

Philippine Scouts Heritage Society



Preserving the history, heritage, and legacy of the Philippine Scouts for present and future generations



Summer 2004

The Twentieth Reunion

The Twentieth Reunion of the Philippine Scouts Heritage Society at the Radisson Villa Hotel, April 30-May 1 was a mixture of serious business, entertainment and socializing. Sadly, the final dinner dance was ended early by the tragic passing of one of our new members, **James Moises**, who died of a massive coronary towards the end of the evening. James obituary is included in the *In Memoriam* section of this newsletter.

The business content of the meeting was more serious than usual, with the **Financial and Management Review Committee** delivering a report outlining

past management problems and recommending a series of reforms in the way the national and chapters conduct business. Despite some opposition, the **Board of Officers** overwhelming approved the report and suggested reforms. The **Board of Officers** also discussed the draft of a new set of **National By-laws** and again despite some opposition, voted nearly unanimously to submit them for approval at our next national reunion.

On a positive note, various reports on activities over the past year stressed advances in spreading word of the Philippine Scouts to the wider community. Part of this was due to public speaking and writing activities of several mem-

bers, part was a byproduct of the display of a pair of plaques honoring the Philippine Scouts and the three Scouts who were awarded **Medals of Honor** during the defense of the Philippines in World War II. These plaques now are on display at the **Admiral Nimitz Museum** in Fredericksburg, Texas and the **Fort Sam Houston Museum** in San Antonio, Texas. Part was due to the circulation of several poster displays on the Philippine Scouts at various events in California, Washington, Virginia and Texas. And a great deal of the credit goes to our website, which, in its first two years, has attracted about 6,000 visitors.

The general business meeting concluded with a presentation by PSHS

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Eight of the former Philippine Scouts who attended our 2004 reunion:
L to R: 1) Greg Ramos, 2) Zosimo Guiang, 3) Joe Aquino, 4) Larry Pangan, 5) Rudy Fernandez, 6) Lt. Col. Ed Ramsey, 7) Capt. Menandro Parazo, 8) Col. John Olson, 9) Dr. Isabelo Torio.

Editor's Comments

A review of management practices at the National and the Golden Gate Bay Area Chapter (GGBAC) levels of the Philippine Scouts Heritage Society (PSHS) has raised questions about past record keeping in general and certain expenses and management practices in particular. The final report of the **Financial and Management Review Committee** appointed by National President Larry Pangan is reproduced elsewhere in this newsletter and should be read by our entire membership. This report highlights some of the specific expenditures and activities that have raised concerns and led to nineteen recommendations for improving accountability and transparency.

This report and its recommendations were approved overwhelmingly by the

Board of Officers at our annual meeting/reunion. Nevertheless, there is some opposition to reform. This surfaced at the Board of Officers meeting and at the larger general membership gathering held the following day. At issue is the practice of payments to other organizations for things such as dinner tickets, contributions, and advertising. The review committee did not believe these were proper activities for an educational and historical organization such as ours.

The GGBA Chapter is leading the way in implementing reforms, as it already has approved amended bylaws. Both the recently-adopted Tacoma Chapter bylaws and the proposed new National bylaws are patterned after those of the GGBAC.

At our next reunion, we will be asked to ratify amended bylaws which incorporate the recommendations of the **Financial and Management Review Committee**. It is particularly important that these reforms be put into place to further discourage the questionable activities and expenditures that appear to have become the norm during recent years. As we broaden our membership and raise money for the Society it is crucial that our society's financial affairs are well documented and transparent and that a system of fiscal and administrative checks and balances is operating.

Mike Houlahan, Editor

Donations & Subscriptions

Our Philippine Scouts Heritage Society Executive Committee greatly appreciates donations to help underwrite our newsletter. The newsletter fund already has received generous donations from **Col. Mel Rosen, Sen. John Patterson, Col. John Olson, Lt. Col. Ed Ramsey, Maj. Fred Foz, Lt. Joe Aquino, Chris Schaefer and MSG. Michael Woods.**

Annual subscription may be obtained by non-members for \$4.00 and overseas subscribers for \$5.50. Electronic subscriptions are available for \$2. Donation and subscription checks should be made out to the "Philippine Scouts Heritage Society" and mailed to the address listed below:

J. M. Houlahan
Editor, PSHS Newsletter
6774 Lakeside Circle West
Worthington, OH 43085

Photo & Layout Editor Change

Family and business obligations have led **David K. Rosen** to step down as our **Newsletter Photo and Layout Editor**. David has served as in that capacity now since the fall issue of 2000 and is responsible for the highly professional look of the newsletter. Furthermore, he and his mother, **Olive Rosen**, both professional photographers, have contributed many of the photos used in its pages. Thank you David for your invaluable assistance to my predecessor, **Col. Nicoll F. Galbraith, Jr.** and to me!

I'm pleased to report that our **Webmaster Christa M. Houlahan** will now also assume the **Photo and Layout Editor** duties. Christa, who designs websites for a living, also has previous editing experience.

Advertising Rates

Our newsletter advertising rates are as follows:

Full page:	\$100
Half page:	\$55
Quarter page:	\$30
Business card:	\$15

Our current circulation is slightly over 500 copies per issue. For advertising placement or additional information, please contact newsletter editor Mike Houlahan through our website or at:

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Editor, PSHS Newsletter
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National President's Message

National President Larry Pangan was called back suddenly to the Philippines by the death of a sister. His message was drafted by First Vice President John Patterson based on guidelines received in a telephone conversation with President Pangan.

The annual meeting/reunion of the Philippine Scouts Heritage Society at the Radisson Villa Hotel in San Mateo on April 30 and May 1st was an outstanding success thanks to GGBAC President **Cion Rael** and her excellent team. They organized a variety of activities, provided wonderful food in the hospitality room, overcame several obstacles and provided the leadership needed for success. My thanks go to Cion, her team and the **Golden Gate Bay Area Chapter** for all the hard work and tireless efforts on behalf of the whole Society.

My thanks also to the **Financial and Management Review Committee** made up of **Sen. John Patterson, Capt. Menandro Parazo, Col. Mel Rosen, Joe Calugas, Jr., Aniceto Bagley, Cindy Warren and Mike Houlahan**. Their report will be a huge help in improving our management of the PSHS at the national and chapter levels.

Tragically, and sadly, 46 year old James Moises passed away unexpect-

edly on May 1st during the reunion. His father was a Scout and James looked forward to being part of the Society's "next generation" as the PSHS evolves in the years ahead.

The “next generation”, that is the sons, daughters, grandchildren, nieces and nephews and all those who want to see the legacy of Scout continue, are needed more than ever as fewer Scouts themselves are with us. That is what is so gratifying about the GGBAC and the rejuvenated Tacoma Chapter of the Society under the leadership of **Jose Calugas, Jr.** Let’s all try to add to our ranks by seeking out the “next generation” so that the history and heritage of the Philippine Scouts, a vital part of the “greatest generation”, lives on forever.

The newly dedicated **World War II Memorial** in Washington, DC, reminds us of a time when we responded to attack in an extraordinary way. During those dark early days of World War II, the Philippine Scouts' courageous stand



Photo: David Rosen

on Bataan and Corregidor and during the guerrilla campaign following the surrender, inspire us to this day. They were never defeated. Join us so that they are never forgotten

Larry Pangan
National President

Website News

In July it will have been two years since our Philippine Scouts Heritage Society **website** was launched and the number of visitors continues to escalate, now totaling nearly 6000.

Our **message board**, where visitors can post information and opinion on various subjects relating to the Philippine Scouts, is also well launched with more than 200 entries on about 80 subjects. You are invited to visit the PSHS website and share your own thoughts or questions: www.philippine-scouts.org.

We continue to welcome **queries** concerning former Scouts or **answers** to questions posted on the “Exchanges” page. We also will consider appropriate and **original short articles or vignettes** for posting on our website or including in our newsletter.

Thank you for your support!

Christa Houlahan
Webmaster

The PSHS Message Board

Reunion: Keynote Address of Consul General Delia Menez Rosal



Hon. Consulate Delia M Rosal

Honorable Officers and Members of the Philippine Scouts Heritage Society, Distinguished Guests, Filipino-Americans and Kababayans, Friends, Ladies and Gentlemen, Good Evening!

I am deeply honored to stand before this auspicious audience.

It is a befitting gesture among the officers and members of the Philippine Scouts Heritage Society to take Filipino-American relations as its theme for your National Reunion, as we take into account the role that the Philippine

Scouts played during two world wars, after its formation in 1901.

It gives me great pleasure to be with you and to instill in our hearts and minds the beauty of Filipino-American relations through the passage of time. The community of Filipino Americans in Northern California and outlying states within my jurisdiction as Philippine Consul General has been the anchor of my programs and projects. They have given me their warm support and cooperation on all my activities since I assumed this post in San Francisco as representative of the Philippine Republic.

To me, the Philippine Scouts Heritage Society is a primary association which epitomizes U.S.-Philippine relations at its best, because the Philippine Scouts were a component of the Regular Army which had its roots in October 1901, and has fought side by side with the Americans in two world wars- 1917 and 1941.

Little did the Filipino nation know that the Philippine Scouts were recruited and served equally so with regular

American soldiers and officers. Once upon a time, they fought with the Americans even against the Southern Filipinos—the Moros in Mindanao and the islands of the Jolo Archipelago. The officers of the Philippine Scouts were a category for themselves during that time, as they were paid the same salary to that which their regular American counterparts received. But to distinguish them from the Americans, the acronym PS- Philippine Scouts- was placed behind their names in all their official documents. The only restriction placed upon them was that they could not command American organizations. They could attend military schools, though, and could serve on staffs of the higher headquarters.

In this contemporary period, however, as Philippine Scouts are gathered together for your national reunion, it is inspiring to note that in World War II, you have also fought side by side with the Americans and have distinguished

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Reunion: From Front Page

member **Malcolm Decker** about his just-published book *On a Mountainside: The 155th Provisional Guerrilla Battalion Against the Japanese on Luzon*, which is reviewed elsewhere in this issue.

The highlight of the gala dinner at the end of the reunion was the keynote address of the **Hon. Delia Munez Rosal, Consul General of the Philippines** in San Francisco. The text of her speech is printed elsewhere in this issue.

Another highlight was a fine performance of a Cole Porter medley by members of **Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Daly City**, directed by **Terry Buchholz**.

Of course, such an event would not have been possible without the dedica-

tion and hard work of the **GGBAC Reunion Committee** headed by **Chapter President Cion Rael**, as well as the generous support of businesses and individuals who advertised in the reunion program or donated raffle items, food or services. Cion Rael lists her committee members and these other supporters in a separate article in this newsletter.

Editor



2004 reunion: L to R: Sen. John Patterson, David Rosen, Col. Mel Rosen, author Malcolm Decker, Mike Houlahan

First Vice President's Message

On April 30, 2004, the national Board of Officers of the Philippine Scouts Heritage Society approved the recommendations of a report entitled **"Management Practices and Suggested Reforms"** which was undertaken by the PSHS Financial and Management Review Committee. The full report is printed elsewhere in this newsletter.

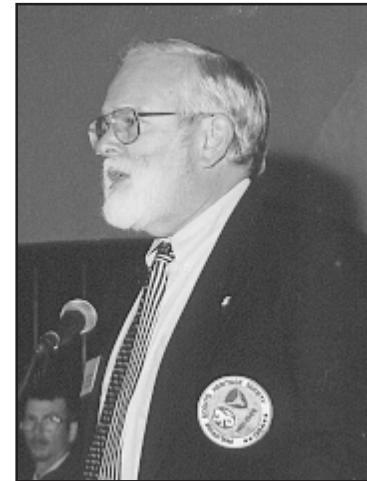
The PSHS President, **Larry Pangan**, appointed the Committee in late 2003, and tasked it with analyzing past management and financial practices of the Society to assure that all relevant administrative and funding guidelines were being followed. The Committee is made up of First Vice President **John Patterson**, Second Vice President **Menandro Parazo**, Public Relations Officer **Mike Houlahan**, member **Aniceto Bagley**, Tacoma Chapter President **Jose Calugas, Jr.**, Special Advisor **Colonel Mel Rosen** and GGBAC Secretary/Auditor **Cindy Warren**.

A great deal of work was done by the committee and by several GGBAC officers in piecing together the documentation of the past. A number of queries

were made to clarify certain prior management and financial actions. It was determined that a number of changes needed to be made in the Society's way of doing business to insure sound administrative and financial management, so that the Society's viability would be assured in the future. The report included 19 specific recommendations, some of which have been implemented and others which are to be carried out and/or codified in revised national and chapter bylaws.

Revised Bylaws, drafted by the Committee, were presented to the Board of Officers on April 30, 2004 and distributed during the General Meeting the next day. The drafting process was greatly aided by reference to the recently revised bylaws of the GGBAC. The revised national bylaws will be voted on at the Board meeting and general meeting of the Society's 2005 annual meeting/reunion.

I would like to formally thank the committee and the GGBAC for their hard work and conscientious attention to what was a long and difficult task. The Society will be better able to handle its



John A. Patterson, is 1st Vice President of the Philippine Scouts Heritage Society and a former Rhode Island State Senator.

Photo: David Rosen

administration and financial practices in the future because of the work of this Committee. Again, thank you one and all.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John A. Patterson".

John Patterson
PSHS First Vice President and
Chairman, Financial and
Management Review Committee

Book Review: On a Mountainside by Malcolm Decker

Reviewed by J. Michael Houlahan

Decker, Malcolm. *On a Mountainside: The 155th Provisional Guerrilla Battalion Against the Japanese on Luzon*. Las Cruces, New Mexico, Barbed Wire Publishing, 2004. Pp. 256, incl. bibliography, 4 pp. notes, 6 maps plus photos, drawings. ISBN: 1-881325-74-1. SRP: \$25.00

Following the surrender of Filipino and American forces on Bataan Peninsula in the Philippines early in the fifth month of the Japanese onslaught that plunged the United States into World War II, a small group of dedicated American fighting men refused to accept defeat. Some took refuge immediately in the jungles and mountains of Luzon, oth-

ers did so after escaping from the infamous Death March, and a very few joined up after fleeing from various POW camps. Initially totaling around 400 men, only half would survive three years of Japanese occupation.

Some of these escapees attempted to ride out the conflict in hiding. However, a courageous few rallied together to

organize guerrilla resistance to the cruel Japanese occupation. One of these heroic men was Doyle Decker. Doyle's son, Malcolm Decker, a combat veteran of the Vietnam War, is finally telling his father's story, and doing so in fine fashion.

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Keynote: From Page 4

yourselves defending Bataan and Corregidor during the war. It should also be remembered that you comprise the most decorated units in the U.S. Army during the first five months of the Second World War. Several weeks ago also, on April 9, 2004, you were among those who have certainly commemorated the Fall of Bataan as you recall from your memory banks how you have stood side by side with them in gallant defense of our country.

The Philippine Scouts who survived combat, the Bataan Death March and the POW camps and have chosen to remain in the U.S. military following the war to become American citizens, are deserving of the Filipino nation's warm appreciation for their martial spirit in defending the Philippines against foreign aggression. In this gathering to-

night, it would be truly meaningful to every Filipino here and back in the Philippines to look back to our history and be reminded of our "kababayans" especially the Philippine Scouts who have been good soldiers not only in war but also in peacetime as they were initially mandated then to undertake the mission of overcoming insurrection and restoring peace in our Motherland.

As the Officers and Members of the Philippine Scouts Heritage Society whose mission is to preserve the history and legacy of the Philippine Scouts in the United States, I hope that your attachment to your motherland, the Philippines, will carry on, even if you have decided to make this United State as your home. It will be a pleasure to note that the Society would continue to distinguish itself as a united Filipino-American community that takes pride in its heritage and its people.

You are in the best position to take the role of leaders and models of the community you now live in. You can surely harness that strength inherent in the number of Filipino-Americans in the United States to shape and influence policy that will favor the Filipino-American community and as one in unity and solidarity you can be a strong force in re-enhancing US-Filipino relations.

I'm also happy to see so many young people here. You of this next generation will guarantee the future of your Society.

Maraming Salamat Po.

Mabuhay!

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Scout Information Exchange

Due to the heavy volume of queries concerning former or possible Philippine Scouts, we now only list individual names and units in the newsletter. For more details check the Message Board on our website at www.philippine-scouts.org. Please contact us at info@philippine-scouts.org or by regular mail if you have information or questions.

One of their fellow officers is trying to trace down survivors among the following Filipino officers in the **3rd Bn. 57th Infantry Regt. (PS)**, all of whom are thought to have survived the war:

Hq. Co.—**Carlos Del Pilar; Sinfroso Pajimula;**
I Co.—**Requijo; Antonio Ripalda;**
K Co.—**Napoleon Donato; Pacifico Valdevarona;**
L Co.—**Osmundo Reyes; Tabino; Eugenio Yamat;**
M Co.—**Elias Basa; Alejandrino Del Rosario.**

Family members or researchers are seeking information on the following Philippine Scouts:

Lt. Col. Marcus B. Boulware, Brig. Gen. Sharp's Headquarters and 81st Infantry Division (PA), Visayan-Mindanao Force.

Capt. James Thomas Brown, an M.D. with the **14th Regt. of Engineers (PS)**

Benigno Camino, 12th Quartermaster Regt. (PS), KIA 4/10/42.

Andrew Nera Cariaso, unit unknown.

PFC Conrado Castroverde, Company H, **57th Infantry Regt. (PS).**

SFC Faustino Lagade, Coastal Artillery.

Corporal Juan Gascon Lagrimas, K Co., **45th Infantry (PS)**

Gregorio Masangkay, unit unknown, died in Capas during war.

1st Lt. Alfred D. McMicking, Philippine-born ADC to Major General Albert M. Jones, CO 51st Division, PA and South Luzon Force.

Sgt Gerardo Suplemento, C Co., **14th Engineers (PS).**

Fort Sam Houston Museum: Further information is available on the Philippine Scouts at the Fort Sam Houston Museum website (<http://www.cs.amedd.army.mil/rabc>). The portion of this site devoted to the Scouts is available by clicking on “Did You Know?” (http://www.cs.amedd.army.mil/rabc/philip_scouts.html). The Museum, located on a U.S. Army base in San Antonio, Texas, is the official USG repository for Philippine Scout memorabilia.

We also are interested in photos and information on the military experiences of former Philippine Scouts, which will be added to our library archives. Short articles on the exploits of individual Scouts or Scout units may be printed in our newsletter or on our website. Material may be submitted by e-mail or through the postal service to Mike Houlahan, our Public Relations Officer and Newsletter Editor whose address appears on the final page of this newsletter.

While the PSHS is pleased to assist where possible in obtaining information on former and deceased Philippine Scouts, our archives are not extensive. More complete information often can be acquired through the Department of Veterans Affairs.

To obtain a request form, please call your County Veterans Service Office or the national VA at **(800) 827-1000** and ask for VA Form 180 (Request Pertaining to Military Records). This form is also available on the VA website: www.va.gov.

You also may be able to get a copy of your relative's military records by writing to:

National Personnel Records Center
9700 Page Road
St. Louis, MO 63132-5100

Other information of possible interest includes:

Fact sheet for VA Benefits for Filipino Soldiers
<http://www.va.gov/pressrel/filipvet.htm>

Veterans Benefits & Services for New Philippine Scouts
<http://www.vba.va.gov/bln/21/foreign/scouts.htm>

On a Mountainside: From Page 5

On a Mountainside is a chronicle of courage and perseverance. It traces the escape of U.S. Army Private Doyle Decker and several others from the Bataan Death March, their finding refuge among the rural Filipino population, and, finally, their joining a fledgling American-led guerrilla initiative which organized armed resistance by forming the 155th Provisional Guerrilla Battalion, manned primarily by the tiny Negrito tribesmen. The Negritos were a primitive group of pygmies similar to Australian aborigines. Their presence in the Philippines predates the arrival of the ethnically Malay groups from which most Filipinos are descended. They also proved to be excellent at guerrilla warfare.

Doyle Decker, orphaned at nine, dropped out of school at twelve to earn his keep wandering from farm job to ranch job, often working for no more than room and board. Joining the U.S.

Army during the Great Depression, he followed a route out of poverty taken by many before and since. This under-educated farm boy could not have foreseen that this enlistment would lead to three years of living like a hunted animal as he fought off disease, avoided Japanese patrols, and helped organize a Negrito guerrilla resistance army. It is a wonder he survived, but survive he did and was promoted to a leadership position in the guerrilla battalion. When General Douglas MacArthur finally led U.S. forces back to Luzon, Doyle and his fellow officers positioned the 155th Provisional Guerrilla Battalion in a successful blocking action that prevented many Japanese from escaping into the Zambales Mountains and inflicted heavy casualties on those who did.

In writing his book, Malcolm Decker leaned heavily on conversations with his father and Bob Mailheau, his father's close friend and comrade in the guerril-

la resistance. He also conducted considerable historical research. Written in narrative form and using dialogue developed through these personal conversations, the author gives an intimacy to the story that might otherwise have been lacking. The book is certain to induce a patriotic glow in its readers. It is a moving tribute to sustained courage in the face of almost unimaginable adversity. The timing of its publication is particularly appropriate as our country, being tested yet again, has placed large numbers of its sons and daughters in harms way in foreign lands.

1/8/04

On A Mountainside is available for purchase online at:
<http://www.barbed-wire.net>

In Memoriam

It is with a great deal of sadness that we report the following members passing:

Basilio Fontillas: Former Philippine Scout and lifetime GGBAC member **Basilio Fontillas** passed away peacefully at home on May 28, 2004 at the age of 92. Born in Castillejos, Zambales, Philippines on June 13, 1911. He is pre-deceased by his first wife, Leonora (August 1945), and his second wife, Consolation (May 2001). He is survived by his third wife, Marina; and 10 children, 27 grandchildren, and 23 great-grandchildren. Veteran of World War II, defender of Corregidor; POW, Korean War; he served honorably in the US Army for 31 years. He brought his family to the US in June 1958 and remained a resident of San Francisco since 1962. After retiring in 1973 with 40 years of

government service, he traveled regularly to the Philippines and was a passionate fisherman, avid gardener and devoted family man.

Manuel Guiuan: Former Philippine Scout Manuel Guiuan passed away on September 26, 2003. Manuel, who enlisted in the Philippine Scouts in 1935, spent 30 years in the U.S. Army and was a lifetime member of the Golden Gate-Bay Area Chapter. He is survived by his wife, Josefina S. Guiuan, living in San Francisco.

Robert Lapham, a U.S. Army infantry officer and guerrilla leader during World War II, passed away at 86 at his home in Sun City, Arizona on December 18. Bob Lapham was a twenty-five year old second lieutenant attached to

the 45th Infantry (Philippine Scouts) when World War II broke out. Fifty days after the Japanese attacked, he joined a small group of officers authorized by General MacArthur to slip through the Japanese lines into the Zambales Mountains to organize guerrilla resistance groups. Lt. Lapham was extremely successful at this and eventually, as more senior officers were captured or killed by the Japanese, rose to command a guerrilla army of about 13,000 which controlled most of the northern half of Luzon's large Central Plain. At the war's end, now a major, Lapham was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross by General MacArthur and the Legion of Honor by the Philippine government. (The Legion of Honor is the highest decoration given to a non-Filipino by the

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In Memoriam: From Page 8

Philippine government and Bob Lapham was the third person, following President Roosevelt and General MacArthur, ever to receive this award.) Many years later President Ferdinand Marcos would present him with the Philippine Distinguished Service Medal.

In 1996 *Lapham's Raiders: Guerrillas in the Philippines 1942-1945* was published. Arguably the best book written on WWII guerrilla warfare in the Philippines, it was coauthored by Lapham and Bernard Norling. (The book is reviewed in the summer/fall 2003 issue of our newsletter.)

Following the war, Bob returned to Davenport, Iowa, married Sharrott Junge, a home town girl, and made a career with the Burroughs Corporation, where eventually he became vice president for industrial relations. The Laphams had been living in retirement in Sun City for many years. Bob Lapham is survived by Scharlott and two daughters.

Capt. Manuel Mabunga, President of our Lt. Alexander R. Nininger Chapter and former Scout, passed away suddenly Sunday, February 15 of heart failure in Santa Monica. He was 83.

Manny, a longtime supporter of the Philippine Scouts Heritage Society, served in the 57th Infantry (PS) during World War II. He survived the Bataan Death March, escaped from POW camp and fought with the guerrillas for the remainder of the war. Manny immigrated to the U.S. in 1954, where he worked for the Veterans Administration for 35 years. His wife Adoree predeceased him; however, he is survived by daughter Liz Barredo Mabunga, son Manuel Mabunga, Jr., and grandson Christopher Manuel Mabunga.

James Moises, Jr., 46, passed away suddenly the evening of May 1 while attending our national reunion dinner dance. James, who had recently joined the PSHS, was writing a book on his late father, a Philippine Scout in World War II, who passed away in 1999. James lived in Vallejo, California and worked as a Respiratory Therapist at Alameda Hospital, He is survived by brothers Warlito, Ernesto, Bill and Mila all from Vallejo, and sisters Lillia from Corona, California and Erlinda from Albuquerque, New Mexico. James liked to help out the Philippines where he donated a basketball court and swing at an elementary school, as well as a yearly scholarship to the sixth grade graduating class. He had plans to replace the classroom chairs and to donate books to establish a school library.

Sgt Bernabe Santa Maria died in Honolulu December 30 at the age of 90. He joined the 24th Field Artillery (PS) at Fort Stotsenburg in 1934 and following the USAFFE surrender, eventually joined Major Robert Lapham's LGAF guerrilla army in Central Luzon. Following the Japanese surrender, he left the service and took advantage of the G.I. Bill to become certified as a teacher. Mr. Santa Maria taught for a number of years at Urdaneta High School in Pangasinan. He moved to Hawaii in 1968, where was employed at Pearl Harbor until retirement. He is survived by his second wife Crecia, son Edwin and brother Dr. Santa Maria from Missouri.

Felino Quiamboa Silverio was born on November 22, 1909 and died January 2, 2004, aged 96. Prior to WWII, he served on Corregidor, but left just before the Japanese invasion. After the

USAFFE surrender, he worked as a driver for the mayor in his home town of Licab, Nueva Ecija, but was arrested as a spy and tortured by the Japanese. When the mayor finally convinced the Japanese official that he was not a spy, he was released and joined the guerrilla forces. He was later assigned as a tank driver to guide the U.S. forces in liberating Manila from the Japanese Imperial Army. After the war, he lived in Licab, Manila, Guam, and then San Francisco in retirement.

Mr. Silverio's military records were burned during the Japanese occupation, so no records are available confirming his membership in the Philippine Scouts. The family would welcome any information which may be forwarded to: ConcepcionRael@myfamily.com.

Juan Tuscano: Eighty-five year old former Philippine Scout Juan Tuscano passed away March 3 in Santa Clara. Juan was a Golden Gate Bay Area Chapter lifetime member and had served until recently as one of the chapter's vice presidents. Mr. Tuscano, enlisted February 24, 1941 in the US Army and was assigned to Co. I, 45th Infantry (PS). He fought on Bataan, survived the Death March and prison camp, and was discharged in May 1948. Juan was an active and spirited member of the GGBAC Chapter and a dedicated Philippine Scout. He is survived by his wife, Mary Tuscano, Santa Clara.

Chapter News

Golden Gate-Bay Area Chapter: A tremendous amount of time and effort over many months was exerted by Chapter President **Cion Rael** and her team of GGBAC stalwarts in making the national reunion/business meeting so successful. Those assisting included National President **Larry Pangan**, **Nora Warren**, **Evelyn Guiang**, **Aquilina Reyes**, **Cindy Warren**, **Ofelia Capuyan**, **David Tejada**, **Nilda Malvar**, **Mildred Tango**, **Conchita Guerrero**, **Nita Guiang**, **Benito Capuyan Jr.**, **Zosimo Guiang** and **Rhoda Guiang**.

The chapter ratified a **new constitution and set of bylaws**, which should bring greater accountability and transparency to chapter management. This document was drafted by chapter members **Cindy Warren** (co-chair), **Jesse Okialda**, **Evangeline Stafford** and **Mike Houlahan** (co-chair).

Larry Pangan attended funeral service for **James Moises**, who passed away suddenly during our national reunion. **Cion Rael**, **Nilda Malvar** and **Mildred Tango** took part in memorial the day before the funeral. Chapter elections are scheduled for Saturday, June 26.

Captain Jose Calugas, Sr. Chapter: President **Jose (Joe) Calugas, Jr.** and chapter members participated in an emotional ceremony to honor the Philippine Scout Veterans at the **Fort Lewis Military Museum** on May 2. About 150 people attended, including a dozen Philippine Scout veterans from Seattle and Tacoma. **Lt. Gen. Edward Soriano** and his wife **Vivian** were guests of honor at this ceremony held as part of **Asian-Pacific Islander month**. The *Tacoma News Tribune* and *Northwest Guardian*, the Ft. Lewis base newspaper, and the *Fort Lewis Ranger* all covered the event with substantial articles and photos.

During the ceremony **Joe** spoke about the PSHS and its purposes and **Lt. Gen. Soriano** swore in the new slate of chapter officers.

On May 1, **Joe** and wife **Goody** attended the **62nd Anniversary of the Fall of Bataan** at the Filipino community center in Seattle. **Lt. Gen. Soriano** was the guest speaker. The next day they attended a ceremony to honor veterans held at the community center.

The Chapter also ratified a **new constitution and set of bylaws** modeled after the GGBAC bylaws. Chapter membership now stands at 32 with the addition of **Capt. Nick Golla** of Seattle, a former Scout and lifetime member, who had lost contact with the chapter.

General John J. Pershing Chapter (El Paso): Chapter President and National Second Vice President **Menandro Parazo** attended this year's national reunion with chapter members **Col (Ret) John** and **Mrs. Terry Olson** and **Capt. (Ret) and Mrs. Felipe Fenandez**.

The chapter has ordered two poster exhibits about the Philippine Scouts.

Capt. Parazo and **Francisco Azares** attended the **2004 Bataan Memorial Death March**. More than 3,000 marchers including some military and civilians from seven countries gathered at White Sands Missile Range on 21 March to walk 26.2 miles through the New Mexico desert to honor survivors of the Bataan Death March. Former POWs were hosted at breakfast by the organizers of the march and presented certificates of appreciation by the Post Commanding General.

Menandro was invited to be one of the presenters of Military Order of The World Wars trophies, medals, pins and certificates to ROTCs in El Paso.

The Mayor of Taos, NM invited **Capt. Parazo** as one of the featured speakers

at a rededication of their **Bataan Memorial** built at the town plaza honoring all those who fought in Bataan. His presentation was about the Philippine Scouts.

The local VA invited veterans and POWs to commemorate the Fall of Bataan at the **Ex-POW Annual Recognition Day ceremony**, 9 April 04. **El Paso Chapter** members represented the Philippine Scouts.

Chapter President **Parazo** attended the **Memorial Day celebration** held at the Ft. Bliss National Cemetery. .

Monterey County Chapter: Fifteen members led by Chapter President **Greg Ramos** attended our national reunion.

Lt. Alexander R. Nininger Chapter: **Dr. Isabolo S. "Bill" Torio** in San Diego ((858-485-5696) is the chapter contact person. He is in the process of conducting a survey to bring the chapter membership list up to date. Bill also attended our 20th national reunion. He has ordered a Philippine Scout poster exhibit for use in Southern California.

LTC Lloyd E. Mills Chapter: **Albert N. Jana** of Wilmington, California is the new Chapter President.

* See *In Memoriam* page for obituaries.

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PSHS: Management Practices and Suggested Reforms

Overview: The following report, conforming to the Scope of Work outline written by Philippine Scouts Heritage Society [PSHS] First Vice President John Patterson, is based on an analysis of past management practices and is undertaken at the request of present national and chapter leadership. The analysis was pieced together despite a paucity of documentation handed over by previous leadership. Many of the missing records have been retrieved from the bank and other sources, but the analysis still has been hampered by lack of receipts and other accounting/ governance shortcomings spread over many years. **This report and its appendix of 19 recommendations were all accepted by the National Board of Officers during our reunion and business meeting April 30-May 1, 2004.** Many of the recommendations are already in place and final ratification of new bylaws emanating from this report is expected to occur during our annual meeting in 2005.

MANAGEMENT PRACTICES AND SUGGESTED REFORMS

By the

Philippine Scouts Heritage Society Financial and Management Review Committee

Introduction

An ongoing examination of both the Philippine Scouts Heritage Society national financial records and the records of our largest chapter, the Golden Gate Bay Area Chapter (GGBAC) have raised questions about record keeping in general and certain expenses and management practices in particular. With this in mind, further examination appears warranted and some modification of the bylaws concerning accountability may be desirable.

Scope of Work

Make recommendations as appropriate regarding the following:

1. Assess the national and chapter bylaws as to their adequacy in providing financial guidelines.

1. The accounting procedures and guidelines resolution passed on 7/1/03 by the GGBAC has useful features which should be incorporated into national and chapter bylaws.

2. Assess past national and chapter financial policies as to how they were established and their adequacy as financial accountability guidelines for the future.

2. Neither national nor chapter financial policies were adequately outlined. However, important policies that were in the existing bylaws were not observed. a) The most important of these was the requirement that the national and chapter treasurers not disburse funds without proper receipts. Routinely funds were disbursed to and by senior officers of the PSHS without receipts. b) A second important requirement was that the chapter treasurer should collect dues; however, dues usually were first collected by another senior officer and passed later to the treasurer. Receipts for dues appear not to have been issued in some instances. In at least eight cases it is not clear whether or not the dues were ever deposited in the chapter or national bank accounts. c) Both national and chapter bylaws require that accurate financial records be kept, yet some financial records are missing, including bank statements, cancelled checks and deposit slips. d) The national bylaws mandate that checks over \$100 be countersigned by the PSHS President. In some cases this has not been done or a series of smaller checks were written in an apparent attempt to circumvent this requirement. In one case, a series of four \$100 checks were written by the treasurer to himself just before leaving office to cover undocumented taxi costs over four years, ostensibly for trips to the bank. e) The chapter bylaws require minutes of meetings be kept; however, in many cases, no minutes of meetings appear to exist. This is particularly important in assessing whether or not the membership authorized unusual expenditures, such as \$2,260 in donations to other organizations/charities. (Slightly

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under twenty-five percent of these expenditures appear to have been authorized at various GGBA Chapter meetings.) f) Errors were made in transferring the national share of funds from events and dues from the GGBAC to the national. In one instance, the National's share of funds from the Centennial Celebration was not transferred from October 2001 until May 2002, an unexplained delay of seven months.

3. Assess past and present documentation as to the expenditures of funds, including the appropriateness of procedures and the actual expenditures themselves; how expenditures were accounted for and the existence of adequate documentation for past and present expenditures. Any recommendations should include whether or not an outside independent audit is warranted.

3. As outlined in answer 2, contrary to procedures mandated in both national and chapter bylaws, adequate documentation on the expenditure of funds often has not been presented or kept. Due to the pervasive pattern of violations of accepted accounting practices and bylaw requirements, an outside audit should be considered, within the constraints of available funds.

4. Ask for explanation of funds that appear to have been expended improperly. If adequate explanations are not offered, assess remedial actions.

4. Several cases of large undocumented expenditures should be further justified by the officers requesting these expenditures. For example, the former national treasurer who wrote himself four \$100 checks just before leaving office, to cover four years of taxi trips to the bank should be asked for receipts and expected to explain why banking couldn't have been handled by telephone and mail.

5. Assess the future financial viability of the PSHS and the GGBAC, including their newsletters, since the latter is our biggest and most active chapter and because some of the Chapter leadership is also Society leadership.

5. Newsletters: The GGBAC newsletter has been sent out by regular first class postage, which is very expensive. The Chapter now is in the process of obtaining non-profit mailing status, which should cut mailing costs by approximately half. The Chapter is paying too much (9 cents a page) for reproducing the newsletter. With some increased flexibility in selection of a printer, this could be cut in half. The possibility of purchasing a copier is also being studied. Cutting back publication from four to three issues a year also would be a major cost savings. Because such a high percentage of PSHS membership is made up of "life members" (260 of 340 in the GGBAC), annual income from dues is not sufficient to fund two issues of a national newsletter and four issues of a chapter newsletter annually. Eventually this may require a separate subscription fee for the newsletters. An additional savings would result if both the chapter and national newsletters were mailed from the same location using the same non-profit mailing permit. This possibility should be examined further.

Reunions: These are self-financing, so should not be a drain on national or chapter treasuries. Indeed, they help fund other activities, such as the newsletters and the library project. However, here too, proper accounting of funds and insistence on obtaining and presenting receipts for expenditures frequently have not been observed.

Library Project: This project appears financially questionable, if the goal is an independent library, rather than the donation of a library collection to an appropriate library already in existence. Although several thousand dollars have been raised towards the goal of establishing a Philippine Scout library in the San Francisco area, a home has yet to be found. (The possibility that appropriate space will be made available through the War Memorial Commission at the San Francisco Veterans Building appears not to be viable.) Furthermore, there are potentially huge costs in establishing such an operation, unless it is incorporated into an existing library so that space rental and staffing would not become financial issues. (Staffing with volunteers is unlikely to be more than a short-term solution, if such a library is to be open to the public for anything approaching normal library hours.) It is suggested that further purchase of books and equipment for such a library be suspended until an affordable home is identified and adequate staffing assured.

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6. Pursue any other issues that may arise during the examination of the financial records and bylaws.

6. Clearly carelessness and a lack of accountability have characterized governance of the PSHS at the national and GGBAC levels over the last several years. Bylaws were routinely ignored and good accounting procedures violated. A permissive culture that exempted top management from accountability seems to have been the rule and attempts to ask questions were rebuffed. New management has already accomplished a great deal in reforming this management culture. More needs to be done to insure in the future that the carelessness and disdain for mandated controls does not return to PSHS governance at either the national or chapter level. A list of recommendations to help achieve this are appended to this report.

Outcome:

1. This report noting committee actions to date and with recommendations is to be submitted to the national board of officers at the 2004 annual meeting/reunion.
2. The report along with committee and board actions will be published in the national newsletter.

Committee Membership:

President Pangan appointed the following committee:

Chair: Sen. John Patterson, First Vice President

Asst. Chair: Capt. Menandro Parazo, Second Vice President

Secretary: J. Michael Houlahan, PRO

Members: Aniceto Bagley, Jose Calugas, Jr., Col. Mel Rosen, Ms. Cindy Warren

Submitted by: Sen. John Patterson, First Vice President
J. Michael Houlahan, PRO

Drafted April 6, 2004

Updated for publication June 8, 2004

Appendix of Recommendations

1. The accounting procedures and guidelines resolution passed on 7/1/03 by the GGBAC has useful features which should be incorporated into both chapter and national bylaws. (**Done**)
2. Funds should not be disbursed without proper receipts and these receipts should be retained as part of the financial record. (**Agreed**)
3. Dues should be sent directly to the chapter treasurer, who will issue a receipt, deposit the dues within ten working days, remit the proper share to the national treasurer and inform other officers of new or continuing memberships. If dues are given to other officers, they should immediately remit them to the treasurer with the names of the persons for whom they were paid. (**Agreed**)
4. Accurate financial records must be maintained, including bank statements, cancelled checks and deposit slips. (**Agreed**)
5. All checks over \$100 must be countersigned by the PSHS President or chapter president. Signing multiple smaller checks to avoid counter-signature by the President is prohibited. (**Agreed**)
6. Minutes of all chapter and national meetings are to be maintained and made available upon request to members. (**Agreed**)
7. No donations of PSHS funds to charities and other organizations in any form, including ads in programs, ticket purchases and outright grants should take place. (**Agreed**)
8. PSHS membership name and address lists are confidential and under no circumstances should be released to individuals or organizations not part of the Philippine Scouts Heritage Society. Furthermore, these names and addresses should not be used by our members for purposes other than those of the PSHS. (**Agreed**)
9. Non-profit mailing status should be obtained for the GGBAC newsletter, cutting back to three issues a year should be considered, less expensive printing arrangements should be made and the feasibility of mailing both national and chapter newsletters from the same location and under the same permit should be investigated. In addition, investigation should be made into obtaining a bulk mail contractor who will be able to use the USPS automated system (bar code) to further reduce costs. (**Under consideration**)
10. Further purchases of books and equipment for a PSHS library should be suspended until an affordable home is identified and adequate staffing assured. (**Agreed**)
11. Provision should be made for absentee ballots during national and chapter elections, on constitutional amendments and when voting on specific issues involving important policy changes or large out-of-pocket expenditures exceeding \$500. (**Agreed**)
12. Funds owed by the chapters to the national or vice versa should be transferred expeditiously and always within 30 days of receipt. Chapter and national treasurers should always issue a receipt for these remittances. (**Agreed**)
13. Individual chapters should provide copies to the national president of their bylaws, as well as lists of active members and officers to confirm they are in compliance with national bylaw requirements. Up-to-date copies of the national and chapter bylaws should be maintained and made available to the membership. (**Agreed**)
14. National and chapter bylaws should be examined to determine if position descriptions or reporting requirements should be modified and if some of the non-governance elected positions should become appointive. (**Agreed**)

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15. National and chapter boards should ratify all free or honorary memberships before they are granted. **(Agreed)**
16. No funds of the PSHS shall benefit or be distributable to any member, officer, or any other private person or individual, other than reimbursement for legitimate PSHS expenses, correctly submitted and conforming to PSHS bylaws and rules of operation. All the assets and net earnings of the PSHS shall be used to further Society purposes. **(Agreed)**
17. Due to the pervasive pattern of violations of accepted accounting practices and bylaw requirements during the past several years, an outside audit should be considered within the constraints of available funds. **(Under consideration)**
18. Pursuant to the recommendation of the report, this committee should contact previous officers to clarify questionable expenditures. **(Done)**
19. This report should be submitted to the national board of officers at the 2004 annual meeting/reunion. The final report along with committee and board actions should be published in the national newsletter. **(Done)**

Drafted 4/6/04 and status of recommendations updated 6/8/04

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