



Tumbleweeds



The official publication of the Tumbleweeds Viber Groups of the UP Los Baños Beta Sigma Fraternity and Sigma Beta Sorority, College, Laguna, Philippines



FOUNDATION SITE PROJECT UPDATE



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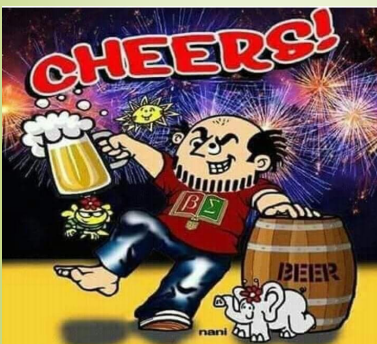
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The committee has submitted a draft copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to the office of the Chancellor which is now under review. Hopefully, we will soon start the project at the onset of the dry season this summer.

The signatories to this MOU will be the Chancellor, Mauro Barradas, the current president of the UPLB Alumni Association and of course the Alumni Presidents of our Fraternity and Sorority: Brod Plato Tirol and Sis Alice Quicoy.

The design includes a BAS Relief artwork depicting how the pioneers started the UP College of Agriculture in March 6, 1909. The cost of this artwork will be shouldered by the UPLB alumni Association.

As of today, the financial standing of the project generated from our brothers and sisters stands at **Php 2,857,275.03**, which is more than enough to cover the cost of the project.



TUMBLEWEEDS RODEO TEAM

The resident brods recently formed a Rodeo team, skippered by Brod Jegs Rase, Batch 18a, and initial practice covered lassoing activities using makeshift drum materials. Actual practice with animals should commence at the start of the semester this year to prepare the team to handle the following cattle events;

1. Calf Lassoing
2. Calf Wrestling
3. Calf Branding
4. Male Calf Castration (not so popular in recent rodeo competitions)
5. Casting Down of Large Animal
6. Carambola
7. Bull Riding



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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE LICENSURE PASSERS
by Keith Tidon

The Brotherhood of Scholars congratulates Brod Rainier Ambrosio '12b and Brod Lambert Valenzuela '15b who recently passed the 2022 Licensure for Agriculturist Examination.

Continue the pursuit of all that is good and noble in man in your endeavors as a Registered Agriculturists. Stoke your appetite for success through the commitment, dedication, and grit of a Beta Sigman. Cheers!



RESIDENT SISTERS' CHRISTMAS PARTY 2022

by Iris Christine Almadin

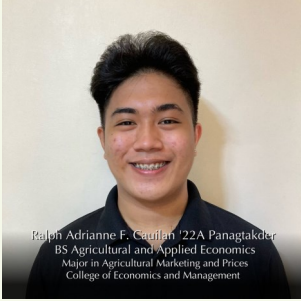
The sisters were finally able to hold the first face-to-face Betan Christmas Party post-pandemic on December 16, 2022, at the City of Springs, Los Baños, after three years of pandemic-related immobility.



The event proceeded with the theme "Mean Girls," as the sisters dressed up as their favorite mean girl characters and even imitated the movie's famous "Jingle Bell Rock" intermission number. Mostly some of the sisters wore pink that night, as we dubbed it "On Fridays, we wear pink." Through this social gathering, the sisters were able to strengthen their bonds with one another while also integrating the recently welcomed sisters.

The night was filled with laughter, creating new memories, exchanging gifts, yummy food, and fun-filled games. December 16 will surely be a night to remember because the sisters outdid themselves.





I am **Ralph Adrienne F. Cauilan**, a new addition to the UP Beta Sigma Fraternity Los Baños Chapter. I spent my teenage years in Angadanan, Isabela before moving to Los Baños to attend the university. Back in my hometown, I was active in our church, where I learned to play different instruments such as the guitar, drums, and the keyboard. I often shared this knowledge to the younger kids by teaching them the basics until they could showcase a complete performance with the instrument they had just learned. I also grew to love singing and would usually sing at church, as well. This is something I still habitually do up to this day. Another passion of mine is writing and performing spoken word poetry, and I have won multiple competitions since high school.

I am currently a junior student taking up BS Agricultural and Applied Economics, Major in Agricultural Marketing and Prices. This gives me at least four semesters left before I graduate. I am the first in the family to grab the opportunity to study in UP. I am also the first in the family to join a fraternity, and I am honored and proud to say that the UP Beta Sigma Fraternity is the brotherhood I have committed myself to. During the early days of the pandemic in 2020, I was one of the beneficiaries of OPLAN HATID, which was the fraternity's program aiming to send stranded students back to their hometowns. Through this experience, it sparked my interest in being a part of an institution that takes these initiatives.



I am **Angelo S. Del Rosario**, and I grew up in Los Baños, Laguna. I went to Maquiling School and UP Rural High School, so that I can say that I am really familiar with the UPLB Campus. Currently of junior standing in my BS Agricultural and Applied Economics degree program, I still have four more semesters before graduation.

I joined Beta Sigma because I was influenced by other Beta Sigmans that I met before in a jug-a-lug session. They often asked me when will I join but I would always refuse and say that it's not the time yet. I wanted to join during my senior year.

The Beta Sigmans that I met were all close-knit. I admired their brotherhood from a distance and yearned that someday I will be

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BBB SCHOLARS AY2022-23
by Dutch Aragones

part of them. All of them preached about the professionalism and the training that they got after joining, which resulted in them getting higher positions at their work. This intrigued me, as I myself was pretty confident with how I work and have previously held leadership roles in my other organization.

Soon afterwards, my curiosity got the better of me. I went to the orientation and wanted to proceed with the initiation rites. I told my mother that I wanted to join a fraternity but she immediately showed her explicit disapproval. But since she has a few Beta Sigma friends during her time as an undergraduate of forestry, she said that if I am going to join any fraternity, it should be Beta Sigma. She saw first hand the life of a resident Beta Sigman whenever she is with her friends.

However, COVID 19 made it quite difficult as the university suspended its classes and I did not know if it is possible to have initiation rites due to health concerns. The 1VGP at that time messaged me and said that I should continue even if it's the pandemic. He assured us that we will be following health protocols.

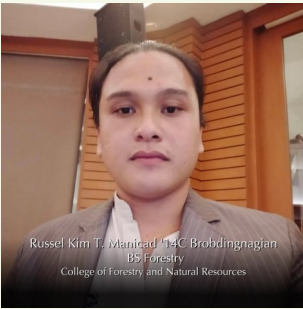
I underwent the initiation rites for 2 weeks with my batch mate and eventually survived on July 18, 2020, as batch '20A "Ikigai." Some of my relatives showed their disapproval in me joining Beta Sigma, as they were part of other brotherhoods (APO and Gamma Sigma). Eventually they accepted since they do not have the right to dictate my life nor have power over my choices. Before my Greek life started I was part of the UPRHS Football Varsity and even represented Laguna in STCAA in which the victors will represent CALABARZON in the Palarong Pambansa. My team and I fell short of a victory then I went to UPLB and became a part of the UPLB men's football team.

But life has its twists and turns. I was injured just a week before SCUAA (an event that all state universities in the south participated in) and immediately was dropped in the team. I was diagnosed with a torn ACL and MCL which prevented me from playing ever since the incident. But it opened me to other opportunities and helped me find the camaraderie that I longed for with my Beta Sigma brothers.

I once held the office of the Guardian of the Chattels back in 2020. I am currently the co-chair of this year's OBB Medical mission in partnership with Brod Cosme Santiago'67.

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I am **Russel Kim T. Manicad**. I live in Brgy. Mayondon, Los Baños, Laguna where I grew up also. I am currently a senior student of BS Forestry and hopefully will graduate this first semester. My two primary reasons in joining UP Beta Sigma Fraternity is the scholarship grant which helped my parents financially because that time I was also working at Gubat Burger store to have daily allowance and extra food for my family dinner. The other reason is I've been interested to be one of the respected and feared Beta Sigman and I've worked really hard for what and who I am today. My pastime is creating Tagalog poems and song writing.



I am **John Angeles Remo**, batch 2018C "Uguaglianza". I am from Calo Bay, Laguna, and a junior student at the College of Forestry and Natural Resources (CFNR). Four more semesters before I graduate.

Brod Jonas Leones'87, currently Undersecretary of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, introduced me to the fold through my father, who has been his driver at DENR for 15 years. Brod Jonas was instrumental why I'm here in Forestry because he encouraged me to start with the Certificate in Forestry (CIF)/Forest Ranger.

In my three years of upholding the five principles of brotherhood, integrity, loyalty, equality and service, I was able to overcome all the challenges that I faced. One of the things that I learned is to work under pressure. Through these, I learned how to be a good and noble man.

Entering the fraternity was the biggest decision that I ever had and I do not have any regrets. My life was changed when I joined the fold. The best part of being a Beta Sigman for me is I learned a lot in every activity and even in jug-a-lugs. Also, I encountered more individuals because of the fraternity. Moreover, I have been to many places that I have never been to before.

I will never forget the first time they trusted me to be chairman of the Malmon Cup in 2019. Afterwards it was the 47th Operation Big Brother in 2020, where we managed to serve three barangays even though we were under a pandemic.

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For other activities, I was an emcee for our 70th Anniversary Celebration. After that, I was assigned to be the point person in a series of pick-ups and donations at the campus and in the Los Banos vaccination hub.

I have held various positions namely, as Herald (1st sem 2019-2020), Guardian of the Coffers (1st sem 2020-2021), 1st Vice GP (2nd sem 2020-2021 & 1st sem 2021-2022). Currently, I am the Wielder of the Sword (2022-2023).

I was able to recruit new member, Brod Erasto Kahulugan'22B, into our fold.

When it comes to academics, I have a good standing. I'm a College Scholar last semester, and I am doing my best to be a scholar again this semester and for the upcoming semesters since we are the Brotherhood of Scholars.

Big Brother's Bounty is a big help to me. I am using it in my academics, allowance, extracurricular, and help my family pay some bills.



I am **Keith Tidon '15c "Kabanatan"**, the Grand Princep for the Academic Year 2022-2023. I am currently a senior student taking up BS Applied Physics, major in Computational Physics. My current research interest includes Environmental

Physics and environmental simulations which are inspired from Brods in DENR. I am set to graduate after two semesters.

I was raised in Los Baños, Laguna where I finished my elementary and high school. I did not really have any intentions of joining a fraternity because at that time time I was already confident with my skills and my growth as someone who is also a third generation UP student.

However, I accepted the invitation for an orietation because it was my friend, Aldous Leron '11d who invited me. What got me interested to join was when the First Vice Grand Princep at that time, Josef Criador '09a, mentioned that the Fraternity molds its members to become great leaders. I decided I would join and grow inside the Fraternity. It was only when I became a member that I learned that the cousin of my grandfather, Ambrosio Lapis '80, is also a Brod and that my Uncle is also a Betan Elite

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from UP Rural. True to what Brod Josef Criador'09a said in his orientation, I was able to hone my leadership skills inside the Fraternity. From starting as the Guardian of the Coffers and the Scholastics Committee Chair, I was previously elected as the Second Vice Grand Princep and now as the Grand Princep. This year marks the culmination of all the things that I learned as a Beta Sigman and all the things that were passed down to me by my elders. I am confident with all the learnings and tools that are available to me to lead the Fraternity to prosperity and peace.



I'm **John Althani R. Famador**, current Second Vice Grand Princep of the Fraternity and incumbent University Student Councilor of the 43rd UPLB USC. My talents in Digital Art and Public Speaking have become essential tools in performing my duties above.

I am originally from the City of Naga, Cebu, where I completed my secondary education at the Philippine Science High School Central Visayas Campus before pursuing university studies at UPLB in 2018.

In 2020 I accompanied my partner to quarantine in her home province and have since become a resident of Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya, where I was introduced to her family of Betans.

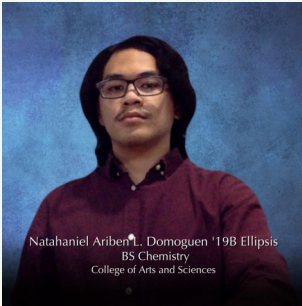
My community speaks highly of the Betan Acosta siblings, especially Brod Romeo Acosta UPLB '68. He spearheaded a community-based forest management program, which my community still benefits to this day. I also became involved with the municipal government and the provincial office of the Department of Agriculture to which I was exposed to more Beta Sigmans excelling in these areas.

Additionally, Beta Sigma is known to have strong advocacies, campaigns, and even activists among its ranks, which led my resolve in pursuing to become a Beta Sigman.

Currently, I am undertaking 21 academic units with thesis, and will have a remaining 18 Units next semester to complete my BS Agriculture Major in Landscape Agroforestry degree. My research interests include agroforestry, social forestry, and community-based forest management.

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I am **Nathaniel Ariben L. Domoguen**, the current First Vice Grand Princep of the Fraternity. Part of my childhood was spent in Bicol, our hometown, but for the most part, I grew up in Quezon City. Some say I am good at singing, but I am more confident with my mathematical and systems thinking capabilities which is why it is often the nature of the work assigned to me.

I entered college back in 2019 under the BS Chemistry program. During my first year in college, I often served as one of the tutors of my batch mates as I excelled in most of our subjects. During the pandemic however, it had been a rough road for my academics due to numerous problems within the family. Currently, I am a sophomore student with 5 more semesters in college.

I am actually a third-generation Beta Sigman. My mom, Maria Runah Consuelo Domoguen, is batch '98 of the Bicol University Chapter. My dad, Simpson Domoguen, is batch '92 from the Trinity College of Quezon City Chapter. My grandparents, Natividad Limos and Ruben Limos, Sr. '68 are both Betans from the Gregorio Araneta University Chapter.

Before joining the Fraternity, my parents would often invite me to some outreach activities of the Fraternity (e.g. medical mission in Quezon by Betan Seeds). I also saw how close the brothers and sisters were whenever we have them as visitors or vice versa. This made me look forward to joining the Fraternity when I entered college. When I first met the resident brods, I felt that these are great men from whom I can learn a lot. This is important to me as someone who highly values learning and self-development.



I am gratefully honored to be one of the grantees of the Big Brother's Bounty for this semester, and with that, I would like to introduce myself. I am **Mico Acosta**, Batch 2018B "Dominatus" and a junior undergrad student, taking up Bachelor of Science in Agriculture, majoring in Animal Science while specializing in Poultry Production.

I grew up in Baguio City, but my hometown is Luna, La Union, where my parents originated and where I was born. I am a full-
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blooded Ilocano that puts great importance to family, career, and life learnings.

My father is Elmar Acosta, also a Betan from the DMMMSU Chapter, Batch '83. He influenced me indirectly to join Beta Sigma. I can still remember those times when I was a kid, when he brought his family to some of the official functions of the fraternity up north. And I sensed the close-knit interactions with his brods and sisters during those times.

As a kid, I was always shy and wanted to learn how to socialize, and it is one of the reasons why I wanted to join Beta Sigma. Luckily for me, I was admitted to UPLB and entered the fold on September 22, 2018.

My other reason why I joined the UP Beta Sigma Fraternity was to develop my skills to further my career in the future. Not just connections, but also to learn skills that the brods possess during their college years. Thirdly, is to build life-long brotherhood during my stay in the university.

As much as I wanted to share the skills that I have learned during my residency, I also garnered some talents along the way. I have discovered that I can develop my skill in graphic designing, which is my service to the fraternity. Designing tarpaulins, internet publicity materials, and shirts, as well as making audiovisual presentations, are some of my shares in talents as an undergrad student in the fraternity.

I also play musical instruments. This became essential on some of the Operation Big Brother activities, especially on conducting caroling, either in front of brods' homes, or streaming recorded videos of the resident brods.

I was always an officer of our fraternity: MOTR 2nd Semester 2018-2019; Chamberlain 2019-2020; 2nd Vice GP 2020-2021 and GP 2021-2022.

My proudest moment as GP was the Operation Big Brother held in Barangay Anos, seeing the children of the barangay receiving their noche buena packages and gifts as the pandemic subsided.

I am greatly honored to be a member of the UP Beta Sigma Fraternity. I am proud to say that being a member of this great fold, you can reach new heights you could have ever imagined.





MINDORO ISLAND is the 7th largest island in the Philippine archipelago with a total land area of 10,573 square kilometers located south of Luzon separated from the big island by the Verde island passage. Dominating the topography of this island from north to south is a mountain range composed of steep sloping mountains on the north of which is Mt. Halcon the third highest mountain in the Philippines with an elevation of 8,583 ft. These mountains influences the climate and dictates upon the life of the people in Mindoro. These mountains are also the habitat of the Mangyans a general term for the 8 Tribes occupying the hinterlands of Mindoro. The same mountain range shelter Oriental Mindoro from the the vicious South westerly monsoon the Habagat which lashes the western part of the Philippines from June to November. This period also coincide with the typhoon season where the archipelago is visited by typhoons and doubles the devastating effect of the storm generating waves, on the exposed western portion of any islands of the archipelago. However the tall mountain ranges dampens the devastating effect of the southwesterly monsoon on eastern Mindoro which allows the people of eastern Mindoro to raise and harvest crops without interruption and transporting their produce without any hindrance while the west side of the island is battered by the monsoon winds and rain. The devastating effect doubled during typhoons at the steep slopes of the range at the west drains the rainwater rapidly to the rivers flooding the narrow plains which are actually flood plains destroying property crops and lives or at the least restricting normal means of transportation.

At that time in the year 1958, Occidental Mindoro has 5 municipalities which includes the island of Lubang. There is 1 shipping port at San Jose at the extreme south, the capital Mamburao is cut off from of the rest of the province during the monsoon rains since the roads at Mamburao connects it only up to Sta Cruz in the South and Abra de Ilog on the North. There is no road connecting the capital with the rest of the province. Travel to the rest of the province is via the big outriggers. In that year 1958 if you need to go to Sablayan, Occidental Mindoro you can only go the way I did it. Take the General del Pilar or the General Lim to San Jose at the North harbor. You board the ship early afternoon arriving about 3 or 4pm the following day

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by Popoy Castañeda



which consumes 24 hours then take the pumpboats to Sablayan departing 9 or 10 pm and arriving at Sablayan Poblacion by dawn. If you want to go to Sablayan via Abra de Ilog-Mamburao route you take a bus to Batangas Pier then a ferry with departures timed with the tide at Abra de Ilog since at that time there is no pier at Abra de Ilog.

From Abra de Ilog a jeepney ride to Mamburao and from Mamburao a pumpboat to Sablayan. This seems faster but the big pumpboats like the Lady Nora or the Lady Mina never had a permanent schedule running to and from Mamburao.

During the habagat food shortages even with us at the farm were not uncommon. It is in fact a part of the habagat. First to give out is the rice then the corn. At this point the situation is still manageable but when the people starts eating the root crops like gabi and sweetpotato it is really hardtimes. But when people start cutting down the buri palm to extract the starch, starvation is near at hand and of course you have a problem. This is the time and situation where Mang Marcos, me and Primo start hunting for meat not only for the farm people but the whole barrio. We hunted for imperial pegions, wild ducks, snipes, wild boars, cimarron and deer. Shooting a cimarron is a big bonus to the barrio people.

Concurring with the aforementioned problems is malaria, cholera and the plethora of tropical fevers which seems to be more rampant during the southwest monsoon season. During that period that I was in Sablayan there is only one municipal health officer, a registered midwife. There was no Professional medical person or clinic.

I have experienced the deaths of Ben Entengs assistant Chello due to a ruptured appendix. He died waiting for the typhoon generated waves to calm which will allow the Lady Nora to run for San Jose with a little margin of safety. We made the run with Ben but he died when we were in Calintaan (now the Municipality of San Miguel). I cradled another death in my arms on the baby barge of Puten Lontok. He was a retired engineer, a settler whose lot is adjacent to the farm who was pinned down by a tree trunk he was cutting down in his homestead lot and was found 2 days later. We carried him to town on the baby barge

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and reached San Jose but the engineer never regained consciousness. I cannot forget the sadness of those he left behind.



The newly arrived settlers who were army veterans are ready for anything. I also discovered what the big jars the Ilocano settlers are bringing with them on board the Gen. del Pilar. I have noted this jars are the same kind used at my grandfather's house for water. The Ilocano settlers have brought these jars containing bagoong and basi. Doming my new tenant settler from Ilocos showed me his cache of 4 jars of basi and 2 jars of bagoong. He said that the bagoong will flavor the vegetables they will cultivate and those they can gather from the wild. Besides this, the settlers arriving are families of veterans not like the locals who are very superstitious. The local people like David Flores doesn't seem to know that there are a lot of food available from the mangrove forest that forms the east side of Sablayan. The locals are very superstitious about the swamp. When I was marooned by what we call siyam-siyam (when it rains for days without stopping and can last for 2 weeks) food from the Mangrove swamp kept us alive. I taught David's son, Boy, how to spear big tiger prawns at night. I taught them how to make the crab trap Bintol which we used as boys in our town. We taught them how to look for and gather the big mud clams and how to induce the clams to regurgitate the mud in their system and where in the swamp are the fat oysters. Segundo Manang's son showed them how to get the Tamilok, the shipworms which are actually clams and not worms. It is in this situation that I joined Dadong and Tony Lieto who alternate as light house keeper at Apo reef. We went to the big Atoll reef, now world famous as an international SCUBA diving destination. We speared fish during the day and hook and line fishing at night. We salted our catch and as soon as we had a substantial catch salted down, we made a run for it and go home to Sablayan which is 3 hours away. We would run to APO to go fishing several times each habagat season. There at the island we also caught the Coconut crab (birgos latro) which is a rare delicacy. We would return to Apo reef several times each Habagat. At the island I saw the Siete Colores, a bird of seven colors. It was at Apo that I started writing down and taking compass bearings of the areas where we go fishing and where Dadong Lieto who is a licensed patron (small boat Captain)

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began teaching me the finer points of small boat navigation and pilotage. This experience will greatly influence my life later on.



THE FARM

When Mang Gener and I left the company of Dadong and Tony Lieto it was past 2 in the afternoon. Nearing the settlement of Katuray Mang Gener pointed out to me the pair of locally known Katuray trees (*sesbania grandiflora*). Mang Gener also told me that Johnny Quijano UPLB53 with the local assistance of Mr. Rudy Lontok, the teacher of the school and Mr Theodulo Urieta or Mang Hulo were able to convince the mayor and the council of Sablayan to establish San Vicente as a barrio of Sablayan sweetening the deal with a donation of 3 hectares of land for the barrio hall, church, school ground and free land for the first 50 residents. Mang Gener later introduced me to the school teacher Mr. Rudy Lontok whom we saw cleaning the schoolroom here. He teaches grades 1 to 6 all in one classroom. From the school Mang Gener took us to the settlement soon to be barrio San Vicente. At the west side of the church yard was the start of a coarse sand and gravel road, the main road of the settlement, which was as wide as a 4 lane modern highway. Lining both sides of the street are houses of sawali thatched with cogon and there is a sari-sari store with the omnipresent coca-cola sign. When we reached the east end of the settlement he veered to the north where the road entered the forest. As we entered the forest Mang Gener warned me to ready my army 45 pistol saying that Tamaraws and Cimarrons are frequently encountered in this area and we silently went through forest trail without any incident. Emerging from the forest we left behind the freshwater swamp of Malapaga and before us is a sea of grass and forest that reaches to the foothills and about a kilometer away we can see the Farm which was a group of nipa huts clustered around a big barn like structure that seems to have been transported from an American farm yard.

The barn is actually a storage bin for the grain (rice and corn) harvested by the farm and the 2nd floor is the quarters of the workers and casual visitors or transients needing a space to sleep. Brod Johnny has a small cubicle isolated from the rest of us by a sawali screen. In his room is the firearms locker. We have our own locker for our personal firearms. I was given an

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army cot with canvas bed replaced by woven rattan and a mat woven from the leaves of the buri palm by Dadong's wife.



There was a stack of cots on one side and food for visitors staying for the night. Adjacent to the farm house on the east is a cemented area about the size of a basketball court for drying the grain harvest of the farm but also functions as a dance floor. About 30 meters south of the farmhouse is a big, Bangkal tree (*nauclea orientalis*) and beneath it is the kitchen mess hall. Clustered on the east side of the the farm house is the old Bunkhouse of sawali and bamboo used by the tribesmen of Chief Calamita of the Iraya mangyans when they travel to Sablayan town. The farmhouse which is just a hundred meters east of the main trail going to Sablayan town is popular stop-over for the mangyan travelers. According to Chief Calamita they have used this spot to rest before proceeding to Sablayan town even when he was a boy. Even the cattle ranchers with pasture leases on the headwaters of the Amnay river and the Rayusan river like to stop overnite. There is always coffee, boiled sweet potatoes, saba bananas sweetened with palm sugar and salabat (warm drink with ginger) or even ice cold water whenever Johnny's kerosene refrigerator has fuel and running. Farther south of the mess hall hidden by a small grove of Katuray are the houses of workers whose families are with them. There is a bigger house occupied by Mang Pastor's family. Mang Pastor is the encargado who was adopted by Johnny's American grandfather as a foundling boy of 12 years from Basilan and now an oldman of 60 or so. Mang Pastor has 7 children the oldest Primo is 23 years old married with no children and is one of our tractor driver.

The farm has 2 tractors with 4 drivers and 4 assistants working on 2 shifts. When one driver is out Johnny and I fill in driving the tractor. On the north side of the farm house is the tractor shed where the current mechanic stays. Frank, the mechanic is an American introduced to Johnny by Oscar Leviste who manages a fishpond in Barahan. Frank is a very good mechanic but he is a renegade American deserter.

That afternoon upon my arrival I gave Mang Pastor the payroll which was the reason for the 2 kerosene cans of Tuba and the big kettle of wild pig adobo at the mess hall. After my 2nd ball

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jar of the buri palm wine, Mang Marcos asked me if I want to hunt for the farm people. I agreed of course because one main reason which attracted me to this job is the opportunity to hunt. Besides the shotguns we have 3 22 rifles to hunt for ducks and wild doves. Primo has a 22 CO2 powered air rifle which he shoots wild doves with.



Next day, the light of dawn and the booming of the surf woke me up. It's so strange to hear the surf when you are 12 to 15 kilometers inland. My movement was a signal for Mang Marcos to invite me to go down to the mess hall for coffee, boiled sweet potatoes and saba bananas.

Taking our breakfast out we joined Enteng the tractor driver and Ben his assistant assigned to open up the land on the edge of the Big forest where he is opening up the rich loam for rice production. The forest is a swampy area and opening up the area with a plow is tricky and difficult where the tractors often bogged down in the soft soil. For this they have to get the other tractor to pull out the bogged down machine.

It was a 30 minutes tractor ride to the edge of the forest where Johnny has plotted 50 hectares of the rich bottom land which borders the forest. Enteng has plowed a strip of land about 20 x 100 meters on the border of the forest 5 days prior to plowing. This forest is the big forest that extends to the foothills of the island's Mountain range.

MY FIRST DEER HUNT

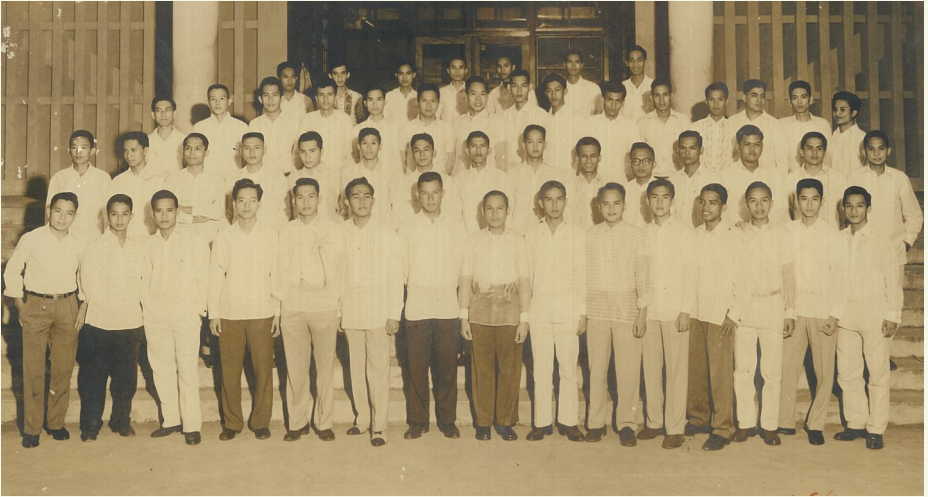
When Mang Marcos and I inspected the strip Enteng cleared we saw fresh spoor of deer. We followed the spoor of the deer to the interior of the forest where we found more tracks and the old spoor of tamaraws and other cimarrons.

I have always been dreaming of the time when I can hunt bigger game than the snipes my uncle has taken me to hunt with him in Laguna. He has promised me the opportunity when he goes for deer in Sta Ines. Sadly, my uncle passed on before he can go back to Sta Ines. He succumbed to the after effects of his wounds incurred as a guerilla during World War II.

To be continued...

THE BROTHERHOOD '57 AND BATCH '59

by Long Belen



The brotherhood in 1957 with 52 members present which included Vietnamese brods Pham Cuming Cam and Bui Tri Hu, 4th front row and 1st third row. GP Rogelio Guevarra 7th front row and adviser Joaquin Hilario 8th front row.



BATCH 1959



The "MAGNIFICENT EIGHT"

Left to Right

- RODOLFO ORTEGA
- EUTQUIO AGAS, JR. *
- ALBERT CHIONGBIAN
- HERMINIO CABRAL
- WILLIAM DOROMAL *
- FERNANDO GORREZ *
- IRENEO JIMENEZ
- RAMON DIAMZON

* *DECEASED*



ALBERT CHIONGBIAN



OFFICERS

Grand Princep
EMMANUEL A. BELEN

Adviser
JUANITO L. ORDOVEZA

Sweetheart
ELSIE STEINMEYER

1) A man was away on a business trip, and decided to call his wife to let her know he had arrived safely. A little girl picks up the phone. "Hello?" "Hi, honey. This is Daddy. Is Mommy near the phone?" Daddy asks. "No Daddy. She's upstairs in the bedroom with Uncle Paul." After a brief pause, Daddy says, "But, honey, you haven't got an Uncle Paul." "Oh, yes I do, and he's upstairs in the room with Mommy right now." Dad takes a second to process this, then speaks. "Uh, OK, then this is what I want you to do. Put the phone down on the table, run upstairs, knock on the bedroom door and shout to Mommy that Daddy's car just pulled into the driveway." A few minutes later the little girl comes back to the phone. "I did it Daddy!" "And what happened, honey?" he asked. "Well, Mommy got all scared, jumped out of bed with no clothes on and ran around screaming." "Then she tripped over the rug, hit her head on the dresser and now she's laying there groaning!" "Oh my God!" exclaimed Dad. "What about your Uncle Paul?" "He jumped out of the bed with no clothes on, too." "He was all scared and he jumped out of the back window and into the swimming pool." "But I guess he didn't know that you took out the water last week to clean it." "He hit the bottom of the pool and I think he broke both legs." There is a long, silent pause. Then Daddy says, "Swimming pool?... Is this 486-5731?!"

2) The madam opened the brothel door to see a rather dignified, well-dressed good looking man in his late 40s or early 50s. "May I help you?" she asked. "I want to see Penny," the man replied. "Sir, Penny is one of our most expensive ladies. Perhaps you would prefer someone else?," said the madam. "No. I must see Penny," was the man's reply. Just then, Penny appeared and announced to the man that she charged \$1,000 a visit. Without hesitation, the man pulled out ten one-hundred dollar bills, gave them to Penny, and they went upstairs. After an hour, the man calmly left. The next night, the same man appeared again, demanding to see Penny. Penny explained that no-one had ever come back two nights in a row – too expensive – and there were no discounts. The price was still \$1,000. Again the man pulled out the money, gave it to Penny and they went upstairs. After an hour, he left. The following night the man was there again. Everyone was astounded that he had come for the third consecutive night, but he paid Penny and they went upstairs. After their romp, Penny questioned the man. "No-one has ever been with me three nights in a row. Where are you from?" she asked. The man replied, "South Carolina." "Really?" she said. "I have family in South Carolina." "I know," the man said. "Your father died, and I am your sister's attorney." "She asked me to give you your \$3,000 inheritance." The moral of the story is that three things in life are certain: 1. Death 2. Taxes 3. Being screwed by a lawyer