Advocacy Even in Retirement' 2012, designated reference by National Defense College of the Philippines, AFP Education, Training & Doctrine Command, the Public Safety College and the Offices of Senators Gregorio Honasan and Antonio Trillanes III)

'Two Stories of the Philippines February 1986 Revolution', 1987, filmed in 1988 into a 2-hour tele-movie starred by top actors Eddie Garcia and Dante Rivero.

'Advocacy Through the Years' 2017 (Essays and Letters from 2003 to 2017), designated reference by the AFP Education, Training & Doctrine Command.



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

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

# CLASS CALL



**MIGUEL M VILLAMOR**  
President  
**JESUS T DIZON**  
Historian

For the sake of anyone who would find interest in reading this column, let me explain that for the last five issues of THE CAVALIER, I have been writing a personal tribute to each of the ten surviving, original BANATS of CL '51 to let the whole world know who they are and what they have done to merit a modicum of recognition before they pass into anonymity.

The second reason is to let the entire alumni know that class '51 is still alive and kicking.

In this issue, I will write about "TG". To the entire PMA First Four, these initials stand for a very revered name-Brig Gen Tirso Fajardo, the pioneer post war Superintendent of the PMA to whom we of the First Four owe a debt of gratitude and highest esteem. He was the right man on the right job and the right time. He made possible a legacy of making the post war Academy an enviable institution that would produce a new breed of military leaders imbued with the highest standard of professionalism and the sacred tenets of Courage, Loyalty and Integrity.

But the Class of '51 has its own "TG"-THELMO Garrucho, a most respected classmate to whom I dedicate this column.

"TG" did not particularly excel in the fields of battle although as a young 2nd Lieutenant he received his baptism of fire with the 23rd BCT in the anti-dissident campaign. This was followed by a one-year stint with the 14th BCT in Korea as a platoon leader. Upon his return to the Philippines, he landed in assignments which clearly were not much of a challenge to him. Thus, he veered towards the greener pastures outside the military organization. It was not unexpected that "TG" would shift to his first love- the academe and the fields of business and industry.

Let me now extract from the Golden Sword of Class '51 some information about "TG" which would answer why he decided on a career change.

**EDUCATION:** Negros Occidental High School 1947; BS, PMA 1951; BSME, UP; MIM, UP; Ph.D., UST.

**SPECIAL COURSES:** Management Consultancy Course, Research Institute for Management Science, Deft, The Netherlands; Financing Small Business, SIET Institute, Hyderabad, India; Organizational Development, Harvard Graduate School of Business, Boston, Massachusetts.

**CIVILIAN JOBS:** Chief Engr, Vice President for Manufacturing, Lirag Textile Mills; Technical Assistant to the President, Marcelo Enterprises; Deputy Director, UPISSI; Director of Personnel, Director of United Institute of Management, Director of Management Services and Corporate Planning, AVP Assistant to the President, Corporate Vice President, United Laboratories; Professor of Business Administration UP, UST, UE, PLM, & LaSalle U; Presently, Director of Administration, Training, and Computer Services Department of Materiel Management, Cook County Hospital, Chicago Illinois.

**OTHER ENDEAVORS:** President, PMA Class '51 1972-1982; Founder and President, PMAAA Business and Industry Chapter; Founder and President, Filipino American Voters League, Chicago, Illinois.

"TG" is one of the three BANATS who is holding a PH.D. He loves to teach and is a Management guru. He was Professor of Business Administration at the UP, UST, UE, PLM and LaSalle. His other expertise is in Organizational Development having completed this course at the Harvard Graduate School of Business in Boston, Massachusetts.

I remember his stint as Corporate Vice President of the United Laboratories where his responsibilities included the fields of personnel management, training, management services, and corporate planning. He designed an extensive in-service training program for the company. It was very generous of him to allow me

teach in the program which provided me much-needed additional income.

Suddenly in 1982, to the complete surprise of his classmates, "TG" left quietly for the US. He had reached a large measure of success in the private sector where he could have retired comfortably or continued his climb to greater heights, but he chose anonymity in a foreign land. For this he had asked his classmates to respect his decision and as a matter of privacy.

"TG" started his life in the US literally as a janitor. Having tried odd jobs to earn a living, he sought a more stable and secure employment at the Cook County Hospital in Chicago, Illinois. Since he was over qualified, he applied for the job of a janitor.

It did not take long for his employers to notice that "TG" could do much more sensitive and important tasks for the hospital. To make it short, "TG" rose from janitor to Administrator of the Hospital whose responsibilities included General Administration, Training, Computer Services and Materiel Management. That is "TG". He has a touch of gold- a touch of success in all his undertakings.

As a long footnote, "TG" was in the country for a short visit. He was able to attend the PMAFFI fellowship on the last Tuesday of March. Two weeks later, the three of us- Mike V, Babes Regis and myself- had lunch at the Camp Aguinaldo Golf Club to reminisce the old days. It was a short notice so that Mike San Miguel and Titoy Belen could not join us. I invited "TG" for lunch in my place in Antipolo. He came with his second wife, Caridad, and daughter-in-law, but I failed to attend his 92nd birthday party at VIA MARE on 14 Apr, two days before his return to Chicago.

It might be too late but I had to thank "TG" on behalf of the BANATS for steering our class as President for ten years from 1972-1982, during those years when most of the BANATS were busy positioning themselves for assignments that required a star rank. For at that time there was no choice for the AFP but to tap the class of '51.

And now for the Morning Report, 10 survivors are accounted for, but all are with

physical disability. Their survival spirit is strong and are confident that each could get that P100,000 given by the government to all who reach the age of 100 years. On a sad note, we condoled with Eddie Enriquez and his family for the death of his beloved wife Estrella on 14 May. /Jesus T Dizon



**AMANTE S BUENO**  
President  
**BIENVENIDO G GOROSPE**  
Secretary

Sometime in February, Joe Guillem texted, "I can't even walk. I can't even text." The last sentence is an oxymoron. He had just texted Gopeng. Anyway, it was a premonition of events to happen.

Joe joined the Lord last March 17. His remains were interred at the Heritage Park in Fort Bonifacio, Taguig, several meters away from the tombstone of our beloved, the late Avelina Gorospe.

Our condolence to Beny and family.

Pike Depakakibo, his closest neighbor, and our Class president Mante Bueno eulogized him. Navy Captain Bonifacio Lomotan, USNA Class 1959 who was his colleague, gave his testimonial.

The '54 ladies came to give their moral support to Beny: Nita Punsalang, Terry Ballesteros, Daisy Depakakibo, Tita Resurreccion, Lita Cepeda, and Dee Muyargas.

We remember Joe for his predilection to punctuate each sentence he utters with "salamagan." Well, almost.

"Son-of-a-Gun" Joe was an armor officer. He used to head the AFP Armory in Bataan. During his interment, the rifle squad should have used bazookas.

He attended four courses abroad. He was OJT in Korea, took the Special Forces Course at Ft Bragg, North Carolina, the Armor course at Ft Knox, Kentucky, and the Signal Course at Ft Monmouth, New Jersey.

He also took up Basic Intelligence Course at SITS, Ft Bonifacio.

Joe studied business administration in night classes in Ateneo, meaning to say he was good in night activities.

With such a broad spectrum of knowledge, Joe is a great loss to Class '54. Salamagan.

Last April 15, Class '57 with their spouses commemorated their 61st graduation

anniversary at the Dimalupig Hall, AFPCOC, Camp Aguinaldo. Cav Ed Ermita and Tammy Mendoza emceed. Cav Mike Villamor, Cl '51 and the members of Cl '54 were special guests.

Excerpt from the program:

"The 1st of April 1953 was a very significant day for the 105 newly appointed cadets of the CCAFP. This was the 'Reception Day' for these newly appointed cadets by the Class of 1954, the 'Firsties' or 'King of the Barracks.' At 0800H the Reception started. Hell broke loose when the 'Receptionists' started giving orders left and right in very loud voices that startled and confused the new cadets.



**SALVADOR M MISON**  
President  
**VANGIE P RIVERA**  
Secretary

### On Class Gatherings

The May class affair was held on the 20<sup>th</sup> at the Golden Crown (formerly Federal) Restaurant in Makati. It was jointly hosted by Porfing Santos, Vangie Rivera, Grace Alcaneses and Sally Arceo. The widows volunteered to join as co-hosts of our monthly class gatherings.

Only six members of the class were able to attend, namely: Ed Alfabeto, Ros Alquiza, Buddy Mison, Johnny Sanchez, Porfing Santos and Rene Tanseco. Ed, Buddy and Rene were accompanied by their wives. Eight widows were present: Grace, Sally, Zeny de Guzman, Remy Facto, Lolit Parado, Vangie, Estel Silva and Gigi Zaide.

From the second generation were Aaron Allanigue, Avi Alquiza, Leo and Didi Baladad, Susan Facto, and Pinky Facto with daughter.

The attendees savored the balut from Pateros ordered by the hosts through the nephew of Ros before lunch was served. As usual, lunch consisted of sumptuous Chinese buffet which everybody enjoyed.

The June class gathering was held on the 24th, the birthday of Johnny Sanchez, at The Legend, Hongkong Seafood Restaurant, in front of the World Trade Center and behind Star City, CCP Complex, Pasay City. The lunch affair was preceded by a thanksgiving mass at 11:00 AM. Pilar, the hostess, invited also the second generation members.

Aside from the hosts, those present from the class were Betong Alfabeto, Ros Alquiza,

This was the start of the training of the 105 newly appointed cadets under the guidance of Class '54 who nurtured us gradually and patiently forced us to know about the discipline, the rigorous physical training, the Grey Book, the Cadet Prayer, Plebe Knowledges, the Alma mater Song, Kaydet Girl and others that qualified us as PMA cadets. They also acted as our big brothers or 'Kuyas' when we were feeling depressed, homesick, or with low morale by giving pep talks and advices."

The occasion was highlighted with the singing of songs popular in the Academy at that time.

Thanks Ed and the Class of 1957. We are proud to have nurtured you./Gopeng

Buddy Mison, Porfing Santos, Romy Solina and Rene Tanseco. The ladies were Grace Alcaneses, Joven Cordero, Zeny de Guzman, Eva Miranda, Vangie Rivera, Estel Silva, Georgie Solina, Mila Tanseco and Gigi Zaide.

From the second gen were Ernie Ravina Jr, Gemma Cordero, Bing and Sarah Miranda, Yvette Solina, and Baby and Teng Zaide. From our adopted class of 2005 were class president Ivan Fernandez, Tommy Bartoldo, Alvin Matienzo, Robert Rodrigo and Jun Sumayo.

From the hosts' family were Lubang Mayor Bobby Sanchez, his wife Carol and their children Clyde, Rafael and Clarisse.

The next class affair will be held on 22 July at the Golden Crown (formerly Federal) Restaurant. It will be hosted by Ed Alfabeto, Romy Solina and Poncing Allanigue, with some widows who volunteered to help.

The next will be in August to be hosted by Ros Alquiza, and in September by Buddy Mison, who are birthday celebrators in those months. Then in October, the class lunch will be hosted by the male second gen members to be led by Leo Baladad. The only October birthday celebrator from the class is Tante Ochoco, who used to host the October lunch, but he has been confined at the VMCM for more than a year now. Then in November, Rene Tanseco will be the host. And in December the class will have its traditional Christmas party. Dates and venues will be announced later.

### On Burial and Medical Assistance

The PMA Class 55 Foundation, Inc. was established in 1998 and registered with the SEC as a non-stock, nonprofit corporation to raise and administer funds to support elderly, ailing and needy members. The financial support consists of burial assistance





**FORTUNATO C CORACHEA**  
 President  
**LEVY M MALTO**  
 Secretary



From left: Ernie Ravina Jr, Romy Solina, Ed Alfabeto, Buddy Mison, Johny Sanchez, Rene Tanseco, Ros Alquiza and Porfing Santos.



From left: Vangie Rivera, Estel Silva, Pilar Sanchez, Georgie Solina, Gigi Zaide, Grace Alcaneses, Mila Tanseco, Zeny de Guzman, Eva Miranda and Joven Cordero.

or abuloy in case of death and medical assistance in case of serious and expensive illnesses.

All members of the class, their wives and widows are eligible as regular members, with the second gen as associate members. A deadline was set for acceptance of membership, which was extended once after a few years. When both parents have died, one of the children can succeed the parents as a regular member. Only regular members can vote and be voted upon. Those qualified are admitted as members by paying a membership contribution

Unfortunately, for reasons of their own, not all wives and widows were made members of the Foundation by their husbands. Those who are not members are

not entitled to the benefits being extended by the Foundation. This policy was brought up lately when a widow was applying for medical assistance. It turned out that the widow is not a member, neither has she been attending the class monthly gatherings, to show that she considers herself as belonging to the class. The request was not favorably granted.

**Rest in Peace**

A few months ago, Rexy Chan, widow of the late Sixto M Chan, passed away in her hometown of Santa, Ilocos Sur. We learned of the sad news from her townmate, Cav Everlino P Nartatez '65. She is survived by her two sons.

May her soul rest in peace. /by rosalkuiza

The class celebrated its 62nd GDAY anniversary at the Cowrie Grill, formerly the famous Steak House, at the Manila Hotel, with each diner personally handed the following exclusive printed menu at lunch time:

(Inside Page 1)

**COWRIE GRILL**  
 PMA CLASS 1956  
 62nd Anniversary  
 12:00 NN, April 4, 2018

(Inside Page 2)

**MENU**  
**FRENCH ONION SOUP**  
 croutons, Swiss cheese gratin

**LOBSTER BISQUE**  
 lobster tail medallion, flambe with brandy

**SALAD**  
 - deconstructed Caesar Salad  
 Romaine lettuce, classic Caesar Salad dressing

**SHERBET**  
 - Passion Fruit

**MAIN ENTREE**  
 - U.S. ANGUS BEEF TENDERLOIN  
 With mashed potatoes, veggies, w/3 sauces to go

**DESSERT**  
 - A choice of Baked Alaska, Affogato or New York Cheese Cake with COFFEE, TEA or CHOCOLATE CRINKLES RED WINE

The great lunch was hosted by Mon Farolan with some mistakes to revive stories that happened in the last 62 years of camaraderie, admiration and care for each other. Their unending tales extended from here to thy kingdom come until breakout at 3 pm. with no more diners left therein.

Linda Mison recently arrived from the USA bringing home the urn with the ashes of her deceased daughter, Arlene, who suddenly died of Aortic Aneurism. With

Arlene gone as her constant house mate, Linda is now living alone in their house in Atlanta but has still Niel (one of 2 sons) and his family (residing nearby and already well settled with a good job) to be with her occasionally. A mass was held at the Chapel B of the Loyola Memorial Park in Paranaque, attended by members of the family. Thereafter, Arlene was entombed with his dad, the great Malipadiong from Bohol, Tim Mison, AKA as James Mason to some mistahs.

Tom Manlongat celebrated his 85th birthday at the SEDA Hotel near the Trinoma, QC on 13 April 18 attended by 120 guests from the class (the Farolans, Maltos, Coracheas, Lazos, Macabascos, and Lukbans and widows, Tess Calip, Juliet Suarez, Minda Bello, Lory Galang, Nelia Lopez), relatives and friends. An impromptu program was held to encourage maximum participation with Mon Farolan speaking for the class and Tom ending the affair with his favorite song: “ My Way” ala Tom, not Sinatra. It is observed that more guests are attending Tom’s BDAY celebs as he grows older. By 2023 when Tom will celebrate his 90th BDAY, more apos and apo sa tuhod of the Manlongat and Bueno tandem will be there to cheer him up and may hear again his “ My Way”, which begins with the phrase: “ and now the end is near.... “ Here’s hoping not.

The six golfers of the class (Corachea, David, Farolan, Goyena, Malto and Paiso) continued their weekly dining get-together after their weekly golf with Romy David hosting the lunch at the Choi Garden, Promenade, Greenhills on 18 April followed by Levy Malto at the Peri Peri also at the Promenade on 25 April, Boy Paiso at the Vikings, Megamall on 25 April, Mel Goyena at the Choi Garden, Annapolis, Greenhills on 10 May, and Ching Corachea at the Din Tai Fung Singaporean Resto at Global City on 16 May.

In view of Tom’s fete on April, the PA group (Joe Almonte with Sharon, Ching Corachea, with Emma, Mac Macabasco with Aida, Badong Lara, Rod Ordoyo and Rudy Tolentino) and one navy-man Olac Lazo with Susie (just recently elected as the President of the AGFO Foundation) moved their lunch hosting to 12 May at the Gloria Maris, Greenhills attended by 35 guests including Mike and Rose Aparri, Paul and Daly Canalita, Romy and Pili David, Mel and Pat Goyena, Tony and Tess Lukban, Levy and Nora Malto, Tom

and Lulu Manlongat, Boy Paiso, Sharon Almonte, Cecile Ampig, Minda Bello, Tess Calip, Lily Pio Roda, Juliet Suarez and Plet Brillantes to savor again their favorite Chinese dishes and connive to tell funny tales and jokes that evoke much elation from all mistahs and drags - the reason to clamor for more meetings as a good conduit to wither the passage of time. The food served was more than enough to allow much to be taken home by the hosts. At break time, Aida Macabasco, the lady of the chair, distributed packs of Laguna’s favorite Tapas snacks to the guests to take home.

**Good News!** Brian Pangilinan, the second apo of Levy and Nora Malto, from their eldest daughter, Rowie (married to Gerry Pangilinan) who just graduated from Aeronautical Engineering on a scholarship at the Ohio State University, had been accepted as a Flight Test Engineer at Edwards Air Force Base in Calif., USA, home to premiere flight and ground testing of aircraft, weapons systems and software for the USAF. Brian has invited his lolo to go there and ride on a drone at his own risk.



*This time...*

### MARCH TO THE BEAT OF YOUR HEART

Last year, I passed on to you a handout of a quotation taken from the office of General Douglas MacArthur about “Youth” - that

“youth is not a time of life but a state of the mind” and the quality of one’s emotions.

Also last year, as you recall, we had a very successful participation in the PMA Alumni Parade as Diamond Jubilarians, thanks to all our classmates who made sure to be there “come hell and high water”. In that activity, I paid great tribute to our class stalwarts Ed, Rene and Jardie whose participation were primary. In that parade, all classmates came down from the comfort of their reserved seats in the grandstand and marched to their hearts content. Included in the march were the PWD. They marched with pride to the music and beat of the PMA Band and mind you, maintained their cadence. It was a biblical miracle of sorts – “even the blind see, the lame walked.”

We found renewed vigor not to be left out of this final ritual at the PMA grounds we made green - no blurred vision, no wobbly knees could stop us in renewing our days gone by – so fast, as a matter of fact.

And so, as we gather today in more austere circumstance to commemorate our 61st Graduation Anniversary, let us remember once more those who have gone ahead to the Great Beyond.

In a class of 72 graduates, we are left with 38. Those gallant 34 that moved on ahead of us left their imprints in the service with gallantry, honor and distinction. Their passing indeed left some void in our collective memories. On this occasion, they rightfully deserve our snappy salute.

And to those of us on this our 61st Graduation Anniversary, let us continue on our march down the “Road of Life” not anymore with our left heels digging the ground in sync to the beat of the PMA Band, but rather I urge all of you to march and march proudly to the many challenges still ahead, this time not to the beat of the drum but to the beat of our hearts.





The beat of our forgiving and compassionate hearts, the beat of our cheerful and magnanimous hearts and the greatest of all, the beat of our ever loving hearts. /Dionisio S. Tan-Gatue

**TWO BIRTHDAYS**

Edon Yap celebrated his birthday recently with a dinner at the Manila Polo Club. Chit Yap was hopping from one table to another to greet guests from her religious group, friends at Greenhills, relatives and PMA classmates. Good to see Ernie Yap, brother of Edon and contemporary in the service. In wheelchair due to a fall, Edon was wheeled to the hall to the cheers and well-wishes of the guests. It was Ting Enriquez and Rem Gopez who made the celebrant to smile and to join in the laughs. Entertainer for

the evening was Dulce in her usual powerful voice. She elicited a response from First Lady Imelda with her trademark Visayan songs. Rene De Villa had to leave early for the necro of TP Agustin who was a member of our civic action team in Vietnam.

The next day, it was Elvie Ermita's birthday lunch at Greenbelt, Makati City with relatives, friends and PMA classmates. Ed Ermita moved around the tables looking after the comfort of guests. "Ang Class 57 ang aking pangalawang pamilya," he asserts. He was not able to sing to Elvie this time, but, as usual, gave a warm birthday speech to his beloved. Wine was served with the birthday lunch arranged by the Ermita children. As usual, the class engaged in jokes and conversations like long lost brothers ending with their antics "when we were plebes".

- 6. J Zumel
- 7. A Francisco
- 8. B Lomotan
- 9. M Dumlao?
- 10. M. Baccay?

MSD and MLB previously texted BEST EFFORT but we need them to confirm

We need Senior Citizens Cards. Only those in RED have sent their E-Copies of Senior ID Cards

Those needing two rooms are: Andrew, Chuck and Ronnie and we have four rooms waitlisted.

Others interested to attend please inform Chuck ASAP so we can determine if we need to increase the number of waitlisted rooms or look elsewhere, such as Microtel. The Class of 1958 had a good small hotel on Military Cut Off Road last Feb and we can use some rooms from that hotel as well. But we need your commitments NOW.



We decided last month to include one or more available offsprings of each member to join our Viber forum. We should have done so years back if just to ensure that our classmates who refuse to be affected or bothered by using modern devices, may be informed about activities and developments they need to be aware of.

We were thus able to get Jerome Ochoco, Rommel Ong, Bing Garrido, Lara Mia Garcia, Gilbert Gallos, Dexter and Jojo Comendador, Harriet and Hayley Peralta, Sonny Trillanes, Jun Abaya, Jay Agustin, Raquel Zulueta and Jojo Casas. Hope those mentioned will be active on our net and help their folks who are not on the net to get the word. Others not represented should be encouraged to join.

Del Abaya has picked Shangrila Makati as our usual class meeting site. Sufficient parking available and parking pass assured for all.

In one of his posts, Jerome proudly recalled that his biggest Christmas joy last December was that of learning that he had become a grandfather, first among the class children to be so.

Del Garcia queried Sonny Trillanes about a Facebook post that he saw: "There is a recent FB post quoting you as suggesting military intervention. is that fake post?" to which the young Senator replied, "It's from

this article sir." showing the URL that proved it was not fake news: <http://www.atimes.com/article/the-man-who-keeps-duterte-up-at-night/> as the source.

We joined our classmates' pride in seeing how successful their kids are. First to be a Senator is Sonny; First to be a congressman, and first as cabinet member of course is "Jun Jun" Abaya, First to be a flag officer and first to have two stars is Rommel Ong. There are so many lawyers already from the Abayas. the Peraltas, the Galloses and the Sarucas. We of course have doctors: we have the Desquitado doctors (all three of them to boot!), Raquel Zulueta, Christine Agustin, who else are there?

**PMA ALUMNI HOMECOMING 2019**

Reminder:

We are the 60th Homecoming Jubilarians next year, so we're hoping we can maximize our presence.

Over the past five homecomings, we've only averaged 3-4 attendees, but to ensure the use of JH Manor, we reserved last 16 Feb and paid for 10 rooms for the 2019 PMA Alumni Homecoming. Benny tried to check if the AIM Conference Center has available rooms but learned that they're not taking reservations after May this year, as their contract with JH Manor expires then. Thereafter here's the status of confirmed attendees:

Room reservations for 2019 Homecoming event 14-16 Feb 2019

- 1. P Abaya
- 2. N Festin
- 3. P Garcia
- 4. C. Agustin
- 5. B Desquitado



The feeling of optimism that seemingly prevailed after an activity-filled first quarter of year 2018, seemed to have lost momentum when we saw no activity in April, May and possibly even June.

(To page 28)



# PCAI Testimonial Dinner for Chief, PNP

24 May 2018





# PMAAA Educational Foundation, Inc.

## Induction of Officers, Trustees and Presentation of Scholars







Summertime, as we have experienced in the past, is dedicated for the family as children are out of school and would certainly want to enjoy their “lolo’s and lola’s.” For us in our age, its apostolic time.

Be that as it may, the golfers in the class made up for the “inactivity” and continued to have the Friday golf fellowship going with much enthusiasm. Vic Mamon allowed Biyette to go ahead to Canada so that he could attend to a lot of

paper works required in their permanent residence in Canada, But he made sure he made Friday free time for our class golf fellowship. He has committed himself to score his third Birdie after his retirement in 1978 which he succeeded to accomplish easily on a 100-yard par 3 hole.

Aside from playing 18 holes of golf, the group enjoyed drinking red wine that went with a modest lunch of fried chicken and soup. The wine was Vic’s collection over

time and they were really vintage wine. Ernie enjoyed it so much because of its therapeutic effect after undergoing a major stomach operation. Our last game with Vic was on May 19 where he distributed some gadgets. Ed Cabanlig loved the ball retriever Vic gave because he will be able to recover balls that drop in water hazards.

Ernie and Beng Tan who missed the despedida for Vic and Biyette Mamon on March 9, 2018 returned home on April 11. They were able to get together with Percy and Lolit Padua in Las Vegas. They also reported that they celebrated their Wedding Anniversary last May in Iloilo City. They were blessed by a priest who celebrated a mass in their honor. Beng was spiritually moved by the homily of the priest cautioning them never to celebrate wedding anniversaries as a renewal of vows. The first marriage vow should continue forever because a renewal would mean that the first was a failure. We say “amen” to that. As the rainy season ushers in and the children back in school, we hope to get together soon to make the year filled with class activities.



Summer’s here again. Vacation time for the kids. Summer outings. And sun and heat! That was for the class many years ago. For the recent years, however, we have been having less exciting (but equally enjoyable) summers. This year, we had planned on bathing in the sulfur springs in Calamba and Los Banos; but we opted to have our June socials closer to home instead. Now for our class activities for the months gone by – March, April and May.

**Class president Nano Mariano’s birthday party.** Although it was earlier announced that our class quarterly socials will be KKB, class president Nano hosted the first quarter socials on his birthday, March 25. It was on a Sunday afternoon and Nano opened his home at Greenhills for the class and other friends. His guests filled his lawn and the living rooms. From the class to greet Nano were Paco and Linda Atayde, Tito and Heidi Rimando, Felix and Zeny Tong, Charlie Tanega, James Ramon, Maury Evangelista, Maura Soriano, Joe and Marian Divinagracia, Willy and Chiquita Cruz, Ernie and Hazel Dauz, Romy and Linda Meana,

Budge and Alma Madamba, Manny and Becky Salimbangon, Joel and Rio Hinlo, and Gerry and Baby Kagaoan. The live band was irresistible to James who surprised us with his beautiful voice and repertoire of songs. Ernie did not sing with the band but sang his heart out when we sang the birthday song and “for he’s a Jolly good fellow” for the celebrant. Others braved the lechon and the grilled chicken skin and “isau.” And the birthday cake with all the icing. And wine. Forget your blood pressure and diabetes. It’s Nano’s birthday. Happy birthday!

**Class meeting and socials on 2 May.** We

have more informal meetings, of course: the AGFO socials and lunches at AGFO, or at PMAAAI. But to firm up coming class activities, we meet more formally just like the one on a Wednesday, 2 May at the AFCOC Closed Mess. During the meeting, which extended through lunch (courtesy of the Nano), the class discussed its activities for the second quarter. It was agreed that class gatherings will not always be held at Camp Aguinaldo but also at Fort Bonifacio or Makati in order to accommodate classmates living in those areas because the horrendous traffic has been making it difficult for them



Classmates and Nano during his birthday



go to Camp Aguinaldo. Tito, Maury, and Rami were also to conduct a recon at the Calamba - Los Baños area where classmates will go for an outing and sulfur bath. In addition, the class was also informed of Romy de los Reyes' candidacy for barangay captain in the coming local polls with some classmates giving him support. Those who came to the meeting/socials were Nano, Tito, Maury, Ray, Romy M., Manny S., Rami Ramiscal, and David Alimorong.

**At sick bay.** Mike Hinlo was airlifted from the Visayas to the Veterans Memorial Medical Center at Quezon City recently. After the class officers meeting last 22 May, Nano, Maury, and Ray visited him to cheer him up. He told them he was having difficulty in breathing but his doctors are attending to him. Also confined earlier at St. Luke's Global was Chona Perez. Perot told us



Class 62 ladies and Nano



Class meeting last 2 May at AFPCOC

that she is recovering satisfactorily although still reporting to the hospital for follow ups. Get well soon mistahs.### (JRRIMANDO)

**13 May 2018 - Mothers' Day**

The PMA Matindi Class of 1963 greets all mothers/grandmothers mothers-to-be for the wonderful day. May the God Lord bless you all.

**17 May 2018 - BIRCI First Quarterly Fellowship Meeting and Induction of Board of Directors/Officers with CavJS Delos Santos, Chair/CEO of PMAAAI as Inducting Officer and Estate Planning and Management with Patrick GLJ Lim, BPI-Philam Life Assurance and Anti-Pneumonia shots by VMMC at the Dimalupig Hall B, AFPCOC, Camp Aguinaldo, Q.C. Cav Danny Delgado and Ebor Ebro represented the class.**

The PMA Matindi Class of 1963 wishes to extend warmest greetings, Good health and good life to all birthday celebrants. May they have many, many more birthdays to come.

**Birthday Celebrants – May-June 2018**

The PMA Matindi Class of 1963 wishes to extend warmest greetings, Good health and good life to all birthday celebrants. May they have many, many more birthdays to come.

**May 2018:** Lino Noble – 3, Lino Medina – 4, Angie Villamor (+) – 17, Susie Sabarre - 25.

**June 2018 :** Baby Domondon -3, Gie Aquino – 7, Bob Manlongat – 7, Maning Estrada – 8, Marga Lacson – 10, Brenda Iletto – 29.

To quote Rev Fr. Mario Jose C Ladra: *Pray straight from the heart because God listens.* Unquote



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

**R**ainy day greetings from the PMA Matindi Class of 1963!

Our activities from the Corporate Secretary logbook are as follows:

**08 April 2018 -** A no host lunch at the Philippine Navy Golf Course, NS Jose Francisco (BNS), Taguig City to celebrate our 55<sup>th</sup> Emerald Graduation Day Anniversary. Among those who came were Bill Ruiz, Ebor and Flor Ebro, Rudy and Offie Javier, Pert Andaya, Billy and Rose Enerio, Tony Sibayan, Rolly and Luz Espejo, Danny and Nena Delgado, Ed Resos, Ardy and Beth Abaya, Amy and Angie Ylagan, Bob Manlongat, Gaps Sabarre and Bigboy and Anabelle Adriano.

**17 April 2018 –** AGFO Fellowship Meeting at AGFO Center, Camp Aguinaldo Q.C. with Justice Manuel M. Lazaro, PHILCONSA Chair/CEO, as GOHAS who talked about the proposed Bangsamoro Basic Law. Cav Pert Andaya, Danny Delgado, Ebor Ebro and Bob Manlongat represented the class.

**27 April 2018 –** AGFO Foundation, Inc. Annual Membership Meeting and Election at the AGFO Center, Camp Aguinaldo, Q.C. Cav Ebor Ebro represented the Class.

**04 May 2018 –** Our Class President Bill and Norma Ruiz celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup>

(Golden) Wedding Anniversary at 5:00 p.m. in Mindanao Ballroom, Sofitel Philippine Plaza, CCP Complex, Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City, together with their children and grandchildren. Among the classmates who came were Danny and Nena Delgado, Ebor and Flor Ebro, Rudy and Offie Javier, Billy and Rose Enerio, Dan and Lou Pizarro, Monet and Ester Ong, Ting and Warlie Tigas, Arnie Acedera with daughter Anneth, Tony Sibayan with son Bembeng, Bob and Yayang Manlongat with daughter Maylay, Frank and Anabelle Adriano, Rene and Leny Valencia, Amy and Angel Ylagan, Ed and Josie Resos, Rolly and Luz Espejo, Bumi Bumanglag, Gaps Sabarre, Stela Andaya, Naty Laput and Aida Mayo. Former DND Sec Renato De Villa, the Marine group, the Navy group, the Army group, high school friends and other relatives and friends were there too. Of course, the children and grandchildren entertained us.







**CLEMENTE P MARIANO**  
President  
**ORLANDO T CABANLIG**  
Secretary

Start of summer season was quite busy for some classmates who started visiting their children abroad. Rey Reyes and Terry dela Cruz have been in CONUS visiting their children. Meantime, Abe de Guzman and Wife prefer staying in PH during the summer season.

Last May 1, 2018, Class '64 members celebrated their entry at the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) as Cadets; seven Class '64 members were present at the Philippine Navy Golf Club (PNGC). The members had lunch and a couple of red wine drinks. The group took the opportunity to discuss the visit of the class at PMA in celebrating the class' Emerald Anniversary tentatively on Jan 19, 2019. Those in attendance were Rey Reyes, Orly Cabanlig, Terry dela Cruz, Arts Arpon, Abe de Guzman, Ding Odoño, and Billy Villareal. Some of the suggested items for the proposed class visit in PMA are:

- Proposed to be supported by class fund are hotel accommodation and meals only.

- Transportation expenses will be individuals expense

- Total budget being proposed is Php 315,000.00

It was indeed a surprise for members of the class when we received the message that Homer Ortega died after being bumped by a tricycle in Tagaytay City last April 13. Some members of the class led by Clem Mariano attended the Mass last Apr 15 at TalifaKuni Chapel in Alfonso, Cavite. After the Mass Eulogies were delivered by relatives, friends, and the class '64 President Clem Mariano spoke in behalf of the class. Among Class '64 members present were: Clem Mariano, Rey Reyes, Terry dela Cruz, Abe de Guzman and Billy Villareal.

Rene Garcia and Arts Arpon have been aggressive in organizing golf games for Class '64 Golf Club members. Among the members actively playing are Terry dela Cruz, Abe de Guzman, and Rey Reyes.

Happy Birthday to the following **May – June** Celebrants:

- Rolly Pabellano – June 20
- Terry de la Cruz – June 21
- Louie Bareng – June 22
- Rene Garcia – June 26



**MIGUEL A LEONARDO**  
President  
**EVERLINO P NARTATEZ**  
Secretary

## FAREWELL TO OUR LMS

The PMA MULAWIN CLASS OF 1965 was shocked with disbelief and saddened when at about 0030H 01 April 2018 Mistah Gerry Guzman called and reported that PCSUPT TIRSO L ROSAL have just succumbed to serious internal injuries sustained in a vehicular accident early morning of Holy Wednesday 28 March 2018. Disbelief in the sense that ok naman daw siya (Tirso) as he himself related the accident to Rolly Cauton and that broken ribs lang naman daw and he was already recuperating at the Clark Medical Center in Pampanga, which was the nearest medical facility where he was brought after the accident. Other vital organs were seriously injured pala and other latent ailments /health concerns were discovered which further complicated Tirso's condition. He was supposed to be the LMS of the class not only because he had always been in good shape, and very meticulous of his diet but he was very much trusted that he is also our Treasurer for Life at hawak niya ang kaban ng bayan.

From Clark Medical Center, the remains of Tirso were brought to the Loyola Chapels in Commonwealth, Quezon City where the wake was for three days and on his last wake he was honored with a Necrological Service. Classmate were all there during the wake and necro service with Class President Mike Leonardo giving the main eulogy and other classmates gave eulogies as well, Rolly Cauton, Gerry Guzman and Class Vice President Egay Velasco. The following day, the remains were cremated and for the last time, he was brought home and stayed overnight with his family in their house at Ideal Subdivision, Quezon City. The following day Saturday, 7 April 2018 he was brought to the Libingan ng mga Bayani where he was given full military honors befitting a Star Officer and then marched to his final resting place in an area in the LNMB where other star officers are also buried. Grave side honors were also rendered and when his last taps was sung, All the PMA

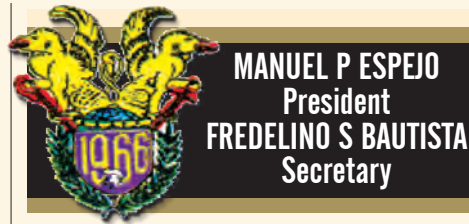






Mulawin Class of 1965 sang the PMA OH HAIL TO THEE.

The Mulawins and ladies who were all in attendance during the wake, necro service and burial were Class Pres Mike Leonardo; Class Vice President Egay Velasco and spouse Dina; Tates and Lynn Nartatez; Rolly and Susie Cauton; Enri and Celia Bulan; Ofring and Lita Marcelo; Pepe and Lyn delos Santos; Jess and Boots Candelario; Gerry and Vicki Guzman; Boy and Vicky Turingan; Bert and Donna Acenas; Vicky de Leon; Rose Monta; Vi Santos; Dianne Malig; Susan Abadilla; Susan Abesamis; Linda Perena; Noli and Chit Fabric; Joey Mendoza; Jo and Janette Lapuz; Warly and Heidi Chee; Benson Rimando and Jomari Solquillo and Rex Robles. As per our class tradition, the class had lunch with the family of Tirso -- Margi, daughters Marty and Michelle and their two sons, the youngest of whom is Australia-based. The lunch was at the Philippine Navy Gold Clubhouse. Tirso is now the 27th MULAWIN Advance party member in the great beyond./epn



**PAMBUNGAD**

Tulad ng inaasahan, mainit and buwan ng Marso at Abril. Sa katunayan, sobra ang init kung ihahambing sa mga nakaraang taon. Tumaas ang singil ng MERALCO, halos doble. Tumaas din ang presyo ng gasoline dahil sa TRAIN Law. Apektado ang mga senior citizens, kasama na ang Class 1966.

**CLASS EVENTS**

**At Talisay, Batangas**

For the first time in many years, the ladies of Class 1966 agreed to go out of town to beat the summer heat. An all-female group (with a lone male sixty-sixer) motored to Balay Isabel, Talisay, Batangas for a two-day bonding last 18-19 April 2018. Ben and Cel Espejo are time-sharing owners of this resort and they were the ones who invited the ladies. Minus the boys, they had a great time-story telling, cooking and eating and for some, swimming in the pool. Ben Espejo joined the group the next day to host the lunch. Those who joined the out of town adventure were April Fernandez, Cena Millena, Cel Espejo, Fe Cuison, Fe Sabularse, Susan Gador, Sylvia Agudelo, Tess Reyes and Paz Bautista.

**At Amadeo, Cavite**

Not to be outdone, Leonor and Noli Espejo invited the group for another outing, this time with the males at their rest house at Amadeo, Cavite on 28 April 2018 to celebrate Noli's birthday last 18 April 2018. It was also a pot luck affair with the attendees bringing their favorite dishes like pinakbet, pansit, adobo, native cakes, fruits, etc. The Espejos took care of the lechon, other foods and dessert. Those present were the hosts, Noli and Leonor Espejo and their daughter Mara, Pons and Cena Millena, Bay and Margie Galon, Fred and Paz Bautista, Jacie Aquino, Temi

Arugay, Bert Sabularse, Menong Garcia, Tess Reyes, Sylvia Agudelo and Susan Gador. During the occasion, Fred Bautista briefed the ladies on the status of the payment of the unpaid pension arrears, with special focus on the widows. His briefing drew much interest from the ladies who were apparently not briefed by their husbands.

**At Max's, BGC**

Then last Sunday, 27 May 2018, the regular Max coffee group had a new attendee – Buddy Perez who celebrated his birthday last May 25. The group has not seen Buddy for a long time and his presence was welcomed by the group. Pursuant to tradition, he paid for the coffee and snacks. The picture below shows those who were around, including lone lady Cena Millena.

**Birthday Celebrators**

There is a plan being cooked by Louie Fernandez to hold a class reunion to celebrate those who have reached age 75 late this year or older. Of course, families are invited. We are sure this affair would be fun. This will be discussed further in the next issues.

Meanwhile, let us greet the birthday celebrators for May and June.

For May – Charlie Batayola (22), Rey Gopilan (29), Buddy Perez (26) and Tony Romero (03).

For June – Andy Andres (01) and Rec Sarmiento (27).

Happy birthday, fellow septuagenarians.







**ANSELMO S AVENIDO JR**  
President  
**RUFINO G IBAY JR**  
Secretary

## CLASS ACTIVITIES

A. The following were our activities for the March – April 2018 period:

**24 March** – We held our Dimasupil Monthly Forum (DMF) (Breakfast) at the Serye Resto, Quezon Memorial Circle, QC. It was hosted by Manny and Maryrose Dalipe, Jun and Ronnie Ibay, and Nic and Glo Parena as a way of celebrating with the Class the birthdays of Nic (20 March), Jun (21), and Manny (31). However, Manny and Maryrose were not around since he was still recuperating from his recent kidney and prostate surgical operations. To compensate for their absence, they sent more “Dimasupil @ 51” T-shirts especially for those who were not able to get said items in Baguio during the Homecoming last February.

**13 April** – Nenie Abendan, Alice Averilla, Ernie and Dinsay Dionisio, Orville and Linz Gabuna, Rody and Graise Gaerlan, Mar and Mely Gatmaitan, and Bert and Ruby Torres hosted our DMF (Lunch) at Barbara’s resto, Intramuros, Manila. Their hosting was for the birthdays of Alice (9 April), Nenie (12), Bert (16), Rody (18), Orville (20), Mar (26), and Dinsay (28). Unfortunately, only Alice, Ernie and Dinsay, and Rody and Graise were around to represent the hosts. Nenie, who is residing in Zamboanga City, had to attend to



urgent matters. Bert and Ruby and also Mel and Mar were still enjoying their vacation in the USA. On the other hand, Linz had to be with Orville who was, and still is, confined in the Philippine Heart Center.

B. Watch out for our schedule for the May – June 2018 period, onwards, as follows:

**27 May (1000H)** —DMF (Brunch) to be hosted by Joy Casillan and family at Heroes Grill, Veterans Memorial Medical Center, QC.

**10 June (0800)** —DMF (Breakfast) to be hosted by Hedy Duenas and Ross and Mandie Sibal at Kenny Rogers – Katipunan, in front of Ateneo, QC.

**July** – DMF to be hosted by Letty Baula and Jovy and Baby Sales.

## UPDATES ON THE DIMASUPILS

On 11 April 2018, Orville Gabuna suffered a stroke, paralyzing his left side, and was rushed to the Philippine Heart Center. He is still there at its ICU. We pray for his early recovery.

Ross Sibal visited Pert Molato on 2 April 2018 at the VMMC and has this to say: “I was at VMMC this morning to get my meds and thereafter I visited Pert. He looks very much better. I found him sitting in a chair and watching television. He still cannot chew and has to rely on liquid food and cannot talk. He has a ready smile though.” Let’s hope that with all the prayers from the Dimasupils he will get better each day.

Ben Samonte, who is based in Chicago, USA, visited PMA, Baguio City last April, together with some relatives and friends.

Manny Dalipe, Ernie Dionisio and Ross Sibal attended the PAFFS Alumni Homecoming on 21 April 2018 in Lipa City, in preparation for the celebration by the Air Force Dimasupils of their Golden Anniversary as full-fledged pilots next year. They were welcomed by CGPAF LtGen Galileo Kintanar.

Congratulations to Jun Avenido on his election as the new President of the PMAAA Education Foundation Inc (PETFI). This Foundation provides scholarship to dependents of deceased



and disabled Cavaliers. All Dimasupils are members of PETFI. He is also the incumbent Chairman of the PMA Foundation Inc (PMAFI) whose President is Jun Ibay.

## UPDATES ON OUR FAMILIES

We extend our heartfelt condolence to the family of Jun and Elen Reventar on the death of her mother Felicidad Africa Rubio on 17 March 2018 in Metro Manila. We pray for her eternal rest with our Lord.

## BIRTHDAY CELEBRATORS

Best wishes to the following Dimasupils and spouses who celebrate their birthdays in May and June: Auring Garcia (6 May), Agnes Avenido (7), May Garcia (15), Jun Gabison (24), Noemi Casillan (26), Ida Aquino (28), Ed Galang (30), Meds Reyes (30), Tante Torrechante (1 June), Joy Casillan (11), Abe Din (15), Ross Sibal (16), Walter Briones (17), Beth Santiago (19), Louie Sanchez (21), and Cora Din (30).

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

## ANNOUNCEMENT

During the last April Dimasupil Forum, our Social Amelioration Fund Guidelines (for medical assistance and death “abuloy”) was approved unanimously on the floor during the meeting after lunch. A copy of the guidelines will be published in our PMA ’67 DIMASUPIL Facebook Page.

## CLASS TRIVIA

In connection with the celebration of Mothers’ Day in May, Ed Espinosa is reminding us to always observe the following Golden Rules for a Happy Marriage: 1. The wife is always right. 2. When you feel or think that she is wrong, slap yourself and read Rule # 1.

Mabuhay tayong lahat!





**MELCHOR P ROSALES**  
President  
**ROBERTO P SANTIAGO**  
Secretary

Exactly 50 years after graduation on March 24, 1968, the PMA Quis Separabit Class of 1968 celebrated its Golden Anniversary at Discovery Primea Hotel in Makati City on March 24, 2018.

A total of 19 class members, including two honorary and 18 ladies attended, namely Nori and Candy Azcueta, Jing and Jenny Caballero, Oskie and Gigi Cabaron, Alex and Shirley Costales, Volts and Rhodie Gazmin, Sonny and Luth Penilla, Dante and Julie Ruiz, Rudy and Arlene Rabago, Mel and Millette Rosales, Bobby and Purita Santiago, Willy and Isay Nuqui, Hector and Peewee Tarrazona, Abe Abiol, Art Carrillo, Chris Francisco, Art Juan, Mon Montinola, Rene Santos, Boyet Lim, Cecille Canson, Tess Pangantihon, Evelyn Erolin, Tita Pangan, Angging Dumlao and Hilda Fajardo.

Invited as special guests were Jaime "Jimmy" Delos Santos '69, Rufo "Boots" De Veyra '70 and Renato "Atot" Paredes '71 to complete the Corps of '68. They individually gave testimonials and "roasting" that added merriment to the occasion. Boots, who came with his lady, Emy, gave a well researched and prepared account of his experiences with Class 68 and even brought with him a copy of PMA Class 68 Sword.



Also invited as special guest was AFP Chief Chaplain, BGen Tirso Dolina AFP who led the Invocation and Memorial prayers for the departed class members and ladies.

The sumptuous dinner was complemented with music of the '60s by the PN Seabees combo.

In his Anniversary message, Class President Mel Rosales expressed his appreciation to all class officers, members and ladies who, over the last few years, contributed in the preparation for the 2018 Alumni Homecoming and the 50<sup>th</sup> Graduation Anniversary celebrations starting with Fund-raising events to support the activities, including the Coffee Table Book project. He also cited, among others, the support extended by Volts Gazmin and Boyet Lim who consistently augmented the transportation needs of the class in attending the annual Alumni Homecoming in Baguio and Abe Abiol who, as treasurer for the last several years, efficiently managed the finances of the class.

Before the end of the activity, a special award was presented to Mon Montinola who flew in from Cebu for being the firstclass member to become a great grandfather.



**JAIME S DE LOS SANTOS**  
President  
**JUSTO P MANLONGAT**  
Secretary

For this issue, it is but appropriate to feature the Class Crest of the Class 1969. It represents a symbol, a name, and an institution in itself that has kept the members united and strong for the last 49 years and onward to the 50<sup>th</sup> year come February Homecoming.

The **CLASS 1969 CREST** was designed by CDT MANUEL L CARRANZA JR C-2529 CCAFP of "C" Company, Chairman of the Class Crest Committee.

The symbolism of every component of the crest is as follows:

- The **DEER** or **STAG** chosen by the class as its mascot is the king of the forest and the protector of all other creatures. It is an animal of power, a totem representing sensitivity, intuition, and gentleness. The deer, likewise, symbolizes harmony, happiness, peace and longevity. It is a creature imbued with the spirit of gentleness. Its antlers is one of the characteristics that make it a figure of spiritual superiority. The antlers grow beyond its body bringing it closer to the sky thus making it sacred. During the deer's life, its antlers fall off and grow again thus also symbolizing regeneration. Its vision, agility, speed and its antlers are its inspiring attributes. The stags facing each other represent the individual class members who mirror and profess to emulate and exemplify the desirable virtues of the deer in all their undertakings as gentlemen officers.

Deer also represents agility and swiftness. It is a military trait that manifest audacity and cunning in plans and action, firm and persevering in execution and determined to always achieve victory. These attributes have molded the class to be achievers, bold in their decisions that catapulted them to greater heights both within and outside of their professional calling.

Agility and cunningness facilitate the decision-making process. What value does a decision make if it fails to capitalize on opportunities? It is risky and catastrophic to depend on a delayed decision. Hence, a deer, with the swiftness of decision, can outsmart a strong and ferocious lion. Class '69 is a class of survivors both as individuals and as a team. Their small number although represents a low survival rate means, they are the best and the brightest among the Corps of Cavaliers.

- The **LIGHTED TORCH POINTING UPWARDS** symbolizes enlightenment, hope,





The Ladies Uniform Committee travelled to Iloilo City last 18 May 2018 to canvass materials for the Golden Jubilee. The team was led by Sol Mendoza together with Lulu Delos Santos, Lily Garcia, Amy Maligalig and Vicky Brillantes.

light, truth and the regenerative power of the flame. Likewise, it symbolizes the education and training; and the knowledge and wisdom acquired by the class as part of the Cadet Corps Armed Forces of the Philippines labeled on the torch as “CCAFP”. The torch likewise symbolizes the class’ collective aspiration for continuing education and learning as it pursues a progressive military career.

- The **CROSS SWORD** and **SABER** is symbolic of the class’ transformation from disciplined and honorable cadets to professional officers and gentlemen imbued with the ideals clearly inculcated in them and embodied in the academy’s motto: **COURAGE, INTEGRITY, and LOYALTY.**

- The **LAUREL LEAVES** lining the entire crest symbolizes the class’ ideals of peace, creativity, achievement and lofty aspirations. It also depicts the class’ desire to serve the AFP and the country with honor and distinction.

- The **FOUR INTERLINKED RINGS** at the bottom of the crest symbolize the class members’, unity and loyalty to each other since their cadet days when they belong to four distinct companies of the CADET CORPS: ALPHA, BRAVO, CHARLIE and DELTA, competing against each other in all aspects of military and academic training throughout their entire four years in the academy; which extends to the time they graduate and are assigned to the four major services then: AIR FORCE, ARMY, CONSTABULARY and NAVY. Such class loyalty and unity are to extend forever.

- The **SHIELD** bearing the numerals “69” which is the centerpiece of the crest



Korean lunch hosted by Ike and Ingging for Dennis and Bingbo last May 6 at Grami Restaurant. With them where Jake and Sarla Duller, Vicky, Chi and Yob, Kevin and Daryl.



The Class hosted a breakfast meeting at the Gloria Maris in Greenhills last 28 April 2018, in honor for Jess and \_\_\_ Almaden. In attendance were Rene and Odette Aguda who came all the way from Pasuquin, Ilocos Norte. Nonoy and Mone Carranza, Joey Syjuco, Benjie and Meg Defensor, Just and Ellen Manlongat and Jimmy and Lulu Delos Santos.

symbolizes the class’ adherence to and strong support for the primary personal mission of every cavalier: “to support and defend the Constitution of the Republic of the Philippines and the Filipino people”. The numerals “69” not only denotes the class designation but more so describes in two reversible numbers “69”, the versatility, stability and invincibility of the **FEW** and the **PROUD SUAVITERS.**

- The **CLASS MOTTO**, “**SUAVITER SED FORTITER**” was unanimously adopted by the class. This is the last motto among the academy classes written in Latin... supposedly meaning, “**GENTLE BUT FIRM**” representing in three words the most distinct characteristics of a deer. It is this motto from which the class derived its monicker “**SUAVITERS**”.

“Gentle but Firm”. Translated into more profound terms, it means that they are

gentlemen of the finest order. Our character is imbued with firmness, that means no compromise, no trade-offs, firmness that is equated with seriousness of purpose. The members of the class have withered many challenges in all respect. They are men for all seasons.

The accompanying photos portray the various activities of the class. These simple affair have added a spice of life for retired citizens, as an effective antidote to the physical and medical limitation that goes with age.

Lunch hosted by Jess Regala last May 9, 2018 at the Philippine Navy Golf Club. The following attended the affair: Cris Abanes, Greg Camiling, Nonoy and Mone Carranza, Jimmy and Lulu Delos Santos, Rudy and Lily Garcia, Jus Manlongat, Mon Martinez, Alex Noble, Jess and Olive Regala and Sol Mendoza.





**WENCY A CRUZ JR**  
President  
**JOSE C LALISAN JR**  
Secretary

### Class Meeting

The second quarter class meeting was held last 1 May 2018 at the residence of Egay and Mawie Aglipay. Discussed during the said meeting were the preparations for the 2021 golden anniversary, updates on CONUSA/PMAAAI MATTERS, updating of E-Mail Addresses of mistahs, establishment of an Endowment Fund for the class, and the financial status of the class fund.

On the matter of the 2021 anniversary preparations, Prexy Wency Cruz reminded the different committee chairmen to submit their budget to the Class Treasurer, Rey Velasco. Egay Aglipay moved that this will be submitted on or before September this year which will be the scheduled third quarter general class meeting.

On CONUSA and PMAAAI affairs, mistah Aris delos Reyes mentioned about the proposed letter addressed to the Lead Convenor of CONUSA and Chairman and President of AGFO, General Raul Urgello, concerning some recommendations from our class, to wit: reducing red tapes in retiree's and veteran's affairs, reducing the documentary requirements from surviving spouses and dependents for Transfer of Pension, and evaluation of the performance of various SLAs and Cooperatives in order to protect the interest of Military Uniformed Personnel (MUP) associations and also the individual MUP who have accounts to them. The class further recommends in said letter that CONUSA continues to spearhead the undertaking of the studies and evaluation of matters and issues that are beneficial to the overall morale and welfare of the military and other uniformed service personnel, active or retired. This letter was signed by the class president after a motion for its approval was carried unanimously by the body.

On the updating of the E-mail addresses, this was suggested by the class '71 yahoo group administrator, Soc Brazal, since he discovered that there were some mistahs

who have multiple e-mail addresses and some have no email addresses submitted. Thus, a sheet of paper was passed around urging all those present to write down their latest email address. These data were gathered by the class secretary.

On the establishment of an Endowment Fund, as suggested by Aris, the proposed endowment scheme is voluntary, a minimum donation of P20,000 will be given and named after the donor or as the donor may desire, the fund will be entered in the balance sheet under Liability or Equity as Endowment Fund which can be invested, and the income derived from same will be utilized by the class. This was noted subject to further study.

On the financial status of the class, Treasurer Rey Velasco, reported that the class fund can support the 2021 event but he needs the budget estimates of the different committees so that these will be programmed at this early stage. He informed the body that the latest investment from the class fund was with ACDI after it was approved by the class officers.

Those who were present in the meeting were Wency Cruz, Egay Aglipay, Rey Velasco, Rey Rivera, Joey Lalisán, Art Lim, Jake Malajacan, Rene Paredes, Oca Martinez, Mel Acosta, Dong Tabamo, Rollie Garcia, Rex Píad, Romy Dominguez, Bert Sillona, Efen Fernandez, Rey Rivera, Manny Foronda, Archie Almario, Ruben Domingo, Marte Chioco, Aris delos Reyes, and Rey Acop.

### Fellowships

After the class meeting, lunch was announced by Egay Aglipay. The Mas-Matatags, who earlier had their own



meeting, joined the Matatags for fellowship. The affair was hosted by the birthday celebrators for the second quarter. After the traditional singing of the Happy Birthday Song, each celebrant was presented with a small cake courtesy of the Aglipay couple. Those who had their cake and rewarded with a kiss by their respective spouses were Mawie Aglipay, Rey Velasco, Nina delos Reyes, Malou Garcia, Lulu Tabamo (Mas-Matatag President), except for Beng Ibo, Tess Paynor, Manny Foronda, and Rey Acop who all came solo. Everyone enjoyed the party especially when each attendee received a "give-away" package from Egay and Mawie after the affair.

The ladies had organized an ME Time which is actually a get-together of the Mas-Matatags during lunch or merienda time. Initially, some curious members of the class asked the meaning of ME. Does it mean marriage encounter? It was discussed in the viber platform that it was exclusive for the ladies. Thus, some ladies tagged it as Matatags Excluded Time. But actually, it meant "pag may time". Usually, the venue of this get together is in BCG which is a central area accessible for those living in the north, east, west, and south areas.

The Matatag Golfers have also their "time" and normally at the golf courses. It is usually done on Tuesdays of the month. Those who have the "time" to play on weekdays are Rex Píad, Rey Alcasid, Bing Alano, Egay Aglipay, Joey Lalisán, Ed Matillano, Boy Castellano, Teody Viduya, Bob Sacramento, Tito Legaspi, and sometimes Narcing Abaya, Rene Paredes, and Jun Fabros join the group if their "time" permits. Our visiting foreign based mistahs Totoy Rivera and Archie Almario had opportunities to join us in the fairways of Villamor, Aguinaldo, and the Navy Golf Clubs when they were here last summer. They were able to play also in Anvaya, Southlinks, Pine Woods in Baguio City, and in Orchards Golf and Country Club. After each game, the usual "bolahizing" and fellowship follow. The winner pays the merienda but is rewarded the "bragging right" to flaunt his winnings. The losers, well, enjoy the food and wish for better luck next game.





**EMMANUEL R TEODOSIO**  
President  
**CELSO G CASTRO**  
Secretary

Hello and warm greetings to all, the Masigasig way.

The month of March was uneventful as far as class activities is concerned. The traditional recollection during Lenten season that we usually observe yearly was gone, temporarily of course due to time constraint. Be as it may, the month of April was eventful and significant for us; it marked the 50th year anniversary since we entered the hollowed grounds of Fort del Pilar as young and aspiring cadets full of hope and idealism. Who can forget our rotting days as plebes? The daily grind of physical conditioning, sleeping sessions during classes, parades, hops, punishment tours, writing orders, endless harassment from the immaculate upperclassmen, and countless cadet rituals that we dealt with. Those were things of the past we constantly keep on recalling and re-telling, time and again.

### THE COMMEMORATION:

Since April 1 coincided with Easter Sunday, we commemorated our 50<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary last April 8 at Dimalupig function room of AFPCOC, Camp Aguinaldo. A thanks giving mass was celebrated before the program proper thanking the Lord for the countless blessings bestowed on us for the last 50 years. We also dedicated the mass to recollect and relive the memories of our departed Mistahs with prayers for the eternal repose of their souls. Program of activities befitting the commemoration followed the mass. On display and posted on bulletin boards were pictures reminiscence of our cadetship particularly plebehood. We can't help but felt nostalgic viewing every picture on display. Instinctively, we strolled back to our memory lanes recalling those glorious days. Let me rephrase the lyrics of a song **THOSE WERE THE DAYS** by Mary Hopkin which lends credence to our experiences: *Those were the days my friends; We thought they'd never end; We jogged and marched forever in a day; We live the life we choose; We survived and never lose; For we are young and sure to have survived. La la la la la la.*

Going back, to the commemoration program, Mistahs Manny Teodosio, Ogie Alino, Pol Lacerna, Mel Rivera, Vic Carag and Ping Berroya shared their testimonies about their respective experiences (true to life stories) during their heydays as cadets for

the appreciation of everybody. The one that brought the house down was when Ogie read the love letters of Manny Teodosio to Choly (she confessed that the poetic and lovely letters of Teody was the reason why she fell in love with him, not his "handsomity," as we perceived it). We really enjoyed listening to their revelations and I'm sure all of us have our own funny and interesting stories which we share with our friends and families from time to time.

One of the highlights of the program was the recognition of birthday celebrants for the months of March, April and May. As usual, they were serenaded with birthday songs accompanied by Philippine Marine band as they assembled at the center stage for the blowing of candles and cutting of delicious cakes which was served later over cups of coffee. In a nutshell, the whole event was a total success. We parted ways with tightly handshakes and congratulated each other for the job well done.

### NEWS UPDATES:

As part of our morale and welfare program, the Class extended supports to some Mistahs who requested for financial assistance to defray their medical and hospital expenses. Likewise, we also provided moral support in many instances to the bereaved families of departed Mistahs and their loved ones. On record, a total of Php 1,317,826.00 were given to the

recipients of this program.

There will be free anti-flu vaccinations (courtesy of the Class) on July the exact date to be announced later. Extra shots as requested will be charged individually to the concerned individuals.

The Class Officers have started laying the ground works of class activities in connection with our 50<sup>th</sup> Golden Anniversary in 2022. This is to ensure the success of such grand activities. No other than Mistah Jun Espino, the projected PMAAAI Chairman for 2022 homecoming is spearheading the preparation. With that, everybody is encouraged to share and contribute your ideas in this worthy class endeavor.

### BIRTHDAY GREETINGS:

The Masigasig family greets the following birthday celebrators: JUNE: Eric Aurelio, Raffy Vilches, Med Pestano, En Alino, Yaric Yarcia, Bismo Bismonte (dec), Cora De Vera, June Espino, Og Buenaventura, Efren Abu, Neris Batestil, Malou Joaquin, Efren Guerrero (dec) and Domeng Reyes (dec); JULY: Elmer Ignacio, Cely Nobleza, Mely Espino, Art Lomibao, Lulu Pechuela, Jay Velasco, Medin Velasco, Pilar Senga, Mel Hermoso, Rey Ochosa, Orly Lumawag, Beth Navarro, Gene Senga, Vic Luga, Celso and Fe Castro and Emily de Leon. God bless and Happy Birthday to all.

Till next class call and happy reading to all....cgc.



**ALPHONSUS P CRUCERO**  
President  
**WILFREDO V GARCIA**  
Secretary

This issue covers the Lenten Season which is the most solemn celebration in the Christian liturgical calendar. It begins on Ash Wednesday and ends just before Easter Sunday. The choice to observe Lent is a personal one. But to many, it is a time for serious atonement and reflection.

Filipino tradition has many religious practices that are widely observed during Lent, namely: Visita Iglesia/Visitation, Pasyon Pabasa, Street Procession, Senakulo, Siete Palabras, Stations of the Cross, etc.

In this regard, we would just like to highlight Lenten activities done by some Marangals this Lent/Holy Week. In Angono, Rizal, a procession was held in the evening of Good Friday after the celebration of mass. This procession was participated by different images depicting the Passion of Jesus Christ before His crucifixion and

resurrection. Around 40 statues/images were being carried through the town on top of well decorated and lighted floats. One of the Marangal couples, Ameto and Winnie Tolentino, owns and maintains one of the floats that participated. Their statue is called the "Exaltacion" which depicts the image of Christ being raised by the Roman soldiers after he was nailed on the cross. The procession which passed through different barangays, lasted for four hours enroute to Angono Church. The Exaltacion has been the commitment of the Tolentino family as



La Exaltacion





Station of the Cross

their special devotional activity every Good Friday.

Yours truly and my wife Hazel were fortunate enough to join the procession this year in Angono. We felt spiritually renewed afterwards; so much so that we thought about coming back next year with our entire family to join this religious activity.

Another Marangal who has committed to a Lenten activity is Mistah Pons and Marilou Crucero. Every year, the couple hosts the traditional Stations of the Cross for devotees at his beautiful farm in Sampaloc, Tanay, Rizal. Hundreds of devotees troop to the farm every Holy Week to perform the Station of the Cross.

Congratulations are in order for the couple Amy and Winnie Tolentino and couple Pons and Marilou Crucero for spending so much time, effort, and resources for their devotion to Lenten practices and Filipino tradition. May your faith deepen and grow. For sure, the Marangal Family is so proud of you guys.

Let me share *“Our thoughts of the Day”* posted by Mistah Alfredo “Jun” Abueg, Jr. *What is good in Good Friday? What is so great about wooden cross with the bloodied and pain racked Jesus at its center? For us, that Cross is the symbol of our faith and a constant sign of God’s goodness and merciful love to gift us with eternal life. It’s two beams lead us to life’s dual aspirations: the vertical one of our reaching up to God in love and adoration; the horizontal one of our stretching out to all humankind with love and compassion. In our prayers and reflections today, may we be favored with the grace to truly know and then live the good in Good Friday.*

**MARANGAL LADIES CLUB:**

In December last year, during the Christmas party, Dra. Lorna Esperon, wife of the venerable Jun Esperon, took oath as President of the Marangal Ladies Club. In her acceptance speech, she lined up some activities and projects the class will pursue this year. Among them are the regular outing and bonding and adoption of a Ward in

Veterans Memorial Medical Center (VMMC).

After a highly successful outing of the Ladies in Hundred Islands, and visitation of some churches in Pangasinan last March, the Project “Adopt a Ward” immediately followed. On 20 April 2018, the unveiling and blessing of the adopted Ward 14 at VMMC was held, spearheaded by Class President Pons Crucero and Ladies Club President Lorna Esperon. Several members of the class and their ladies attended this event.

This is actually a joint project PMA Class 74 and Marangal Ladies. Ward 14 is a Pulmonary Intensive Care Unit of the VMMS where retired veterans, officers and enlisted men may be confined free of charge of medicines and other related expenses courtesy of the class and ladies.

The occasion was also a visit down memory lane for Cecille Razon. It was a memorable moment for her as she once worked as a staff nurse from 1976 to 1980 at VMMC.

**BIRTHDAY CELEBRANTS:**

Our best wishes to the birthday celebrants for the months of March and April. May you have many more birthdays to come. Remember that according to research by the World Health Organization, 65 years old is still considered young. They have

defined a new criterion that divides human life: 0-17 years old – Underage; 18 – 65 years old – youth or young people; 66-79 years old – middle aged; 80-90 years old – elderly or senior; and 100 years old – long lived elderly

MARCH Celebrants: 3 – Rene Elumbaring, 3 – Jun Lopez, 4 – Ricky Dela Paz, 5 – Rey Varilla, 8 – Bong Franco, 19 – Peewee Peralta, 19 – Joey Flores, and 20 – Oscar Marinas

APRIL Celebrants: 1 – Djasky Rodi, 2 – Nanding Zabat, 3 – Pards Espejo, 4 – Albert Mabaquaio, 6 – Tonay Enteria, 7 – Dante Rillorta, 8 – Romy Buenafior, and 12 – Nap Garcia13 – Migz Zubiri, 14 – Rody Monte, 14 – Bepbep De Luna, and 17 – Junards Junio.

Congratulations also to the grandchildren of Mistah Amy and Winnie Tolentino, namely Iaian Barandon and Kitty Barandon and of course to the proud parents Mike and Kristine Barandon for winning in the recently concluded 2018 Annual AMAS Traditional Karate Championship and ISKF NW Regionals in San Francisco, USA. The kids are part of the Philippine delegation. Iain won two gold medals: Gold medal Kumite boys 10-11 intermediate, gold medal Kata boys 10-11 intermediate. Kitty won the bronze medal for Kumite 6 years old and under mixed.



**EMILIO C MARAYAG JR**  
President  
**ZOSIMO D CARLOS JR**  
Secretary

*“The Secret of being HAPPY is accepting where you are in life and making the most out of everyday”*

**ROLL CALL:**

As of today, there are 97 living members of the class. (63 Regular and 34 Honorary members). 13 who are living abroad, and 14 have gone ahead to heaven, including two Honorary members.

Most of us are now Seniors, except for a handful of honorary members. About 43 are 65 years and older (reckoned from June 30, 2018). The class continues to recognize this well deserved accomplishment. Those who were not present in Baguio last Feb will participate in 65LESS (life experience sharing session) during the coming Mid-Year assembly. In the meantime, let us continue to make our physical health a priority. As we age, the more we need to do so.



**SOME UPDATES**

Speaking of Physical well-being, many of the class members keep themselves busy. Toto and Adiong are into triathlons. Bong, Onay, Macky, Rey, and Ely are into Biking and Boodling. Active Wednesday golfers include Jogy, Jess, Cholo, Gerry D. Sonny, Vic, Josol, Doo, Mon P. and Sendong. Pol Bataoil is busy in his last term at Congress. Likewise for Mayors Boying and Jefferson. Joey, Abner, Joel, Nat, and Sandy are reaping the fruits of farming. Jigs, Efren, Fonting, and Sammy Tayag play tennis regularly. Joe Gamos is still griping.



Other Magilas classmates are busy with consulting and managerial work, like Mon P, Epoy, Onay, Adiong, Tanggol, Hermie, and AlexY, etc. DON'T WORK TOO HARD, Mistahs. ENJOY LIFE. Ticboy is also busy with the Rotarians. Wilson is still in contact with the Tanduy girls.

Mon dela Cruz is in New Zealand. Professor Armand is teaching in Palawan. Tui is retired in Thailand. Retep in Baguio is taking care of the Magilas Center. Nelson commutes from Banaue and QC. Rey commutes between Zambo and Makati. Paul Mata preaches the Lord in his Ministry. Sally Salosagcol, Doo and Pompei are still recovering from their ailments. Get well soon, Mistahs.

Allan and Maning are in NY. SammyT, Emil, AlexR, Gerrydong, and Edwin are in California. Pako is in Texas. Caloy Caganan is retiring in a few months in Seattle. Gono is still flying helicopters somewhere in the Pacific.

### CLASS COMMITTEES:

- MEMBERSHIP - Doo Maligalig;
- CLASS FUND INVESTMENT - Vic Boco;
- HOMECOMING - Abner Cabalquinto;
- RECORD AND MANAGEMENT - Epoy Marayag;
- WELLNESS AND FITNESS - Toto



Golez; SURVIVOR COM. - Ely dela Paz; CHRISTMAS - Sonny Cachuela; MAGILAS CENTER MAINTENANCE - Pete Labiano; SPECIAL PROJECTS - Joey Salvacion.

### CONGRATULATIONS:

Paul Chua for being designated Deputy Administrator, Light Rail Transit Authority (LRTA) effective April 13.

CONDOLENCES to Sonny Cachuela for the demise of his 93-year old mother, Nanay Lilia. RIP.

### UPCOMING ACTIVITIES:

Please reserve these dates for your mandatory attendance.

JULY 18, 2018 - Mid-Year Assembly lunch at PNGC

Oct 8, 2018 - Magilas Charity Golf Tournament at PNGC



The Chief of the Government Arsenal, Mistah Dan Casabar, invited all available Masikaps sometime early part this year to visit his turf at Limay, Bataan. On April 21 to 23, 2018, a group of Masikaps, composed of couples Amba Joe and Bles, Dads and Tess, Sunny and Beng, Nebu and Marlet, and single blessedness Larry Atendido, was able to make it to the place. Our host, couple Dan and Marilyn, graciously received us at their guest house where we were to stay for the rest of our visit, with fresh fruits and cold drinks, as we arrived aboard the bus that brought us from Camp Aguinaldo for a 3-hour ride to that destination.

Our first day, Saturday, was spent at the tricky 9-hole golf course at the Peninsula Golf Club at the Petron reservation in Limay, Bataan. The nights were spent in karaoke singing while barbecued foods are being prepared beside the camp's large swimming pool. On the second day, we found ourselves at the firing range where everyone was given the chance to fire the gun of their choice, cal 45, 9mm, Ingram sub, or the Armalite rifle. It was also shown that the OAOs were as good, if not better shooters, as their hobbies.

After the shootfest, our host toured us at the facilities where ammunition are being manufactured. It was both interesting and educational to observe how our bullet which we spent in a flick of a second has been made in a long and tedious process.

### BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

Our best wishes for the May and June birthday celebrators: **Ric Blancaflor** - 3 May, **Jess Del Mundo** - 7 May, **Malou Chua** - 11 May, **Toto Golez** - 16 May, **Jesusa Gaboy** - 17 May, **Rey Ramirez** - 19 May, **Vicky Mata** - 18 May, **Beth Veran** - 21 May, **Sammie Narcise** - 23 May, **Caloy Caganan** 29 May, **Willie Lino** - 30 May, **Tanggol Gatdula** and **Nath Legaspi** - 3 June, **Salie Salosagcol** - 4 June, **Suzzete Maclang** - 8 June, **Rod Maclang** - 9 June, **Epoy Marayag** - 10 June, **Jessica Dilodilo** - 12 June, **Alex Yano** - 13 June, **Ed Lacanienta** - 14 June, **Brenda Abadiano** - 14 June, **Gibo Teodoro** - 14 June, **Ma. Corazon Del Mundo** - 16 June, **Nidz Ferrer** - 17 June, and **Joe Solidum** - 19 June, **Cesar Agcon** - 20 June, **Joseph Bernardo** - 28 June, **Lorraine Sanchez** and **Rowena Tenazas** - 30 June.



We left the place on our 3rd day, with our host distributing souvenir cups and bullet replicas and of course, fresh harvest buko. On our way home, we passed and visited the giant Dambana ng Kagitingan atop Mt Samat. And along the way also, the pakwan, the smoked fish, were not able to escape the scouring eyes of our OAOs.

The visit was indeed a very exciting experience. We were assured by our host that his invitation is always open to all Masikaps who may want to visit him. Thank you very much Mistah Dan and Marilyn.

Our Class is already a SEC-registered organization. After more than a year applying for that registration, we were finally issued the certificate on May 16, 2018. With this



certification, our organization can now legally transact business aimed at benefiting our members.

**BIRTHDAY CELEBRATORS:**

**For the month of May**

- 1. Danilo Empedrad - 2
- 2. +Jolpatta Idris - 3
- 3. +Vic Riblora - 7
- 4. Manuel Dahan - 9
- 5. Cidih Gadjali - 20
- 6. Danny Desuasido - 22
- 7. +Alex Tan - 24
- 8. Lim Kah Kee - 26
- 9. Percy Padla - 26
- 10. Ding Terte - 30

**For the month of June**

- 1. +Renato Cruz - 1
- 2. Chito Mangubat - 2
- 3. Zards Serapio - 13
- 4. +Jesse Seblario - 19



- 5. Johnny Corcha - 21
- 6. Sunny Pequiras - 21
- 7. Gani Cuevas - 27

**Happy birthday to the celebrators!  
God bless**



The eagles soar high up the sky to completely see what is up below the vast landscape. So soar the MATAPAT LOYAL EAGLES of PMA Class 1979 ever silently doing what graduates from the Philippine Military Academy after long years of dedicated, professional and patriotic service, in short - retired. Just like other PMA classes, the Matapat Loyal Eagles keep themselves not only physically and medically fit but also socially aware. Individually, everybody is family focused, majority enjoying grandchildren or jokingly called APOSTOLIC DUTY (in reality, having grandchildren is happy enjoyable hard duty). Everybody kept themselves active in their sports like golf, biking, trekking (walking) and believe or not, trying their hands in gastronomic adventures.

The Army Group of the Matapat Loyal Eagles chaired by Army Matapat Mark Supnet regularly meet at Kagitingan Golf Club once a month. They start with a round of golf and ends with gastronomic gathering hosted by members in round robin manner. One such gathering was hosted by Army Matapat Boygee Pangilinan in his residence. Attendees did not only discuss

the different foods and drinks prepared by the host but issues ranging from housekeeping, current events, cooking, gardening sports and most important of all spirituality and health. Army Matapat "Onell" Rafael Llano discussed extensively internal health and value of diet and correct life style. Next class call report will discuss how he can be considered expert on this matter. Another Army Matapat, Anthony Alcantara is so much a sport buff, he even ran the triathlon. Army Matapat City Councilor Romy Calizo is busy serving his constituents in Cagayan De Oro City equally and mutually supporting his wife who is a very respected Barangay Captain. Army Matapat Romeo Fajardo still hosts the weekly fun golf and fitness program of the class at his kingdom in Veteran's Golf Club. Army Matapat Roberto Morales is preparing to farm in Australia. The Army Matapat Group continuously reach out to its members.

On the other hand, the PNP Matapat Group remains solid and have their regular monthly group meeting at North Park inside SM Hyper Mart so that in the event the food servings are deemed short, PNP Matapat Treasurer and financial wizard Rommel Heredia can do a quick marketing. As part of the "keeping in touch" program of PMA Class 1979 and spearheaded by PNP Matapat Group Chaired by PNP Matapat Rey Lañada, the class forced PNP Matapat Frank Villaroman to host breakfast and meryenda at his cozy home in San Rafael, Bulacan. There was lots of updates

and frankly, PNP Matapat Frank Villaroman had a lot of stories to share but declared, he is doing a semi-sabatical to write his life story. That we fervently recommend to all members of Matapat Loyal Eagles PMA Class of 1979. Next target of these "keeping in touch" program of the class according to PNP Matapat Rey Lañada is PNP Matapat Arnold Revilla.

The flying PAF Mandirigma Matapat Group chaired by PAF Matapat Noelo Albano are still soaring high. They still have members actively involved in the flying industry. PAF Matapat Noelo Albano is still flying advance albeit commercial helicopters logging more flying hours. PAF Matapat Ricardo Banayat is at Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines as deputy director. PAF Matapat Anthony Villarete is connected with Ayala Air (Ayala owned air related business not so sure of the exact name-apologies mistah). PAF Matapat Eduardo Oban and Renato Sanchez are in cooperative world showing everybody in their modest company how to run things properly. PAF Matapat members are really upbeat in their multi-faceted activities individually. More flying reports next Class Call.

PN Matapat Group is chaired by the youngest member of PMA Matapat Loyal Eagles no other than PN Matapat Cholo Alano. And admittedly he is doing a good job as executive director of the Philippines Coast Watch program. Because of his so busy schedules, PN Matapat Group's administrator PN Matapat Rex Recomono keeps the group ship always ready to sail even in rough seas. Even with PN Matapat John John Apostol who now can be compared to stars in Pirates of the Caribbean is very upbeat being a good source for pure unprocessed honey and very good quality of rice. PN Matapat Ramon Liwag is a full blood song writer and music composer with two CD recorded under his arm pit-Oops! Under his belt. I like his song about drivers in the traffic and about mothers. PN Matapat Rex Recomono with PN Matapat Juan Dino are spearheading one of the socially oriented advocacy projects of the class initially dubbed - "ARMS TO FARMS!"

**For PMA MATAPAT LOYAL EAGLES PMA Class 1979, retirement does not end our Public Service!**



**NICANOR A BARTOLOME**  
President  
**JESUS V LOMEDA JR**  
Secretary

**Coming, Going; Typhoons in, Summer Out; Goodbye Amihan, Welcome Habagat**

**D**elfin L and Edwin T are in town. Del planned in with his family on May 21 and scheduled to fly back to LA on June 7. While in the country, they enjoyed the scenic spots in Palawan, Bohol, and Cebu. He will be back again in Feb 2019, hopefully in time for the homecoming. Edwin, on the other hand, silently entered the Philippine space on May 24 with Marianne and twin daughters Tricia and Vicky, both graduates of US Coastguard Academy. Hooray to Bungming Edwin

Our best wishes to Iking who after almost a year of therapy in Manila finally left for New York on May 19, stronger and a new man. Among those who visited Iking upon his arrival in September 2017 are Nick, Gil, Sammy, Jardí, and Paco, while those who sent him off on May 18 are Paco, Juni, Obols, Rainier, and Mie.

Did you know that Noel D joined the Alveo Ironman in Davao City on March 25 and finished easily his swimming event in the relay? Unfortunately, we did not have the chance to celebrate with him because he had to fly back to US immediately after his feat. Congrats mistah!

**Motorcycle squad.** Mie is slowly but surely putting up a squad of NMAX riders to rule the highways. From being solo, now he has Rainier for a buddy cruising mostly parts of Laguna and Quezon. Signing up are Emil and Obe, who are big bikers.

**Birthday fellowship.** The class was again treated with overflowing "boodles" during birthday celebrations. The March celebrators led by Nick, Ted, Herbert, and George held the fellowship at Gloria Maris Greenhills on May 3; the "April Boys" led by Larry & Joji on April 18 at



**Happy Birthday Papa Efren!**



**Dante @ 60 on April 12 at PA Clubhouse.**



**Birthday chant for Larry and Joji on 18 April.**



**Nick and George prepare to blow the candle on May 3.**

the Greenside Room, Villamor Golf Club; and the May group composed of Emil, Jardí, and Onay at the Gloria Maris on May 24.

proud parents: **Atty Justin Ordoyo** (Ces and Cheryl), **Atty Mark Reyes** (King and Ada), and **Atty Arman Joseph Guzman** (Manding and Ching).



**ARTURO G VIDAL**  
President  
**OSCAR P LOPEZ**  
Secretary

**S**ummer is almost over and everyone is shopping to have some reprieve from the scorching heat. Notwithstanding the ultra-high temperature, the Class proceeded with its Annual Summer Outing at the Thunderbird Resort and at the NAVFORNOL, in San Fernando, La Union last 5-6 May. The event was made possible by mistahs who are based in that part of the North. Cav Joel Caringal made arrangements with TB resorts for a round of golf for 15 Dimalupigs and

provided snacks to the players. The most talked about golfer is none other than Cav Mon Jueves, who was able to complete 18 holes, after a long absence from the fairways. Calling all other 'absentee' golfers, MonJ is waiting for your return. Surprisingly, our Class A golfer scored above the century mark. Everyone was wondering why 'Tiger' Boogie de Vera had a bad day. Some suspected that he has not yet received his regular dose of vitamins from Gabby. Better luck next time, bok.

While the Dimalupigs were busy playing golf, the Manlulupigs went sightseeing farther North, ably escorted by Cav Nap Estilles. They had their sumptuous lunch at a floating restaurant and thereafter went shopping at local shops for blankets and goodies.

The fellowship dinner was held at the





**ELMER R SORIA**  
President  
**PHILIP S FORTUN**  
Secretary

Multi-purpose hall of NAVFORNOL, hosted by mistahs Jojo Cerezo, Edwin Carbonell, Ric Mendoza, Joel Caringal, Charles Calima and Philip Cacayan. Food and drinks were overflowing, and entertainment was provided by Navy personnel. Baguio-based mistahs, George Demot, Gil Nacino and Yerson Depayso, were present. The man from Subic, Arnold Baccay, also came.

After dinner, the winners of the impromptu golf tournament were awarded. As usual, the Individual Champion was Cav Beloy Gador, and was awarded a Commemorative Peso Note from Edwin C, who incidentally works in Bangko Sentral. The Team Champion award went to the group of Beloy G, Oca L, Mon J and Alan L. Later in the evening, the Dimalupigs again displayed their hidden talents in singing. Of course, not to be outdone, the Manlulupigs also showed their singing prowess. Before the night ended, our hosts gave each family take-home gifts (products of the North). Agyamanak apo!

The Class also celebrated in advance the birthday of Cav Alan Luga and Philip

Cacayan (12 May and 24 May, respectively). Both joined the prestigious Seniors group. The next day was allotted to swimming in the beaches of San Fernando and buying some pasalubong. In behalf of those who joined the Summer activity, we would like to thank those who sponsored, coordinated and made possible the successful conduct of the activity. Sana ay huwag kayo magsawa. Tapos na yung sa North, sa Central ba o sa South naman?

On a more serious note, it is with heavy heart that we announce here the untimely demise of our mistah, Benzar Patron, who died in Las Vegas due to a lingering illness. To the family of the late Benzar, the Class expresses its condolences and prayers. Likewise, we pray for the early recovery of another mistah Cav Manny Barcena, who recently has some issues regarding his health. Pagaling ka agad mistah, at namimiss na namin ang presence at mga words of wisdom ni Master Barsoy.

Again, to everyone, let us all stay safe and healthy. God bless!

**H**ello, Sandigans! It has been a while since we last bolahized here. Nowadays, we are constantly bombarded by fake news. Thus, it behooves us to be personally responsible for ferreting out the truth from the false lest we be like confused plebes miscoordinated in reciting the incoming menu. Kunsabagay, even then, may fake news na. We just had another name for it then: balitang sink.

Well, even if the last Sandigan, in the person of Frank U., bowed out of the service last year yet, the Class, true to its name, would not go quietly into the night as it had been busy with community-relevant projects and activities. And these are not balitang sink. Kudos to our indefatigable class officers led by top boss man Don Robert "Pai" Yap, who recently turned over the baton to another equally worthy Sandigan from the first squad of first platoon, Elmer Soria.

So far, worth reporting here of the Class' most recent activities include:

A. The celebration of the Class' 36th year as graduates of our beloved PMA last 28 March 2018. It was a simple but meaningful celebration preceded by a Thanksgiving Mass at the St. Ignatius Chapel and followed by a breakfast fellowship at the AFP Theater where a very well-deserved Plaque of Recognition was given to Cav Robert Yap for his exemplary performance as Chairman, BOT and President, PSAI for the period 24 Feb 2017 to 24 Feb 2018 by Cav Elmer Soria, current President, PSAI. This was immediately followed by a Fun Golf at the fairways of Camp Aguinaldo for the Sandigan Golfers.

B. Last 10 April 2018, with fervors still burning in the hearts of the once plebos, the Class celebrated its 40th year since passing through the crucible of Reception Day rites, most fittingly through a Fun Golf with our firsties, the Matapat Class of 1979, who first molded us from the care-free teen-agers we once were into the spartan ways of plebe life in the beast barracks of circa 1978. This was followed by tree planting at Hole No. 10 of the Veterans Golf Course of VMMC or Veterans Memorial Medical Center. As this was the first time that we whacked our Firsties by







convincingly winning the Dual Meet and capturing the Championship Trophy over our once mentors and tormentors, the Matapats vowed to win the 2nd Leg of the Dual Meet scheduled on 25 June 2018. So as not to be “voucherized” and be “boodlefought” after Second Taps, a really hearty boodle fight lunch and short program with raffle draws for dessert followed. Awards in kind were given to individual winners in the Dual Meet, which was then capped by our Class giving souvenir tokens of appreciation to each of our still strong and very brave immaculate firsties who made the day more meaningful by sharing their precious time and presence with us.

C. The PMA Sandigan '82 Association, Inc. (PSAI) undertook, as one of its project, the renovation of a private room in Ward 11 of the VMMC, envisioning it to be at par with other private/exclusive hospitals. Apart from being a gesture of the Class to honor our veterans through this noble project, this is to also encourage other classes to help VMMC in upgrading its facilities for the benefit of the veterans and their dependents. At a project cost of P450,000.00, we are just about through and now are awaiting the formal turn-over of the project this June 2018. Though we would want as much as possible to avoid being its occupant, reality dictates that it is still more prudent to

prepare such for future use of Sandigans and their families when the time comes that we would have to avail of any medical services at VMMC. Of course, to avail of such services, we need to have our VMMC IDs. Thus, all Sandigans are encouraged to get their VMMC ID asap. Requirements needed are our Retirement Order and 2X2 picture. For now, we still accept voluntary cash and material donations needed to transform said room into somethings at par with other exclusive hospitals. In case there would be excess in the amount of cash donations, it will be allocated for other requirements. Meanwhile, for any clarification, you may keep in touch with our very capable project officers, namely: Jeff D., Jess M., Elmer S. or Bert Y.

Before we close, we would like to happily announce the appointment of our poging-poging mistah, Alexander S. Lopez as a newly-minted Undersecretary of the Department of Energy. As of this writing, his formal appointment has not yet come out but it would have something to do with energy security and safety concerns. Congratulations, mate! Dalawa na kayo ni USec Eduardo B. Gongona of the Department of Agriculture and concurrent National Director, Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources diyan! We are proud of you both! Keep it up! Hindi kami failure sa inyo!—jimmonta82--



*“True leaders don’t create followers...  
They create more leaders!”  
— J. Sakiya Sandifier —*

We would also like to congratulate our mistahs for their promotions and designations: Charlie Galvez - 50<sup>th</sup> CSAFP to General; Gino Hermogino - Commandant, Philippine Coast Guard to Admiral; and Rolly Felix - DIPO, Visayas to Police Director. The following were the latest designations: Arnel Dela Vega - Commander, WESTMINCOM; Jun Mendoza as AJ2, AFP and Ely Losanes as ADC, 8ID. By the way, Charlie and Mariz Galvez also hosted a Thanksgiving Dinner for the class at the Gazebo, CSAFP Official Residence (White House), Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City last 18 May 2018.

On the other hand, the class would like to again extend our deepest condolence to Blessie and her children for the untimely demise of our beloved mistah, Boyet Balagtas. Same condolence is also extended to Eric and Tweetums Parayno with their other sons for their departed eldest son, RR. We earnestly are praying for the eternal repose of the souls of Boyet and RR!

**For the Sandiwan Updates:**

**PA Group:** Charlie Galvez-CSAFP; Rolly Bautista-CG, PA; Bob Arevalo-Vice Commander, PA; Chad Isleta-CS, PA; Gener Del Rosario-TIG, PA; Joey Reyes-Cmdr, ASCOM with Byron Calimag-Deputy Cmdr; and Roy De Vesa-Cmdr, HHSG; Jack Bareng-ADC, 1ID; Eric Parayno-Cmdr, 2ID; Dinoh Dolina-Cmdr, 3ID with Jonks Delfin-ADC; Ronnie Villanueva-Cmdr, 4ID; Tommy Donato-ADC, 6ID; Raul Farnacio-Cmdr, 8ID with Ely Losanes-ADC; Jess Manangquil-Cmdr, 9ID with Arnie Matanguihan-ADC; Noel Clement-Cmdr, 10ID with Mario Lacurom-ADC; and Filip Bejar-Cmdr, 51<sup>st</sup> EBde; Larry Casis-Cmdr, 703<sup>rd</sup> Bde; Jonas Becios-4ID; and Mon Mamaril-Deputy Cmdr, TRADOC, PA.

Benjie Madrigal-Cmdr, EASTMINCOM; Danny Pamonag-Cmdr, SOLCOM; Arnel Dela Vega-Cmdr, WESTMINCOM; Joey Villanueva



is Dean of Academics, PMA; Ed Torrelavega- Cmdr, HSC, AFP; John Pulido- Cmdr, GHQ and HSC; Purisima-J3, AFP; Jun Mendoza-AJ8, AFP; and Ric Nepomuceno-Chief, AFPCC. By the way, Ronald Manahan of the Australian Army, as AFP Liaison Officer, is back in our country and he is currently busy in assisting to uplift the competencies of AFP personnel.

Those who had retired were Cesar Idio, Raul Bautista, Vic Tomas, Boni Cebrian, Amor Agpalo, Armingol De Guzman, Rodel Alarcon, Mel Feliciano, Ric Santiago, Emil Hulipas, Jun Cabading, Tony Tayag, Chi-Chi Logronio, Alex Macario, Nonong Perfecto, Dave Diciano, Ted Dizon, Rey Lanuzo, Nick Alarcio, Mon Yogyog, Chito Limuaco, Rolie Cailing, Bolines Bolina, Alan Pajarillo, Tino Gonzales, Jorge Lomboy, Ed Clerigo, Oca Solamo, Louie Binwag, Jess Dosado, Jayvee Javier, Boboy Pabayo, Dax Daquipil, Bong Aguinaldo, Reuel Sorilla, Ed Davalan, Vic Bayani, Mon Mayo, Julius Flores, Bernie Fabula and Jun Bisnar.

**For the PAF:** Jun Kintanar-CG, PAF; Tj Tanjuan-VC, PAF; Arnold Mancita- Cmdr, AETDC; Enry Reyes- Cmdr, Air Defense Command, who will retire on 06 July 2018; and Resty Padilla-J5, AFP.

Those who retired were Miles Milo, Ronnie Go, Tom Bustos, Bher Lambot, Aureo Sapo, Ernie Fonbuena, Ric Milan, Sai Espino, Art Apud and Resty Baclayan.

**For the PN:** Manny Salamat- Cmdr, NOLCOM; Boy Vingson-TDCS, AFP, who will retire on 30 June 2018; Elvin Velasco-J8, AFP; Jande Francisco-J6, AFP; and Gino Hermogino- Cmdt, PCG.

Those who retired were Mon Ochoco, Virme Torralba, Jorge Amba, Max Ballesteros, Raul Ubando, Pi Pernes, Rudy Quinto and Elson Aguilar.

**For the PNP:** Mon Apolinario-The Deputy Chief PNP for Administration. Director, Directorial Staff: Greg Pimentel-TD for Intel; Atty. Jun Garado-TD for PCR; Benjie Lusad-DIPO, Southern Luzon; Rolly Felix-Dir, DIPO Visayas.

Regional Directors: Bob Quenery-PRO7; Billy Beltran-PRO9; and Manny Gaerlan-PRO11. Directors NSUs: Sonny Phillipps-HSS; Dennis Siervo-HRAO. DRDAs are Rolly Nana-NCRPO and Frank Mabanag-PRO7.

Deputy Director, Directorial Staff: Benjie Hulipas-DIPO, NL; Marlou Chan-DIPO, SL; Bart Tobias-DIPO, Visayas; Danny Macatlang-DIPO, WM; Eric Velasquez-DPCR; Eric Reyes-DIDM; Reggie Catiis-DHRDD; Arnold Gunnacao-DPL; Jon Ablang-DRD; Wilben Mayor-DO. Ed Tinio- OCPNP; and Arnie Palomo-Force Cmdr, RMF11.

Business, Industry, Retirees, Commerce and Government: Sheldon Jacaban-PAL; Conrad Capa-BOD PCA and Director

for Security and Safety, Resorts World; Wilson Caubat-Executive Assistant, EMME Security Group, Ortigas; Pete Cabatingan-Director, PNCC; Aaron Aquino-Director General, PDEA; Joji Castro-Business Partner, Palawan Express Pera Padala; Tods Ebon-Chairman, Board of Director, PRO6 Development Cooperative, Camp Delgado, Iloilo; Manny Velasco-Executive Assistant, Office of the Mayor, Alaminos City; Alex Roldan-Lecturer/Professor, PNP Training Center and Security Consultant, Matapat Pilipino Security Agency; Pete Obaldo-Resort Manager, La Union; Boyet Javier-Lawyering, Nueva Ecija; Ted Quiano-Chief of Staff, PCSO.

Enjoying their Retirement: Tony Taylan; Pete Guibong-Ifugao; Mon De Guzman-NCR; Bernie Reamon-Pangasinan; Vert Chavez-HRAO SME; Rene Gumban-Iloilo; Ric Zapata-Nueva Ecija; Lito Santos-Cagayan; Edwin Nemenzo-NCR; and Elmer Beltejar-Nueva Vizcaya.

Those PNP mistahs abroad: Rommel Palis-IT for CONED, New York City, New York, USA; Fred Siwa-Los Angeles, California, USA; Dennis Cacanindin-Winnepeg, Manitoba, Canada; and Leo Espia-Homeland Security, Safety & Investigation, Guam.

Finally, all Sandiwans can send their updates to **Mon Mamaril @ 0917-728-1985 or e-mail at filemonagile44@yahoo.com.** (FDMJr/AAM/JAMJr/RCA)



## SINAGTALANS AT THE HELM

Thomas Hobbes, a great philosopher and considered as one of the founders of modern political philosophy, once said, *"No man can have in his mind a conception of the future for it is not yet. But, from our own conceptions of the past, we make a future."*

Mistahs, now is the future that we have envisioned when we were still cadets. As if the Noble Cataline and the whole universe conspired to grant us our aspirations in life, I can categorically say that we are now at the pinnacle of our respective careers and that most of us are already at the helm of the leadership and management of the key positions in the AFP and the PNP.

Year 2018 marks the beginning of a lasting legacy for our class as heralded by a lot of mistahs occupying various significant posts in the police and the military services. First and foremost, PDG Oscar "Oca" D Albayalde now stewards our national police after PDG Ronald M "Bato" Dela Rosa's stint. For everybody's info, this is a historical breakthrough since this is the first time that the PNP had two Chiefs (outgoing and incoming) belonging to the same class. Ronald, meanwhile, is given the prime responsibility to handle the Bureau of Corrections to clean up the national penitentiary of illegal drugs and nefarious activities. While in the AFP, Vice Admiral Robert A Empedrad is in charge of the Philippine Seas as the FOIC of the Philippine Navy while MGen Alvin A Parreño heads the few, the proud, the Philippine Marines (*hoorah!*). LtGen Rozzano D Briguez, on the other hand, is the Commander of the Western Command in charge in combating Terrorism and Insurgency in the islands of Palawan and Kalayaan, including the

disputed Spratly Islands group.

Presently, the following is the list of other mistahs assigned to various key positions in the PNP and the AFP:

### In the PNP

**THE COMMAND GROUP** – PDDG Fernando H Mendez Jr, TDCO and PDDG Archie F Francisco Gamboa, TCDS.

**THE DIRECTORIAL STAFF**– PDir Edwin C Roque, TDPL; PDir Jose Maria Victor DF Ramos, TDJ; PDir Ramon O Purugganan, TDC; PCSupt Lyndon G Cubos, TDPRM; and PCSupt Eliseo T Rasco Deputy Director, DIPO-EM.

**THE NATIONAL SUPPORT UNITS**- PCSupt Noel A Barraceros, C,CPSM; PCSupt Marlon MDR Ganzon, D,FS; PCSupt Elpidio DS Gabriel, D,TS; PCSupt Renato C Angara, D,ITMS; PCSupt Rafael P Santiago Jr., D,PRBS; and PDir Roel B Obusan, D,CIDG with PCSupt Edmund A Gonzales as his Deputy Director.



Former Chief, PNP Director General Ronald M Dela Rosa relinquished command of the PNP to PDir Oscar D Albayalde during the Change of Command Ceremony in Camp Crame, Quezon City on April 19, 2018.

**POLICE REGIONAL OFFICES**— PDir Camilo Pancratius P Cascolan, RD,NCRPO; PCSupt Jose Mario M Espino, RD,PRO2; PCSupt Amor V Corpus, RD,PRO3; PCSupt Antonio N Gardiola Jr, RD,PRO5; PCSupt Timoteo G Pacleb, RD,PRO 10; PCSupt Noli A Romana, RD,PRO13; PCSupt Edward E Carranza, RD,PROCOR; and PCSupt Reynaldo G Biay, DD,EPD.

**In the AFP**

**GHQ, AFP**- MGen Arnel M Duco, J1; MGen Rene Glen O Paje, J7; RAdm Samuel Z. Felix, J9; MGen Macairog S Alberto, Chief, ISAFP; MGen Rizaldo B Limoso, Chief, OFM; MGen Bienvenido R Datuin, Commander, CRS; BGen Rolando S Acop, AJ2; BGen Dante M Hidalgo, C,REO; BGen Milfredo M Melegrito, Deputy Commander, NOLCOM; BGen Jose Ely D Alberto, Deputy Commander, CentCom; and BGen Joselito R Serrano, Quarter Master General.

**ARMY** - MGen Ronnie S Evangelista, Commander, SOCOM; MGen Felimon T Santos Jr, Commander, 7ID; MGen Gilbert I Gapay, Commander, MID; MGen Roseller G Murillo, Commander, 1ID; MGen Perfecto M Rimando Jr, Commander, 5ID; BGen Arnold F Fernandez, Commander, 54<sup>th</sup> EB; BGen Glorivine R Dida, ADC, 2ID; BGen Felicisimo C Budiongan, ADC, MID; BGen Lenard T Agustin, ADC 7ID; BGen Bismarck D Soliba, Commander, 1MIB, MID; BGen Dionisio C Baudin Jr, Commander, 52<sup>nd</sup> EB; BGen Alden Juan C Masagca, ADC, 5ID; BGen Reynaldo M Aquino, Deputy Commander, SOC; Col Pablo M Lorenzo, SMASND; Col Elias H Escarcha, Commander, 201<sup>st</sup> IB; and Col Alfredo A Soriano, IA.

**NAVY**- RAdm Gaudencio C Collado Jr, Vice Commander, PN; RAdm Rene V Medina, Commander, NF-WesMin; RAdm Danilo R Rodelas, Commander, Philippine Fleet; RAdm Allan Ferdinand V Cusi, Commander, NETC; and BGen Arthur M Biyo, Commander, NRC.

**AIRFORCE**- MGen Antonio Ramon A Lim, Chief of Air Staff.

• **BIRTHDAY GREETINGS**

Happy natal day to the following celebrators for the month of May and June:

John Rex C Palma, PA	May 6
Glenn R Flores, PA	May 11
Belflor B Causing, PA	May 14
Archimedes H Viaje, PA	May 14
Dionisio C Baudin, PA	May 19
Dante M Hidalgo, PN	May 18
Magno G Adalin Jr, PA	May 20
Rafael T Santiago Jr, PNP	May 20
Valentine T Hizon, PN	May 21
Ronnie S Evangelista, PA	May 23
Alexander Philip C Anicete, PN	May 26
Jose Ely P Alberto, PA	May 27
Rene V Medina, PN	May 30
Jose Harry M Barber, PAF	June 4
Alexander G Rafael, PNP	June 5
Alden C Masagca, PA	June 7
Emmanuel Anthony V Ramos, PA	June 13
Jose Rizaldy S Matito, PA	June 19
Rizaldo B Limoso, PA	June 20
Eleuterio N Gutierrez Jr, PNP	June 21
Vicente Mauro G Batac, PA	June 28
Pedrito P Alban, PA	June 29



Troop Commander and Staff and the Battalion Commanders who are all Sinagtalans troop the line together with other Mistahs during the PNP Change of Command.





**ALBERT A MOGOL**  
President  
**SERGIO S SARNO**  
Secretary

Where to but to “stardom”!!

**PROMOTIONS TO STAR RANK AND CONFIRMATION:** On different times and dates, there were newly promoted mistahs which were subsequently confirmed by the Congress’ Commission on Appointments amidst the cheers and joy of Hinirang members and most specially of the promotees’ respective family members and they are RAdm Erick A Kagaoan (PN Chief of Naval Staff) and MGen Fer “Trining” Trinidad of JR (btw, he just celebrated his birthday punctuated by a “surprise” party held in ISAFP ☺) and the two Army Brigade Commanders - BGen Henry A Robinson (Commander – 702<sup>nd</sup> IB) and Bert Ancan (1002IB).

Watta way to go, mga Manongs! GO! GO! GO! And add pa-more!

**ASSUMPTION OF COMMAND:** Last May 26, 2018, one of our Medal of Valor awardees - Brig. Gen. Cirilito Sobejana, fondly called “SJ” was installed as the new Commander of 6th Infantry “Kampilan” Division, Philippine Army during the Change of Command ceremony held in Camp Gonzalo Siongco, Awang, Datu Odin Sinsuat, Maguindanao replacing LtGen Arnel dela Vega who was reassigned to another AFP major unit. He is the first among the Hinirang Army to be a division commander and certainly, we will have other Army Hinirangs to follow! The erstwhile PSG Commander – BGen Louie Dagoy has assumed as Brigade Commander of the 802<sup>nd</sup> Brigade based in Leyte. In the Navy, Manong Rey T Dela Cruz is now commanding the Littoral Combat Force, Philippine Fleet and stars are coming soon! In the PNP front, CSupt Guillor Eleazar has assumed command of the NCRPO becoming the first among the Hinirang PNP to occupy a 2-star major command. Additional Manongs designated recently are CSupt Debold Sinas as OIC PRO7 and CSupt Bong Fajardo as AD, HPG.

**NEW DESIGNATION:** At the NHQ, PNP - Director Mao Aplasca was earlier designated as Chief – Directorate for Operations (DO). With the recent reorganization in the PNP, the following another Hinirangs were designated: CSupt Cesar Binag as Acting



Director (AD) for DITCM and CSupt Rey Lawas as deputy to Dir Mao Aplasca. At the NCRPO, CSupt Jigs Coronels as Deputy for Admin and CSupt Arnel Escobal as for Operations. CSupt John Luglug was designated as DDA- CIDG and CSupt Allan Cuevillas as Deputy – DPRM. From the Navy: Commodore Sean Anthony U Villa became the Asst DCS for Operations (J3) while Commodore Jun Burgonio as Deputy Commander, Philippine Fleet.

**CLASS BONDING:** One balmy Friday evening - May 18, 2018, hubbies and wives bonded together to celebrate the birthdays of our ladies born from January to May and Manong Erick K was gracious enough to provide the venue and some music while the Ladies prepared for the party itself – catering, venue set-up et al. Hinirang and ladies danced, sung and partied ‘til almost midnight at the Philippine Navy Officers’ Club. Really, that was a good time to further foster camaraderie and friendship among the Hinirangs and our families as well.

**ON RETIREMENT:** A quote from a great statesman – Pres Abraham Lincoln: *“And in the end, it’s not the number of years in your life that count but, the life in your years!”*

To our uniformed retirees: “a million and more thanks for a thankless job you did serving the country and her people

with dedication and passion coupled with personal sacrifices!”

From the AFP: Last Jan 28, the Navy has retired Commo Albert Mogol of the Fleet Marine Ready Force fame. In the Army, our mistahs who have hang up their uniform for good: our cadet band bassist Col Henry Dar last 31 March; Col Jimmy Hidalgo last 25 Apr; Col Sagat Bongolan 04 June and immediately following him next day is Col Ely Galam. From the Air Force – Col Boyet Sotelo retired last 29 Mar and is now the Assistant GM of the Villamor Golf Club.

In the PNP, 07 May – Director Rene O Aspera who left DPRM with innovations; 24 Feb – CSupt Lye P Carabbacan of the Police Women and Children Protection Office; 08 May - CSupt Jake A Briones of PRO12 as Deputy for Admin!

Manong Al Bernardo has also retired in his corporate stint with the TAO Group of companies and he’s busy attending to family owned cake and other confectionary shop in Eastwood and a resto. Pls visit him in the following areas - at Jcuppacakes Citywalk in Eastwood City, Libis QC. (near Seafood Islands and TGI Friday’s) and another in Jazz Mall ground floor, Jupiter St. corner N Garcia St., Bel-Air, Makati.

**HEALTH & WELLNESS CORNER:** Welcome back to “full-duty status” BGen Peter



Suchiangco AFP (Res) as he is now able to walk, though with a cane, as he is recovering from an injury suffered from parachute jump. Other Hinirangs who have been health challenged continue to recover and with God's grace should be ready to "rock and roll" with a bang!

SOME UPDATES: Our mistahs in the US Navy

- Cdr Rhyss Hizon continue to be a "force to reckon with" in the Navy Expeditionary Warfighting Development Center, N4 in Virginia Beach, VA. Another mistah in the same navy – LCdr Manny Refugia USN (ret) has just joined the ranks of those enjoying a retired life! He is very much single and looking for a lady to mingle with☺

Til next updates on the Hinirangs! Ciao!!



**FIDEL CRUZ**  
Chairman  
**JB RAMOS**  
President

It is really hard to doze when you are constantly and vigorously being followed up by no less than the Editor-in-Chief, Boyet Burgos.

Congratulations! Your Editor's Note where you quoted a plebe knowledge that says "young blood shall come to carry on when the old strong hearts are gone" was manifested when the young Lieutenant Cedric Burgos, the first Maringal brat, carried our flag during the recent Alumni Parade.

### Army Maringal

The Philippine Army has four latest additions to its list of star rank officers. These newly minted Generals are BGen Gene Ponio, BGen Andy Centino, BGen Jun Perez and BGen Monico Batle. BGen Ponio and BGen Centino are both Brigade Commanders in Mindanao. BGen Jun Perez is presently the Chief, OSSSM of the AFP at GHQ while BGen Batle is the newly installed Deputy Commander of SOLCOM. On recent movements, BGen Pio Diñoso has already assumed the position of Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics J4 of the AFP. He is the first Army Maringal to occupy a two-star position. It's just only a matter of time before he will be promoted to Major General. On the other hand, Col Gilbert Saret has just been recently appointed as Brigade Commander of 1001st of 10ID, PA while Col Cesar De Mesa has assumed as Chief, Peace and Development Office of the AFP. Col De Mesa and Col Saret, along with many other Army Maringals who are presently occupying 07 positions are just awaiting orders for their promotion to Brigadier General.

### Air Force Maringal

Big Boy Buena, Deputy AFPREO; CJ Cartujano, Asst. Superintendent; Fidel Cruz, WC, TOWNOL, Vangie Evangelista, US-based; Jhune Felix, WC, TOWCEN; Erick Gloria, WC, 205th HW; Allen Paredes, WC, 250th PAW; JB Ramos, Asst. J-4; and Toinks Valenzuela eventually transferred barracks but not from Sangley to Lumbia, CDO but to Zamboanga as Deputy TOC.

### Navy Maringal

#### 1. White Caps

Adel Bordado- Cmdr Naval Forces Southern Luzon  
Abet Cruz- The Naval Internal Auditor  
Ramil Enriquez- Cmdr Naval Forces Eastern Mindanao  
Melvin Guevarra- assigned ISAFP  
Zoji Jimenez- Dep Cmdr AFP Reserve Command  
Jess Portiz- asst DAFA Washington DC USA

#### 2. Marines

Nesty Herico- Executive Officer, OJ2 GHQ  
Fernando Gomez- Dep Cmdr for Marines Opns, Fleet-Marine Ready Force  
Ferdie Fraginal- Dep Cmdr, 2nd Marine Brigade  
Eugene Martinez- Instructor, AFP Education, Training and Doctrine Command

#### 3. Coast Guard

Lito Dela Cruz- Commander, Maritime Security Command  
Leo Laroya- Commander, Coast Guard Education and Training Command

#### 4. Corps of Professor

Ferdie Rivera - Assistant Dean, Corps of Professors

### 5. BIRC

Jun Abaya  
Dondi Adizas  
Resty Bilbao  
Dave Isaac  
Jun Jayme -(USA)  
Bon Lobaton-(USA)  
Dado Macasaet -(USA)  
Jun Mejia -(Sweden)  
Mon Mon Mitra  
Sivert Monterola  
Ley Ordenes  
Rey Pagonzaga  
Erdi Panlaque-(USA)  
Ruel Tolin -(USA)

### Police Maringal

Organized the Associate Members sub-Chapter of the Police Maringals Association Incorporated; having organized its Fraternal sub-Chapter formally during its 25th year graduation celebration. The Associate Members are those who were with the class on April 1984 or those who joined it thereafter, but, have since moved to other fields of endeavor and yet still carry the Maringal spirit with them wherever they may be found. They had their Ring Ceremony as part of their formal acceptance to the association last April 17, 2018 at the Rizal Room of the Quezon City Sports Club. At this point, we have accounted for more or less 70 Associate Members.

**New Designations:** Lito Daniel as Ex-O, DIPO-Visayas; Papay Alcaneses as Ex-O, DIPO Southern Luzon; Ono Daway as DRDA, PRO1; Ferdie Divina as Ex-O, DI; John Bulalacao as RD PRO6; RJ Hinanay as Dir, Crime Laboratory; Bong Durana as Chief, PIO.

PMAL was designated by the Maringal Motherboard as the lead TWG for the June 23 Incorporation Day Commemoration to be held in Fort Del Pilar, Baguio City. Once more, the event organizing company owned by Fraternal Member Maringal Mike Del Carmen and the Production Company of Fraternal Member Kuya Daniel Razon are helping put up a grand show as how they did it during the 30th Homecoming Anniversary of the Class.

It's worth mentioning again that a Maringal is now the Editor-in-Chief of the Cavalier Magazine even as a Maringal was the immediate past president of the PMAAAI in the person of Maringal Bong Leuterio. They continue to serve the association in the best Maringal tradition.





**CHARLTON SEAN M GAERLAN**  
President  
**CRESCENCIANO A MARQUEZ III**  
Secretary

**H**ello Makatao! Hope everybody is doing great. It seems the year 2018 will be our year as we are nearing our 30th graduation anniversary comes 2019. All are hoping that the coveted stars of our mistahs will be falling one by one as all Makatao's worked so hard in giving their fair share of honest and sincere service in making this nation great again.

Here are the latest updates of each Chapter:

#### For the PNP Chapter by Rex Dela Rosa

1. Uly Caton is no longer in HPG but was reassigned to PRO 12 as DRDA where he can finally get his star rank soon...or soonest;
2. Chiqui Malayo is no longer the Commander of CITF and reassigned as Ex-O, DHRDD where he will get his star hopefully before his Birthday by October;
3. Jun Azurin is still with DPRM no longer as SOPPD in-charge in facilitating the qualified senior officers to become star rank. He himself was given a break by the decision makers to qualify him for promotion as Ex-O of DPRM. He still needs to push other mistahs who are equally if not more qualified than the others;
4. Val De Leon of course is still Chief FEO, CSG but expected to move up to a higher position to assume bigger responsibility;
5. Rhodel Sermonia is still Director, PCRG and also hoping he will be going up too so that Bart can assume as Director and be promoted to continue the projects of PCRG;
6. Bert Ferro is still Director, PDEG but anytime a higher position is awaiting him also;
7. Bert Solomon is moving to another highly intellectual assignment as Ex-O, DICTM after doing a splendid exploits as Director, IG;
8. Jess Cambay is the man to watch, aside from being DRDO of PRO 6, he is also Commander of TF Boracay. Opportunity to shine awaits our Jesus, considering that as the youngest Cavalier of Team Boracay (Cav Cimat 70, Cav Ano 83, CPNP 86, RD PRO 6 87 now 88) in the rehabilitation of Boracay, our Jesus is expected to operationalize the plan of senior cavaliers so that Boracay will be world class tourist destination. The soonest Boracay will open, the soonest the stars will fall..Go Go Go...;

9. Uly Gohel is still in AKG as DDA but ready to assume any star rank position if given the chance. He has worked so hard and very much qualified already;
10. Jojo Acierto will soon be given another position. His qualification is long overdue already, hope our Boss will give him the break needed. He can contribute a lot in the PNP;
11. Bart Bustamante is still Deputy, PCRG but can assume any star rank position anytime. He is a well rounded officer ready to take any assignment as Commander, Chief, Director or Ex-O position...given the chance he will also shine;
12. Rex Dela Rosa our PNP Class President, is the Director "in waiting" of PRBS when his Boss becomes RD or Director...patience..patience..mistah..ikaw na yan!;
13. Jireh Fidel is still with SIDD, DIDM ready to be Ex-O, DIDM anytime. He is well versed and well prepared to assume the post anytime also;
14. Manny Abu, the last of the Mohicans of our 3 SAF Troopers (Mon T; Bert S) is ready also anytime to assume as Deputy SAF. But Uly Gohel is equally qualified too;
15. Sterling Blanco is still DRDO, PROCOR and the DRDA of that Regional Office Cordillera is "HIS" to keep. He served 4 RD's and hopefully before a 5th RD, DRDA na siya. He needs to be there because he will take charge in the preparation of our 30th Graduation Anniversary in PMA;
16. Mario Sinocruz is in PRO2, yun lang alam ko so far;
17. Erwin Robles as usual busy with his business/es but he is just one text away and always find time to monitor the on-goings in our viber group;
18. Manny Chu is still in Florida;
19. Kuya Ed Paras prefers to remain incognito as of the moment.. don't contact him..he will contact you...;
20. Hammy Geonzon is missing in action but might surprise everybody during our 30th; and lastly,
21. Jun Borromeo as Pastor of our class is in-charge in praying for the class to be blessed in so many ways and means.

#### For the PCG Chapter by Ed Fabricante

1. Rei Picar, our Class Marcher, has settled already with his new home at PCG and is busy attending to local and foreign presentors for Coast Guard's Strategic Development;
2. Ferds Velasco, our class 1st Starman, is

enjoying vacation while also tending on a new found business;

3. Ed Fabrics succeeded his bunkie Wiliam Isaga as the Chief of Staff of Coast Guard. He represents PCG in the PMAAAI Board of Directors and as newly elected Auditor to help President Jun Azurin in the Executive Board;
4. Butch Lobaton is likewise enjoying vacation, as well as busy conducting lectures on maritime security; and
5. JWU Isaga is the Boss of Coast Guard Weapons, Communications, Electronics, and Information System Service (CGWCEISS) based at Mandaluyong City.

#### For the Philippine Army Chapter by Leo Ramoran

1. Greg Almerol is Commander 903rd Infantry Brigade;
2. Adonis Bajao is Commader, TF Gensan;
3. Efen Baluyot is DBC, 1st Mechanized Brigade, MID, PA and Commander JTF Talakudong;
4. Rod Batang is Commander, 5th Regional Community Defense Group, Arescom;
5. Ric Bayhon is Defense and Armed Forces Attache' in Thailand;
6. Ramil Bitong is Commander, 803rd Infantry Brigade;
7. Omet Brawner is Assistant Division Commander of RRA, 1st ID/Dep Commander Joint Task Force Ranao;
8. Kid Desoyo is Commander of 303rd Infantry Brigade;
9. Leomar Doctolero is Commander, Markmanship Training Center, TRADOC;
10. Ariel Felicidadario is Commander of 102nd Infantry Brigade;
11. Bagnus Gaerlan is Deputy Commander 102nd Infantry Brigade;
12. William Gonzales is Commander, FSRR (do I need to spell that out?);
13. Kiram Grajo is Deputy Commander, HHSG, PA;
14. George Lalaquil is Deputy Commander 202nd Infantry Brigade;
15. Marvin Licudine just came back after his tour of duty in China;
16. Mau Licudine is Deputy Commander, 401st Infantry Brigade;
17. Camilo Ligayo is now the DBC, of 801st Infantry Brigade;
18. Alex Luna is Commander, 801st Infantry Brigade;
19. Eman Magpayo is Deputy Commander, 803rd Infantry Brigade;
20. Wibo Mamawag is Deputy Commander, 603rd Infantry Brigade;
21. Roger Migote is Attached HHSG, PA;
22. Joey Narciso is Inspector General, 6ID;
23. John Oberio is Inspector General, East Mincom;

24. Noel Plaza just arrived from his Japan posting;
25. Leo Ramoran is Chief, AFP Finance Center;
26. Joshua Santiago is Commander, NCR Regional Command Defense Group, ARESCOM;
27. Manny Sequitin is Chief of Staff, 10th ID;
28. Lincoln Tagle is Deputy Commander, Special Forces Reegiment (Airborne);
29. Lowell Tan is Deputy Commander 802nd Infantry Brigade;
30. Rowen Tolentino is Chief, Management ad Fiscal Office, PA;
31. Jun Torres is Commander 1003rd Infantry Brigade;
32. Juvyax Uy is Commander, 104th Infantry Brigade;
33. Leo Asuncion is a Business Magnate in Australia;
34. Kiko Baldazo is Senior Road Transport Manager, Phoenix Petroleum Phils.
35. Dante Barotilla after retiring this year is a farm magnate of Mindoro;
36. Alan Borlasa is in Southern California USA and will be arriving Philippines this June for a long overdue vacation. According to Alan, he is excited to see all mistahs to have a warm fellowship that is "priceless";
37. Ric Carlos is also a Businessman based in Australia;
38. Alan Cordova is stil in Negros Oriental as a politician;
39. Emil De Leon is somewhere in Canada;
40. Ace Esmeralda is Owner of Ace and Associates ready for expansion;
41. Bayani Fernandez is Infrastructure Division, Australian Defense Force;
42. Danny Olay is still Security Manager, DM, Consunji, Inc.;
43. Nick Pongos is still Flying the Planes of Lucio Tan of PAL;
44. Joie Raymundo is also incommunicado after he retired;
45. Jess Rosete is somewhere in Ontario, Canada;
46. Mon Tampil is busy going back and forth from Ireland to Japan...sana minsan Pilipinas din...; and
47. Mike Taningco is somewhere in the Visayas and also remains shy and silent.

### PN Chapter by Charles Gaerlan

**For the PN, there was not much changes except for Commodore Nick Driz who is now the Commander of the Naval Forces Northern Luzon and the promotion of Ariel Caculitan to Brigadier General. The following are still the same:**

1. Commodore Dorvin Legaspi is Deputy Commander, Western Command;
2. Commodore Jun Adaci is Commander, Fleet Marine Ready Force;

3. Commodore Abet Carlos is Deputy Commander, Naval Sea Systems Command;
4. Commodorable Chappy Reyes is Commander, CEISC;
5. Commodorable Reggie Rapanan is Deputy Commander, NETC;
6. Brigadier General Ariel Caculitan is Commander, Combat and Service Support Brigade;
7. Colonel Eugene Hernandez is Superintendent, Marine Corps Force Development Center;
8. Colonel Raul Caldez is Deputy Commander, Combat and Service Support Brigade;
9. Colonel Reuben Candelario is Special Service Officer, AFP;
10. Colonel Nestor Marcelino is Commander, CMOG;
11. Captain John Garana is Commanding Officer, Procurement Service, PN;
12. Colonel Charles Gaerlan is Marine Corps Inspector General; and
13. Colonel Jun Unson is Assistant Head Academic Group, PMA.

### PAF Chapter by Toto Dela Pena

**The stars are slowly falling upon the shoulders of the Makatao Air Force Group as they continue to assume positions of command or are next in line:**

1. Toto Dela Pena newly assumed as WC, 15th Strike Wing based in Sangley Pt., Cavite City after his stint as WC, Tactical Operations Wing Western Mindanao, the air component of WESTMINCOM;
2. Nesty Rayos got his first star as WC, Tactical Operations Wing West (formerly, 570th Composite Tactical Wing), the air component of WESTCOM based in Puerto Princesa, Palawan;
3. Leo Peralta is awaiting his star as WC,

- 420th Supply Wing based in Air Force City, Clark Air Base, Pampanga;
4. Cris Marquez replaced Toto Dela Pena as WC, Tactical Operations Wing, Western Mindanao and is awaiting his star;
5. Connors Canlas is Wing Commander in waiting of the Tactical Operations Wing Northern Luzon based in Air Force City, Clark Air Base, Pampanga;
6. Guarding the oil fields of Palawan is Larry Tianchon, the Deputy Commander of the Joint Task Force Malampaya based in El Nido, Palawan; and
7. Aldrick Dela Torre is waiting to be recalled back by Air Force after his schooling in the US is the Chief of Staff, AFP, CGSC.

Fighting for national development in the helms of commercial aircraft and general aviation are:

8. Jerry Cabe is flying Bell 412s of Gulf Helicopters based in Libya;
9. Paul Mendoza after his stint with Cebu Pacific Air is currently based in Hongkong flying Airbus A330 with Hongkong Air Cargo Limited an affiliate of Hongkong Airlines with long haul flights to Europe, USA and part of Asia; and
10. Caloy Cristobal is at the cockpit of PAL airbus plying regional airways.

We continue to pray for our mistahs who have joined the Great Pilot in Command in the big blue yonder, Batanguenos Glenn Bihag and Ferd Macasaet; Nonoy Zuniga, Pek Sagun, Alan Flores, Ronald Baliota, Leonard Teodoro, Julius Refran, and Benjie Enriquez.

Mabuhay Makatao! /Charles Gaerlan/Jun S Azurin



To start off, we proudly congratulate our "Mistahs" who are newly promoted to the One Star Rank in the Armed Forces of the Philippines, Philippine National Police and the Philippine Coast Guard:

- BGen Fernyl G Buca, PAF;
- BGen Oliver R Artuz, PA;
- Commodore Allen T Toribio, PCG;

- Commodore Oscar C Endona Jr, PCG;
- Commodore Antonio C Palces, PN; and
- PCSupt Rolando B Anduyan, PNP.

A lot of our classmates are also in the queue as well to be downed with the star this year. Kudos to those in 07 positions and other Key Positions as well. Likewise, cheers to Amba Bruce Concepcion, the Ambassador for Transnational Crime and to all those enjoying their civilian careers.

Be updated also that the election of our Class officers took place last 17 February 2018 at the hallowed grounds of our Alma Mater, the Philippine Military Academy, Fort Del Pilar, Baguio City during the celebration





of the 2018 Alumni Homecoming. The newly elected officers were appropriately and officially installed as follows:

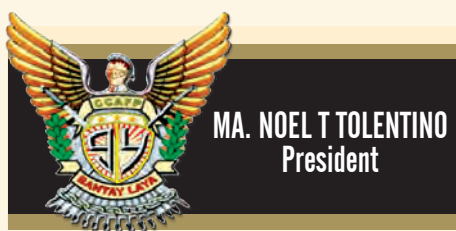
- President: Cristopher T Calulot Sr
- Vice-President: Oliver A Enmodias
- Secretary: Joel Alejandro S Nacnac
- Treasurer: Ricardo D Petrola
- Auditor: Elpidio B Talja Jr
- P.R.O.: Edgard A Arevalo
- Service Representatives:
  - PA- Roberto S Capulong
  - PN- Ricardo D Petrola
  - PAF- Elpidio B Talja Jr
  - PNP- Oliver A Enmodias

The officers without much hesitation executed the class first project for the CY 2018. A Class Golf Tournament was held last 25 April 2018 at the Philippine Navy Golf Course, Naval Station Jose Francisco, Taguig City. It is fitting to commend Col Noel D Beleran, the

General Manager of PN Golf Club and BNS Commander, for the overall success of the activity. The class is as well thankful for all the sponsors for the said event.

In the upcoming so-called 'Ber-months', we look forward to having a movie blocking and fun run. So please stay tuned! Be up-to-date by tuning-in to your mobile devices in our class social media net.

Let's get involved, get in touch and be active!



**M**abuhay sa mga mababangis na Bantay Laya! As promised listed below are the current assignments of Bantay Layans who are still with the Philippine Air Force and those who have left the service.

**AIR FORCE**

1. Kim Agatep Director, AFSSO, HPAF
2. Aldrin Annani Director for Operations, 250 PAW
3. Joseph Archog LNO, AFP
4. Felix Balanza C-3, ALC
5. Robert Bitas Commander, TOG 7

6. Onorlie Brillantes Commandant, PAFTSS
7. Myroade De Leon Incoming Commander, TOG8
8. Adriano Duadico Commanding Officer, PAFPMC
9. Henry Estoesta MA-3, PMA
10. Jack Genete Director for Operations, 710 SPOW
11. Johnson Grayda Director, OSS, HPAF
12. Edmon Gupit Chief MFO, HPAF
13. Joel Inacay Student Officer, NDU
14. Gene Menor AFPCGSC
15. Julius Nazi C-3, TOC
16. Acmad Omar Director for Operations, TOWEASTMIN
17. Richie Pabilonia Commander, TOG 11
18. Erwin Solomon Commander, TOG 10
19. Ryan Sonza Director for Operations, 520 ABW
20. Paulo Teodoro Commander, TOG Sanga-sanga

21. Nomer Tumesa Director for Operations, 205 THW
22. Ace Ventura Student Officer, Air War College

**BIRC**

23. Gallardo Ibarra - Instructor Pilot, PAL
24. Jhobert Ricalde - Instructor Pilot, PAL
25. Joseph Sempio - Instructor Pilot, PAL
26. Ulysses Tumpalan - Captain A320, PAL
27. Victor Villacorte - Captain A320, PAL
28. Wesley Saavedra - Captain A320, PAL
29. Wilbur Abadiano - Captain A320, PAL
30. Martin Sarsagat - Captain A320, PAL
31. Albert Manansala - Captain B777, PAL
32. Joselito de vela - FO B777, PAL
33. Noel Cadiz - FO A330, PAL
34. George Marzan - Captain, Cebu Pacific
35. Epifanio Gil - Captain, Cebu Pacific
36. Capt Emmanuel de Lima - Hong Kong Airlines Instructor/Checker
37. Capt Ernesto Parra - Pilot. Vietjet
38. Joe Eric Sibayan - Pilot, Pan Pacific Airlines
39. Jaime Peralta - Safety & Training Manager Ayala Aviation Corp
40. Jonahs Liwag - INAEC Aviation Corporation
41. Rey Panaguiton - Malaysia based pilot
42. Lito Dondonay - Pilot, Air Asia
43. Ferdinand delos Santos - Palawan based
44. Roland Monana - Manager, Iloilo Electric Cooperative
45. Jun Omar Herrera - Supply Tech, Northeast Arkansas Baptist Memorial Hospital
46. Simfranz Dauz - Operations and Planning, UN Mission for Haiti
47. Erwin Opeña - Chief Technician, West Nassau Dialysis Company, New York
48. Allan Alamban - Case Manager, Medical Center of Trinity Hospital Florida

**Unaccounted:**

49. Al-Bashir Jaji
50. Dominador Templa
51. Ariel Ariola
52. Joseph Andrew Cruz

Special thanks to Roger Luna for telling me that I failed to include those mistahs who were originally with the Philippine Navy and are now with the Corps of Professors. So here they are:

- Roger Luna - AFPEDTC
- Stephen Agtoto - AFPEDTC
- Kit Villacrusis - PMA
- Edwin Popa - PMA



For other updates, joining PMA Class 2022 are the daughters of Henry Estoesta, Mon Flores, Glenn Aynera and sons of Kim Agatep (second son) and Gary Panopio. These incoming plebes will be joining their upperclass brat mates in the CCAFP

Cadets Ventura, Brillantes, Gupit, Custodio and Bañez. Additionally, Jun Omar's son graduated with Class 2018 last February and Kim Agatep's other son is already a senior at the US Air Force Academy.

For our next issue we will be giving you

updates to our preparations for Homecoming 2019. So for your other concerns or matters you want disseminated in our next class call please don't hesitate to call my attention or send me an e-mail at tintoy94@yahoo.com. Mabuhay tayong lahat!



**RODERICK V GEMINO**  
President  
**RONALDO M MAMANGUN**  
Secretary

It's been 15 Years since we have graduated from our beloved alma mater. On that bright and sunny morning a decade and a half ago, we made our last pass-in-review as cadets and took our oath as new 2LTs/ Ensigns. Unfortunately, out of the 102 members of the snappiest class, nine of us had already made the ultimate sacrifice for the service: Juline Ross Yandog, Jan Rudolf Gonzaga, Apollo Carandang, Niel Harold Yee, Raymond De Leon, Omar Antepuesto, Jayrald Tamayo, Erick Bulatao and Fred Tapawan. Even though some have chosen to leave the active service, majority of the class are still kicking it out: 44 in the Army; 11 in the Navy; 22 in the Air Force and two in the Coast Guard.

The recent alumni homecoming is the best so far. The class triumphed after being declared as the CHAMPION of the basketball tournament. In addition, the class also grabbed the 3rd place in the golf tournament. The anniversary dinner with the VCPA as GOH was a very memorable one – the extravagant venue and sumptuous buffet were savoured by the members of the class and their spouses.



**Clash of the Classes Basketball Champion 2018.**

We commend everyone who has participated in the preparation for all activities. Special mention to our energetic and tireless previous officers headed by our former president, Mark (Ruby) who made sure that all activities were in order.

#### UPDATES:

To the snappy members of the class, Noel, Rey (Ma-ao), and Ferdie, congratulations! Your achievement of completing the foreign Command and Staff

Courses in South Korea, Bangladesh, and Australia, respectively, proved that our class excels in this field even outside our country.

And to our snappiest golfer, Mabix, dashing point guard, Nick, and fighter pilot, Jopaks, who are taking up their GSC in the US, South Korea and New Zealand, respectively, we wish you the best of luck. Remember that we are all rooting for you. We will wait for you to take home another accomplishment that our class can be proud of.



**PMA MANDARANGAN Class 2003 picture taking after the Alumni parade, united as one.**



Also, best of luck to Goofy, Pax, Rio, Eduard and Rey (Daet) who are taking up the Army Staff Officers' Course. Continue the tradition mga mistah, 5-peat. Lastly, to T-Jones - fair winds, clear skies, following seas, and at least four meters of water below the keel to your Naval Command and Staff Course.



**Mandarangan Meeting for 15th Year Celebration @ PNGC, Taguig City**

We, the Mandarangan, should continue living up to the true meaning of our class name – the Noble Warriors. Our steadfast courage to continue living as we have been taught has bore sweet fruits of success. If we continue to put our noble qualities to good use and kind purpose, it will surely help us

serve the country well and attain the best of ourselves.

**“When the snows fall and the white winds blow, the lone wolf dies, but the pack survives.”**



It has been a productive period for Sanlingeros this time of the year, highlighted by our mistah, Cav Ryedel Cabugon, who was awarded the Gold Cross Medal for his contributions during the Marawi campaign. However, Sanlingeros are all over the place, contributing in different fields of specialty to make the class proud. For the ARMY guys: (Alfa) – Ferdie is in CENTCOM; Gempy is with PIC, PSG; Ronimar is with HHSB, PA; Horns is with 4ID; Idol is in Davao Oriental, Kenny is with 17ISU, AIR; Sev Destura is PCG in Palawan and DP is still in Baguio. (Bravo) – Wilvin is with DISG; Cards is at SRTS; Rito is with ARESKOM; Deodelyn is with SITS; Jay Sabax is with Army Aviation; Somar is a Tac-O in PMA; Gully is with CENTCOM; Ivon is at Dubai while Boylabs is doing diplomatic security in an embassy. (Charlie) – Ivan is the Head, Acad Dept, TIS; Felonx is the S3, 1002Bde; Chinook is the Branch Chief, Non-Acad Dept, 1ATG; Terose is with the PE Bn, PSG; Dubs is with DISG, DND; Jologs is with the JSOG; Deejay and Jonas are both with TDC, TRADOC; Macoy heads the 9ISU, AIR and Angulo is the MFO, 4ID. (Delta) – Andral secures the SND; Tommy is killing SOC; Bong Buyawe is the G6, AIR; Coco Martin Cabalu is with WESMINCOM; Odags is

with HHSB; Garic is with 2ID; Jallo is with OCS; Macky is with 701Bde; Sids is with CAS. (Echo) – Timmy is the S3, K9 Bn; Haydee is with OJ1; Freeman is the S3, 401Bde; Voltz is with G2, HHSB; Jomax is the Ex-O, 16ISU; Raneil heads the 3ISU in Central Luzon; Arnie is still with the VP and Gumsbai is with PSG. Jojo Teves is with ASCOM; Jabi is the Chief US Br, IAD, OJ5. (Foxtrot) – Gerjim is in 9ID; Jimjim is the youngest Bde Ex-O of the class in 402Bde; Calvin is with MIG12; Opines is enjoying motherhood for the momeen; Jack Orbase is an Army pilot; and Marx secures the SILG. (Golf) – Arthur is busy flying with the aircavs; Tim Clavel is with the TRADOC; Dran is with the Army G8; Darrel is with G4, PA; Pasky is with EOD in Tarlac; Amor is at the Engineering Brigade; Lester is still in PSG; Milton is with the LRR; Jotars and Chocnut is busy with their SOC; Jhonna and Sholim are both in PMA and Paolo is with the Libis engineers. (Hawk) – Meow is the G3, LRR. Cabugi is the Head, Training Dept, SRTS; Pidz is STILL SINGLE and the S2, 101st Bde, Sanjieboy is the Ex-O of 80IB; Tony B is with OPAMA; Tuts is the Tac-O of Hawk Coy, Jiminoy is the ASCOM, CSSS; Kangkong is with AFPCOC, Bungo is with 4ATG; and Rommel continues to make us proud. For the AIRFORCE – Most of Sanlingan airmen are now stationed at Headquarters Philippine Air Force holding different directorates of the various HPAF staff. Joedols is currently with the A2; Jessie Boy and Dcru are busy honing their skills at A4; Von Timbang is now the Apolinario Mabini of the class assigned at A5. Digoy, Bee, Payts and Jeffsie are

busy facilitating the education of airmen at A8. Carry scrutinizes flying units' safety program. But all of those assigned at HQS have one boss in the person of Baldot, the Acting Deputy Group Commander of HSSB, Director for operation and squadron commander, 2nd HSSB. Muks and Dydge are juggling flying and admin duties being Squadron Cmdrs at 220AW, Mactan. Asis is in Sangley helping our army mistah in the field by providing CAS 24/7. Atis and DMAX are all over the archipelago with the angels performing mercy missions, rescue flights and the likes. Ena, Ana and Rayton are teaching pilot wannabes at AETDC, Lipa. Pakoy continues to lord it over Zamboanga while Pong is in mid-air at this time globetrotting with his PAL airbus. Masarate and Gutay are scaling mountains and jungles all over the country flying our Huey helis. Eures is currently programming funds for air mobility command, Cebu. Tads, Tings, Bee and Matsing are making sure Code 1 is safe and secure in his flight, being with 250PAW. Castoy, on the other hand, is making sure that Airforce number 2 is comfortable at OVCGPAF. Our lone fighter pilot, Tzamartz, is still crisp, spat and shiny at 5th Fighter Wing consuming 100% Oxygen. For the NAVY – Many have taken up GSC abroad. Gus just came from India; Estabs is currently in Bangladesh; Eric is still in Germany; Macoy & Harvey are enjoying China; and Eswoy is in South Korea. Opengs is now the CO of a Boat Attack Division. Froi, Vi, Bryan Bi, & Ian Sagge are squeezing their brains at HPN; Jovy, the female naval aviator is still in NAG, expecting her first baby. Abe and Rolly are still flyers also in NAG; JP & Cris Cool are securing SND; DJ Sums, Mike Etubs and Noy Amats are procurers at AFPPS; Jong Monds is exploring Bicol region; Jason Andi will be the first submariner of the class; Cris Matams is supplying the navy; Lucas is back at special operations; Jp Pops and Digs Friday are back in the sea aboard ships; Eric P is busy in peacekeeping in Tarlac; Omar J is enjoying the U-S-A; Riz Sticky is doing diplomatic security in an embassy; Dabong is operating at West Phil Sea; Leuk Ubod is still relaxing in GHQ. Angel Anchets having fun golfing in PNGC while spying at NCR. The Marines – Baky is now the Commander, NISG WesMin; Dimayuga is the Operations Officer of MARSOG; Jack just went back to the Marine Corps as MBLT operations officer. Dj and Bambics are both in PMA. Onward, SANLINGAN!



*“Be Strong and Courageous,  
for the Lord will be with you  
wherever you go.”*

# LAST CALL

**RADM ORWEN J CORTEZ '79**  
24 December 1957 – 15 February 2018

Cav Cortez died of multiple organ failure on 15 Feb 2018 at the Manila Doctors Hospital and finally laid to rest at the Libingan ng mga Bayani. He left behind his loving wife Delia with whom he had two children: Orwen Jr and Kathlyn.



**PSSUPT CALIXTO M PAMPLONA '74**  
29 December 1949 – 29 April 2018

Cav Pamplona died of cardiorespiratory arrest on 29 April 2018 at the Mabini General Hospital, Mabini, Batangas. He was 68. He left behind his loving wife Marian.



**CDR ROILO S GOLEZ '70 USNA**  
9 January 1947 – 11 June 2018

Cav Golez passed away due to cardiac arrest. He served as Representative of the Second District of Paranaque City for six terms, from 1992 to 2001 and from 2004 to 2013. He also served as National Security Adviser from 2001 to 2004. He left behind his loving wife Nathalia and children.



**PSSUPT HERIBERTO O OLITOQUIT '86**  
13 May 1960 - 09 April 2018

Cav Olitoquit passed away on 9 April 2018 while confined at The Medical City and laid to rest at the Eternal Gardens, Naga City. He was married to Marijo P. Olitoquit with whom he had six children.



**LT ORENCIO G DE ASIS JR '78**  
21 May 1955 - 13 May 2018

Cav De Asis passed away on 13 May 2018 in Bacolod City and laid to rest on 19 May at Rolling Hills Memorial Park, Bacolod City.



**COL VICENTE F ALHAMBRA '42**  
19 July 1916 – 21 June 2018

Cav Alhambra passed away on 21 June 2018, and was interred at the Libingan ng mga Bayani on 26 June 2018. In 2016, the PMAAAI Board of Directors, awarded him a Plaque of Recognition for having attained 100 years of fruitful existence. He was married to the late Amadora Alhambra.



**BGEN TRIUNFO P AGUSTIN '60**  
23 May 1936 – 24 April 2018

Cav Agustin passed away at the Veterans Hospital on 24 April 2018. Wake was at the St. Peters, and he was cremated on 30 April 2018. He left behind his four children namely: Reu Lawrence, Tricia Leah, Terence Lou and Tristan Leo.



**COL ARTEMIO U LIM '71**  
12 March 1947 – 10 June 2018

Cav Lim passed away on 10 June 2018 at the Medical City and was interred at the Loyola Marikina on 15 June 2018. He left behind his loving wife Annie with whom he had five children namely: Aileen Natalie, Angelene Elvira, Dexter, Airene and Harold.



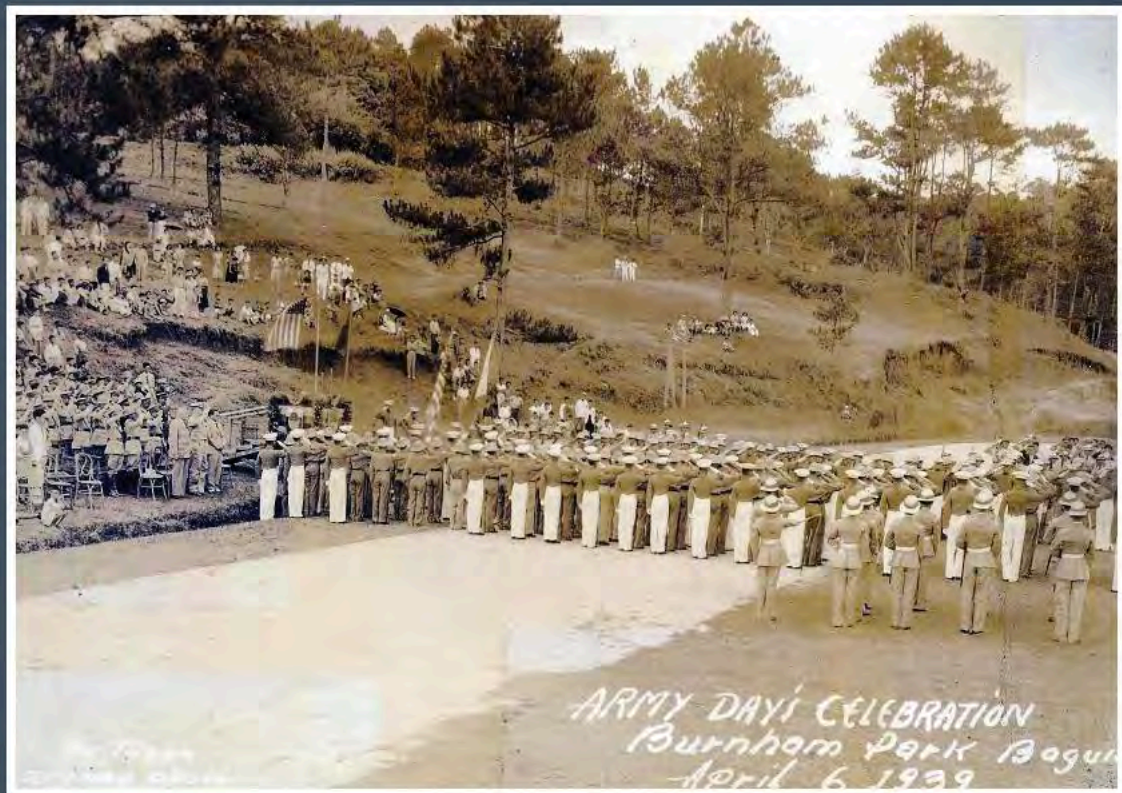
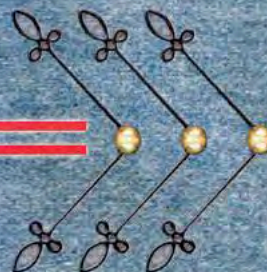
**PCSUPT ORVILLE G GABUNA '67**  
20 April 1945 - 23 June 2018

Cav Gabuna died on 23 June 2018. He was laid to rest at the LNMB, Taguig City. He left behind his loving wife Linda Fe with whom he had eight children: Lora, Olga, Oliver jr, Val, Mikaela, Matthew Pio, and Miguel Pio.





# DOWN MEMORY LANE



**Cadets attend the Philippine Army Day  
at Burnham Park, 6 April 1939.**

*Photo Credit: Cav Vicente F Alhambra '42.*





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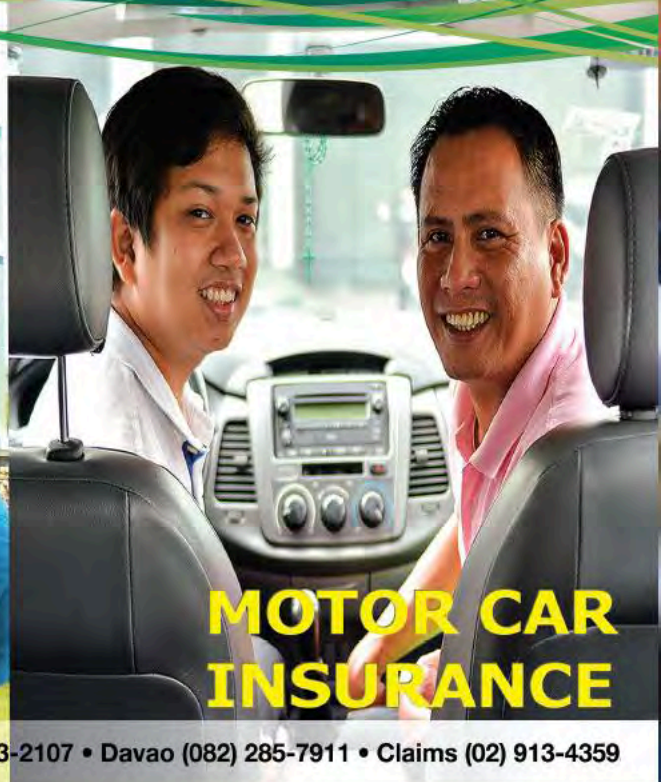
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