



Philippine Scouts Heritage Society Winter/Spring 2014



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

Message from National President Jose Calugas, Jr.

Time sure went fast and I hope that everyone has a nice and enjoyable summer. Spring is coming and we are ready for our next PSHS newsletter. Last April 12-13, 2013 we celebrated the 29th National Reunion at La Quinta Inn & Suites in Tacoma, Washington. The Capt. Jose Calugas, Sr. Chapter hosted the memorable reunion.

I want to thank the President and members Tacoma chapter for their support to the success of the reunion. Chapter President Zenaida Crisostomo Slep not only planned for the reunion, but published the souvenir program with the new logo made by her daughter.

The reunion coincided with the Battle of the Bulge veterans who also have the reunion at La Quinta. It was a memorable experience to see all these veterans despite their age from the Pacific theatre and European to be together again. Stories and group pictures with the veterans and re-enactors were taken.



*Jose "Joe" Calugas, Jr.
PSHS President*

It was great to see John Patterson, PSHS President Emeritus and his wife Lilian and the rest of the guests: Mrs. Olive Rosen, wife of Col. Melvin Rosen who came with her son David from Virginia, Dr. Raquel Ramsey, wife of the late LTC Edwin Ramsey and her son as well as widows, sons, daughters, grandchildren, great grandchildren of the Philippine Scouts and friends who came to attend and support the Society.

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be the legacy *Their legacies live if their stories are remembered.*



Message from Newsletter Editor Paul Ruiz

Strange as it may be, I originally started this newsletter immediately following the April 2013 reunion in Tacoma. I had just arrived at SeaTac airport on my way home. It was 10:30am, I had 3 hours until my flight, and I was silently raising tall glasses of beer to our veterans while deciding, in that beer-induced giddiness, to start memorializing our somber and historic reunion. I typed 2 pages, caught my flight home, re-engaged with work and family, and promptly got sucked back into my normal routines. As a self-diagnosed perfectionist who, ironically neither turns out perfect work nor work in perfect time, I deleted what may have been passable for this more sobered script.

I mention all of this because: 1. Sometimes we simply squeeze in PSHS work wherever and whenever we can, 2. I want to publicly castigate myself for my serial tardiness, and 3. (reasons always come in “3s” don’t they?) I have absolutely no political aspirations for anyone to know I joyfully consumed 44 ounces of beer before lunch – although given the recent events of one would-be NYC mayoral candidate and one current Toronto mayor, my indulgence would appear to be a non-issue.

For those of you who were in Tacoma this past April, you were treated to a fantastic reunion (thank you Tacoma Chapter, well done!) As we know, for our reunions to be pulled off requires event planning at a level similar to that of a wedding, and Tacoma Chapter President Zenaída Slep and her crew rose to the occasion. They paid attention to many fine details that occurred behind the scenes, and I know they were furiously working prior

(front page) Gen. Douglas MacArthur awarded the Distinguished Service Cross to Maj. Edwin P. Ramsey in recognition for his work in organizing guerrilla units in the Philippines. Taken June 2, 1945. More on Col. Ramsey on page 12. (Signal Corps Photo)



Philippine Scout and Battle of the Bulge Veterans at the 29th Reunion.

to and during the event, which went seamlessly. If anyone deserved a beer at 10:30 in the morning on the day the reunion ended, it was Zenaída and the officers of the Tacoma Chapter. Cheers!

The morning session began with the “scholar panel” consisting of UC Berkeley PhD candidate, Jordan Gonzalez and author Cecilia Gaerlan who each gave detailed power point presentations. The afternoon session included a photo presentation by yours truly of the prior reunion that had been held in the Philippines.

The second day of the reunion began with the award-winning film, *Forgotten Soldiers*, along with a question and answer period by filmmaker Donald Plata and writer Chris Schaefer. This was followed by a veterans panel of Scouts who discussed their experiences. This is turn was followed by a General’s panel which included sons and grandsons of Scouts who are now Generals. Lastly was a panel of the Philippine Scout re-enactors.

One very interesting coincidence during the reunion was that we were conducting ours at the same time and location that the US Army veterans who had fought during the Battle of the Bulge were having theirs! In several respects, both reunions were mirror images of each other with elderly veterans; younger generation attendees in period uniforms of their respective theaters of operation; and various exhibits of both the Pacific and European theaters lining the hallways near the adjacent reunions. After an impromptu discussion with the director for the Battle of the Bulge reunion, we brought in our Scouts for a group photo with their veterans, and wished them well. We were honored to be with the Bulge veterans, and they too expressed their honor to be with our Scouts.

That evening, Brigadier General Oscar Hilman presided over the dinner with formality, warmth, and humor. The Scout re-enactors, in period uniform, presented the colors. During the dinner, a slide show presentation, set to music, commemorated last year’s reunion in

the Philippines. LTC (retired) Al Cosio was our keynote speaker and recalled the prior reunion held in the Philippines, as well as calling on members of the PSHS to recognize that they are the future of the organization and to get involved. After the dinner, the Tacoma Chapter conducted a beautiful rose ceremony, commemorating the Scouts with a yellow rose handed to each surviving Scout and member of a Scout family.

LTC Cosio is absolutely right and echoes a sentiment that has been repeated at every reunion – that for this organization to survive and continue to flourish, family members and friends need to step up and help run the PSHS. Recently, either elderly Scout veterans or next generation relatives/friends held these positions. Those veterans, now in their 90s, are either gone or otherwise unable to handle the duties of the various positions should not be surprising. In fact, the generation which followed our Scouts now consists of many in their 60s and 70s. This speaks to the need for the generation

that follows them to be more actively engaged. A transition is now necessary, one that has been recognized even during the organization's infancy over 20 years ago. The organization is in need of the available talent within the membership. Those with backgrounds in accounting, law, event planning, management, would be helpful. However, those who can give of some of their time and effort to continue the mission of the PSHS are needed. Please let us know if you can help. Talk to us at the reunion, or reach out to us via the website. As second and third generation members step into roles within the organization, the PSHS will continue to evolve, as it should. When I attended my first reunion in 1995, I was a bystander in the purest sense. I never would have thought I would be handling any type of office and certainly not trying to fill Mike Houlahan's large shoes as Newsletter Editor.

As many of you know, the 2012 reunion was held in the Philippines on the 70th anniversary of the Fall of Bataan.

Nothing before or possibly after is likely to approach the scope and gravitas of that event, given the location, expenditures involved, national participation by the Philippine government, and particularly because several of our Scouts—two of whom have since passed on—were able to make the trip. If you were there, you know what I mean.

But, I call your attention to the 2014 reunion that will be held at Ft. Sam Houston, Texas! This place also has special meaning for the Scouts, which serves as the home of our museum. Included in this newsletter will be the reunion materials, which I recommend you fill out and return as soon as possible. Bring the whole family, maybe make a road trip of it, enjoy the beauty of Texas, but remember...Don't mess with Texas (ain't that right, Lilly?). This reunion will require the help of volunteers both within and outside of Texas. Please refer to the remainder of this newsletter for further details on how you can get involved.

A word about the cost of this newsletter. It is expensive for our organization, with its very modest budget, to maintain the printing and mailing goals set many years ago. If you can opt for an emailed copy, please let me know. We will attach it in an email to you. This would be greatly appreciated by the PSHS.

Given the limited distribution of the newsletter, I would like to direct your attention to our website which has been well tended by Sean Conejos, our webmaster. In it, you will find updated information. Nice job Sean!

That about wraps it up for this issue. We look forward to seeing you in San Antonio on May 2, 2014. Please let us know if you can help with the reunion; if you would like to become further involved with the PSHS; and if you can opt for emailed rather than a hardcopy newsletter. Warm regards, and Happy New Year!

-Paul Ruiz



*Three Philippine Scouts at the 29th Reunion Dinner.
L to R: Aniceto Bagley, David Tejada, and Dan Figuracion*

*Philippine Scouts Heritage Society Newsletter
Paul Ruiz, Editor & Publisher
458 McAllister Dr., Benicia, CA 94510
Winter/Spring 2014, Published Twice Annually
Two-Year Subscription: Domestic \$10, Overseas \$14*

President's Message *(Continued from Page 1)*

I would like to thank the following:

- Art Garcia, John Roten, and Sean Conejos for the Philippine Scouts displays featuring pictures, uniforms, insignias, pins, etc.
- The panel presenters, Jordan Gonzales, Yale graduate, UC Berkeley PhD candidate talked about the Bataan Death March and Cecilia Gaerlan, author of *In Her Mother's Image*.
- Multimedia presentation of the 28th Reunion in the Philippines by Paul Ruiz, PSHS Newsletter Editor.
- Showing of the *Forgotten Soldiers* Documentary, with questions and answers. Presented by Donald Plata, Producer, and Chris Schaefer, Writer.
- Most of all, thank you to the Philippine Scout Veterans: David Tejada from San Francisco, Aniceto Bagley from Huntsville, Alabama, and Dan Figuracion who came to attend to be in the veterans panel.

Also my thanks goes to the re-enactors— Art Garcia, Rudy Cabigas, Sean Conejos and John Roten—who loves re-enacting as a hobby and presenting as color guards for the dinner ceremony.

As always, thank you to the master of ceremonies, Brig. Gen. Oscar Hilman (AUS Ret.) with his wife Patty, for doing a great job.

Lt. Col. Al Cosio (AUS Ret.), Vice President of the Tacoma Chapter, son of a Philippine Scout was our keynote speaker and he delivered a great speech. A copy of his speech is on the PSHS website.

Most of all we have to remember our heroes who passed away in the year 2012-2013: Felizardo F. Valenzuela, 92nd Coast Artillery; 1st Sgt. Jesus Rabano, 12th Signal; Eduardo Abisay, 92nd Coast Artillery; Pablo L. Mesina, 45th Infantry; SFC Zosimo Guiang, 86th Field Artillery; S/Sgt. Antonio Nimis, 45th Infantry; Benjamin Embry, 26th Cavalry; SFC Guillermo Rumingan; Col. John Olson, 57th Infantry; Capt. Felipe Fernandez, 26th Cavalry; Capt. Eulalio Arzaga, 26th Cavalry; LTC

Edwin Ramsey, 26th Cavalry; and CSMJ Ricardo Devilla, 92nd Coast Artillery. May they rest in peace. The legacy lives if their stories are remembered.

I just want to thank everyone, members and officers of the Tacoma Chapter who in one way or another helped to make the 29th National reunion a success and memorable. The showing of the documentary of the *Forgotten Soldiers* by Donald Plata (Producer) and Chris Schaefer (Writer) and narrated by Lou Diamond Philips also helped remember our heroes, the Philippines Scouts and the USAFFE. We are showing it all over the United States to remind the public of the contributions of these brave warriors. They will never be forgotten so long as the PSHS exists whose mission is to preserve the legacy, history and heritage of the Scouts.

The National Organization will host the 30th National Reunion, not any of the chapters. A list of task to be done are listed in the PSHS website and an e-mail to all the members to volunteer for these task. The 30th Reunion will be at La Quinta Inn and Suites in San Antonio, Texas on May 2 and 3, 2014. We will visit



PSHS President Joe Calugas, Jr. and Philippine Scout David Tejada of the 12th Signal Company (PS) (Courtesy of Rudy Cabigas)

the Fort Sam Houston Military Museum and will also have presenters and panel discussion and showing of the Forgotten Soldier documentary by Donald Plata. To view the 29th National Reunion and the task list for the 30th Reunion in San Antonio, please visit the PSHS website, www.philippine-scouts.org.

Finally, I just want to let everyone know that this will be my last term for the position as National President. I have been involved in activating the Tacoma Chapter in 2002. At the time, we only had (12) members and now we have (98) life members and (4) annual with a total of 102 members. I was the Chapter President for 8 years and also the National First- Vice President for 6 years and National President for 3 years.

As National President, we had the 28th Reunion in the Philippines and the 30th Reunion in San Antonio, Texas to visit the Fort Sam Houston Military Museum as well as to review and revise the National By-Laws by the review committee. It is to be voted by the members at the general membership meeting during the 30th Reunion in San Antonio. Reviewing the National by-laws is a must since it has never been reviewed for several years. The By-Laws is the guideline and framework in order for the Society to be viable in the future. The next National President will feel comfortable that the National By-laws has been newly revised. It's been fun and at times a challenge to work with different people with different backgrounds and disciplines. It's time to turn over the position to a younger candidate with the vision for the future. I want to thank everyone for their support and I know we have qualified candidates to fill the position as National President to carry on the mission of the Society.

Mabuhay ang Philippine Scouts!

Joe Calugas, Jr.
President



30th Annual Reunion in San Antonio

LA QUINTA INN & SUITES CONVENTION CENTER
303 BLUM STREET ★ SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS ★ MAY 2 & 3, 2014

Turn to pages 13, 14 & 15 to Register Today

Friday, May 2nd

- ★ 9:00AM-4:00PM: "Be the Legacy" 30th Reunion First Day Events
- ★ 5:00PM: "Filipino Night" Hospitality Event

Saturday, May 3rd

- ★ 9:00AM-11:00AM: "Be the Legacy" 30th Reunion Second Day Events
- ★ 12:30PM: Tour of Fort Sam Houston Military Museum, the official repository of the Philippine Scouts
- ★ 6:00PM: 30th Reunion Dinner Banquet & Dance
\$60/Ticket. All proceeds benefit PSHS, A 501(c)(3) Nonprofit.

Questions? Contacts in San Antonio: Odette Denisa Farias (210) 667-0460
Robert and Lily Ochoa (210) 674-7007 ★ Edison Diloy (210) 573-8036
Gertrude Umaming (210) 473-4616
Medardo "Dardo" & Marietta Dela Cruz (210) 415-4797

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Joe Calugas, Jr., National President ★ (253) 752-2573 ★ Calugasjr@aol.com
Zenaida Crisostomo Slem, Tacoma Chapter President ★ (253) 921-5788

Get involved. Help us plan!

Dear Members,

Our 30th National Reunion is now in the planning stages. It was decided at our 29th Reunion, to hold our 30th Reunion in San Antonio, Texas. We wanted to get out some important information to all of you, so you too would be able to also start planning your trip.

This year the 30th Reunion will be hosted by the National Organization, which means everyone will be responsible in taking part in this event. All members are highly encouraged to be involved and to participate to make this a successful 30th Reunion.

Our National President, Joe Calugas, Jr. will be asking members to contribute their time, talents and skills to make this event a very memorable one. So, if there is something that you are already interested in being involved with please contact our National President, Joe Calugas, Jr. He can be reached at (253) 752-2573 or calugasjr@aol.com

Photos from the 29th National Reunion Tacoma, Washington



Advertising Rates

Our newsletter advertising rates are as follows:

Full page:	\$105
Half page:	\$60
Quarter page:	\$35
Business card:	\$18

Our current circulation is slightly over 540 copies per issue. For advertising placement or additional information, please contact PSHS President Emeritus John Patterson through our website or at:

Sen. John Patterson
President, PSHS
721 N. Quidnessett Rd.
North Kingstown, RI 02852

Newsletter

Non-member newsletter subscription:

2-years: \$10.00 domestic & \$14.00 overseas;
3-years: \$14.00 domestic & \$18.00 overseas.

Email subscriptions:

2-years: \$4.00
3-years: \$6.00

Members receive the Newsletter at no charge.

Donations are tax deductible as the PSHS has 501(c)(3) status. Newsletter donation and subscription checks should be made out to the "PSHS" (with "Newsletter Donation" or "Subscription" listed on the memo line) and mailed to:

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President, PSHS
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North Kingstown, RI 02852

True Heroism

An Essay By Emily Poirier

8th Grade, Great-Granddaughter of Capt. Jose Calugas, Sr.

There are many opinions as to what defines a hero, but most people believe that a hero is a brave, handsome man or pretty woman who defeats evil. This stereotypical hero usually occurs in fictional movies, but in reality defeating all is virtually impossible. A true hero is someone who is selfless and who takes time out of his or her day to make an impact in someone's life, big or small. True heroes are also honest, loyal, and understanding. Heroes can be people of any age or even animals. They are everywhere and inspire us to look beyond ourselves.

Heroes are courageous, selfless people who take risks to help others. On September 21, 2013, Katherine Walton and her three young daughters, Petra, Portia, and Gigi were faced with a life threatening situation. At the Westgate Mall in Kenya, there was a terrorist attack. It was an ordinary Saturday at the mall until gunshots were fired and explosives were set off. Not truly knowing what was going on, Katherine and her three girls quickly hid under a display table hoping they wouldn't get caught. Katherine had to rub her daughter's backs to soothe them, while she continually saw gunmen walking near the display table they were hiding under. Eventually, after 4 1/2 hours, an armed stranger spotted them and carefully called the family toward him. Katherine decided to trust the man, and her girls ran to the open area of the mall towards the stranger. Katherine followed, and the man led them safely out of the mall. This man was Abdul Haji, a business man, who had a meeting nearby and entered the mall to help his brother. Abdul Haji saw the frightened faces of the family and decided to risk his own life to help them. Without Abdul Haji's bravery and selflessness, the mother and her three young children may not have made it out of the mall alive. Abdul Haji was an adult, but children can be heroes too. Another heroic act was performed by a ten-year-old named Kyle Forbes. In Houston, Texas on October 13, 2009, Kyle saved the life of his art teacher, Ms. Lowes, who had choked on an apple during class and was unable to breathe. Kyle Forbes was a Boy Scout and knew how to perform the Heimlich maneuver. He was able to execute the maneuver properly and remove the apple from his teacher's throat.

Not only is Kyle a ten-year-old courageous kid, Kyle also has autism. This story will especially inspire the lives of children or even adults who are diagnosed with autism. Both Abdul Haji and Kyle Forbes exhibited heroism by reacting without hesitation and selflessly in a life threatening situation.

Heroic actions are taking place everywhere around us. Heroes display perseverance, skillful thinking, and a high moral code. The military who defend our country are warriors who demonstrate all three of these characteristics. Few people in battle are awarded the Medal of Honor, the highest United States military award given to those who risk their life above and beyond.



Sgt. (later Capt.) Jose Calugas, Sr. receives the Medal of Honor. (Signal Corps Photo)

My great-grandfather, Sgt. Jose Calugas, is one of the recipients. Sgt. Jose Calugas fought in World War II in the Philippines and worked in the mess hall. On January 16, 1942, Sgt. Jose Calugas noticed that one of the guns had been damaged and the gun's crew members were killed or wounded. He made a heroic decision and risked his life by running 1,000 yards to the gun position across the shell-swept area, voluntarily and without orders. Under enemy fire, Sgt. Jose Calugas organized a volunteer squad and together they were able to repair the gun and put it back into service.

His act of bravery and skillful thinking helped save the lives of others in battle, but one does not have to be in battle to be considered a hero. Many people are heroes through their peacemaking. Martin Luther King Jr. is just one of the peacemakers who have made a great impact in this world. He supported nonviolent civil disobedience and was against racial inequality. Martin Luther

King Jr. is known for his "I Have a Dream" speech. Many people agreed with him, but there were also many people who disagreed with him. Despite receiving death threats, he showed perseverance by continuing to fight for the peace and equality he believed in. Sgt. Jose Calugas and Martin Luther King Jr. were dedicated to what they believed in and persevered in the battle of war and peace. They both made decisions backed by a high moral code.

Heroes are also loyal, caring, and trustworthy. One does not need to be human to be considered a hero. In the Disney fictional movie *Bolt*, Bolt is a dog whose owner, Penny, is caught in a building fire. Most people are able to escape, but when she gets left behind with the crowd, she does not know what to do. Bolt runs into the building to find Penny, despite the fire spreading and flaming pieces falling everywhere. As Bolt and Penny attempt to escape the building, Penny weakens and is unable to continue running, so she encourages Bolt to leave her behind, but Bolt remains loyal and stays by her side. Bolt eventually discovers that by barking through a vent, the sound will travel outside calling for help. Seconds later, the firefighters come to rescue Penny and Bolt. In real life, service dogs are heroes by assisting their owners who may be visually impaired or disabled. Cecil Williams and his service dog, Orlando, are just one example of the friendship between a service dog and his owner. Cecil Williams is blind and relies on Orlando in order to get around. Orlando is loyal to Cecil by staying by his side at all times and guiding Cecil in the right direction. Service dogs are trustworthy because their owners are unable to do certain tasks on their own, and the owner must trust the dog to act for them. Orlando and other service dogs are heroes to their owners every day, even if they aren't risking their life.

The examples above, humans and animals, young and old, in war and for peace, fictional and real, all portray heroism by displaying courage, loyalty, determination, and selflessness. Even a small act of kindness can be a heroic act and make a big difference in someone else's life. This goes to show that anyone can be a hero, no matter what.

Congressional Recognition for the Forgotten Soldiers



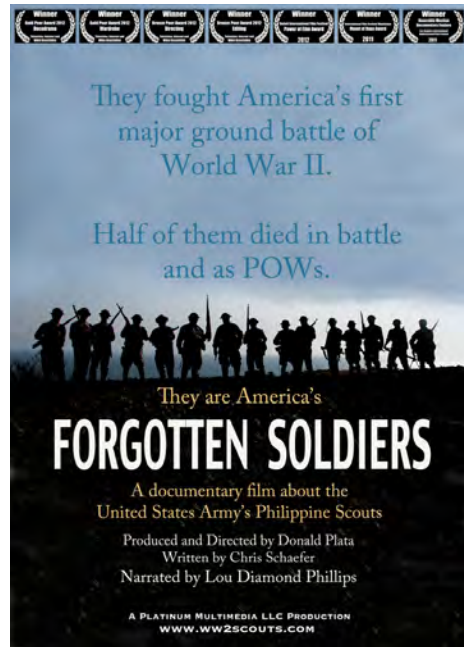
Stephen Sifuentes, representing U.S. Senator Dean Heller, and Lieutenant Commander Ceasar Elpidio of the Filipino American Veterans and Families organization, present producer/director Donald Plata the Certificate of Congressional Recognition (Courtesy of Chris Schaefer).

At the Leatherneck Club in Las Vegas, representatives of U.S. Senator Dean Heller and U.S. Congressman Joe Heck of Nevada presented filmmakers Donald Plata, Lou Diamond Phillips and Chris Schaefer Certificates of

Congressional Recognition for creating and producing the documentary movie *Forgotten Soldiers*. The legislators also recognized the Philippine Scouts Heritage Society for its support of the film, and the Nevada Chapter of the Filipino-American Veterans and Families organization presented the filmmakers the Freedom Award.

The Freedom Award plaque and the congressional certificates were presented at the “Season of the Soldier” event organized by Ceasar Elpidio and Luke Perry of the “Two Guys” radio program in Las Vegas, and sponsored by the Nevada Chapter of the Filipino-American Veterans and Families. The event’s objective was to draw attention to Filipino veterans who served in the U.S. Army during World War II. In addition to the sold out crowd, the event was enhanced by the presence of Stephen Sifuentes, representing Senator

Dean Heller, Keith Hughes, representing Congressman Joe Heck, girls from Las Vegas’ “Pinups for Patriots” organization, and Nevada Republican Party Chairman, Michael McDonald.



What's New at Philippine-Scouts.org



Sean Conejos
PSHS Webmaster &
Public Relations Officer

When I accepted Victor Verano’s invitation to become PSHS Webmaster, I had a vision... If Fort Sam Houston is the official physical repository of the Philippine Scouts, then Philippine-Scouts.org shall be the online repository—a web-based museum that

preserves the legacy and the stories of these gallant soldiers.

I believe we have taken great strides in making that happen. Our website is more accessible and filled with more information than ever before. Here are some features we have added since February 2013:

- The most recently updated pages now appear at the top of our home page, so everyone can see what’s new.
- A Philippine Scout Wall of Heroes and PS Medal of Honor Awardees pages pay tribute to these honorable and loyal soldiers. (Special thanks to Philip Garcia for putting these together)
- A “Scouts in the News” page lists articles that discuss the Philippine

Scouts and related news.

- A new section that displays Philippine Scout and USAFFE Militaria.
- Pictures and videos from the 29th Annual Reunion and from Colonel Ramsey’s “Celebration of Life” at Arlington National Cemetery.

It has been over six decades since the last Philippine Scout units faded into Army history. But, Colonel Al Cosio reminded us at the 29th Annual Reunion that, no matter where we are or what we do, “We are the legacy.”

It is up to us to keep their memories and histories alive. Together we can do that and I am committed to making sure our website does so as well.

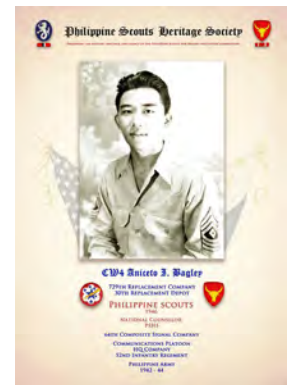
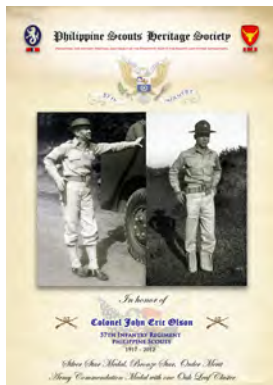
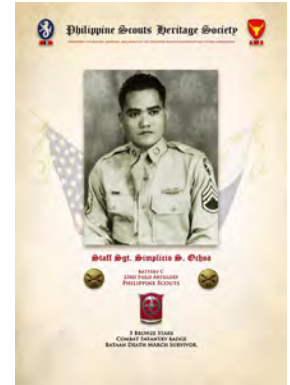
The Philippine Scout Wall of Heroes

The Wall of Heroes is a collection of tribute posters honoring our relatives and friends who served in the Philippine Scouts. Here, you'll find a some examples that we've created so far.

To add your very own Philippine Scout hero to the Wall, please send a photograph of your soldier in his or her uniform or any formal wear and any awards they earned to:

pudytat26@gmail.com OR
webmaster@philippine-scouts.org

We'll then post your hero's poster up on the web at philippine-scouts.org/the-scouts-ps-wall-of-heroes.html



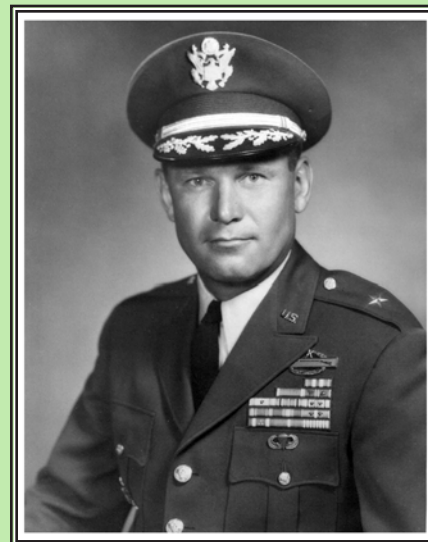
The General's Corner

The General's Corner is dedicated to the memory of **Brigadier General Royal Reynolds, Jr.** During the early days of World War II, General Reynolds commanded the First Battalion of the 57th Infantry Regiment (PS). He led his unit in the defense of Bataan and then spent the remainder of the war as a guerrilla.

As the first President of the Philippine Scouts Heritage Society, he was one of the Society's founders and a longtime staunch supporter. **The General's Corner** publishes historical accounts of World War II in the Philippines.

In this issue of the General's Corner:

- Invictus
- Longoskawayan Point
- The Last Cavalry Charge



Brigadier General Royal Reynolds, Jr.

Invictus

I heard the poem, Invictus, many years ago. Recently, I came upon it and was taken by its power and imagery, and I committed it to memory. When I read it, I think of our prisoners on Bataan who suffered so horribly. Many died from the extreme conditions and were buried in unmarked graves, in some cases never to be recovered.

"Invictus" is Latin for "unconquered," and while the forces on Bataan were conquered in the larger sense, this poem reflects a sense of self-mastery while imprisoned by ruthless and merciless guards. It turns out that Nelson Mandela drew strength from it during his own 26-year incarceration.

I place it here, in the General's Corner, to commemorate not just our Scouts, but all of the USAFFE forces, including civilians who suffered at the hands of the Japanese during this war.

-Paul Ruiz

Invictus

By William Ernest Hensley

Out of the night that covers me,
Black as the pit from pole to pole,
I thank whatever gods may be
For my unconquerable soul.

In the fell clutch of circumstance
I have not winced nor cried aloud.
Under the bludgeonings of chance
My head is bloody, but unbowed.

Beyond this place of wrath and tears
Looms but the horror of the shade,
And yet the menace of the years
Finds and shall find me unafraid.

It matters not how strait the gate,
How charged with punishments the
scroll,

I am the master of my fate:
I am the captain of my soul.

Longoskawayan Point

By Victor Verano

In a recent trip to the Philippines this past July 2013, PSHS member Victor Verano along with some history buff friends hiked and visited Longoskawayan Point at the southwest coast of Bataan. This was the site of one of the wartime engagements known as the "Battle of the Points" where USAFFE forces successfully defended Bataan's west coast from Japanese seaborne landings.

The Longoskawayan battle was the southernmost engagement and closest to the rear area base of Mariveles. A battalion of Japanese landed there by mistake and very dangerously close to the rear support areas with high ground to their advantage. It was one instance where the Philippine Scouts were called in to take over the mission of clearing the promontory of Japanese invaders. With support from Scout

artillery units and Corregidor mortars, they defeated and wiped out the Japanese.

Victor was able to get first hand insights of the battle from Scout veteran Capt.

Nick Golla. Mr. Golla of the Jose Calugas Chapter, was a platoon sergeant in E Company, 2nd Battalion, 57th Infantry PS. His company was one of three that advanced and attacked the Japanese.

Victor will be presenting a slideshow and recounting of his trip to Longoskawayan at the upcoming PSHS reunion in May 2014.



Figure 1. Victor with Longoskawayan in the background



Figure 2. View of Mariveles Harbor from Mauakis Ridge that overlooked Mariveles to the east and Longoskawayan on the west.



Figure 3. Cliff face at the end of the Point



Figure 4. Some of the battle relics Victor and his companions found on the ground

The Last Cavalry Charge

(Excerpted from the original article written by Chris Schaefer. The full article can be found at philippine-scouts.org. Photos taken at Col. Ramsey's interment at Arlington National Cemetery, courtesy of Pablo Cascio Photography)

Philippine Islands, January 1942. Twenty-seven horsemen picked their way along a narrow dirt road toward the coastal village of Morong, Bataan Peninsula. First Lieutenant Edwin Price Ramsey, ordered his men to "draw pistols" and form "as foragers"—a straight-across line of cavalrymen with weapons at the ready.

Shots rang out! One of Ramsey's men snapped back in his saddle and clung desperately to his horse, severely wounded. Ramsey raised his pistol and yelled "Charge!"

The startled Japanese, surprised and unprepared for this sudden onslaught of whooping, firing, mounted cavalrymen, broke and ran.

Lieutenant Ramsey and his men, all members of the U.S. 26th Cavalry, Philippine Scouts, had successfully conducted the last horse-mounted cavalry charge in United States military history.

However, the fight on Bataan ultimately proved to be hopeless. On April 9, under pressure from an all-out Japanese assault, the commanding general of American forces on Bataan surrendered in order to save the lives of his sick and starving soldiers.

But Lieutenant Ramsey's war was not over. Rather than surrender, Edwin Ramsey took off into the jungle with a few other escaped American officers, and began to recruit Filipino guerrillas into an organization called the East Central Luzon Guerrilla Area.

After World War II, Edwin Ramsey bore no grudges against the Japanese. He launched an outstanding career as an international businessman in Japan itself, then in Taiwan, and later in the Philippine Islands.

He died in Los Angeles in March 2013 at age 95. On June 28, 2013, his body was laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery with full military honors, including a beautiful riderless black horse to commemorate the hero who led the United States Army's last cavalry charge.



Colonel Edwin Price Ramsey (1917-2013)



Dr. Raqui Ramsey at Arlington



PSHS Members Victor Verano & Sean Conejos (as Philippine Scout reenactors) stand with the Ramsey Family behind Col. Ramsey's caisson.



The black, riderless horse



The Honor Guard folds the American Flag



Philippine Scouts Heritage Society 30th Annual National Reunion



May 2-3, 2014

REGISTRATION FORM

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(Last Name) (First Name)

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City: State: Zip Code:

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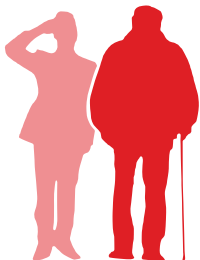
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FAMILY MEMBERS WHO WILL BE PRESENT TO RECEIVE THE "ROSE."



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Philippine Scouts Heritage Society 30th Annual National Reunion



May 2-3, 2014

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Philippine Scouts Heritage Society 30th Annual National Reunion



May 2-3, 2014

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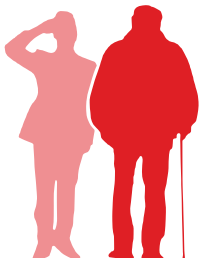
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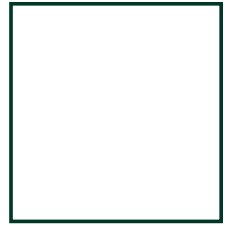
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Please contact us if you have any questions or would like to get involved with the Philippine Scouts Heritage Society!

If you would like to email us, please visit philippine-scouts.org.