



VETERANS' UPDATES

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PVAO Holds Series of 'VETERANS' DIALOGUE' Towards Revitalizing the Filipino Veterans Community

17 Original VFP Charter Members/ Organizations Pursuant to RA 2640

Asociacion de los Veteranos de la Revolucion
 AFP Retired Veterans Association (AFPREVA)
 Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor (DBC)
 Eastern Luzon Guerilla Veterans Association
 (ELGVA)
 Filipino-American Irregular Troops (FAIT)
 Veterans Legion
 Filipino Disabled Veterans Association
 Hunters ROTC Association
 PEFTOK Veterans Association
 Philippine Veterans Legion
 USAFIP-NL
 Confederation of Filipino Veterans (CONVETS)
 Gold Star Mothers and United War Widows
 and Orphans Association of the Philippines*
 Philippine Association of War Widows,
 Parents, and Orphans*
 Magsaysay Veterans Legion
 Philippine National Guard Veterans Legion
 Philippine Naval Veterans Legion
 United Disabled Veterans Association of the
 Philippines

*Veterans Organizations specifically for widows and their dependents.

VFP-Affiliated Organizations

Kampilan Peacekeepers Association, Inc.
 (KPAI)
 Alliance for the Amelioration of Veterans and
 Former Policemen and Reservists (AAVFP)
 Association of Retired Military Officers and
 Personnel for Unity
 The Last Watering Hole
 Fraternal Organization of ROTC, Reservists,
 and Veterans (FORVETS)
 Filipino War Veterans Foundation, (FILVETS)
 Inc.
 Association of Generals and Flag Officers
 (AGFO)
 The Association of Widows, Relatives, and
 Advocates of Equality (AWARE)
 One International Peacekeepers Veterans
 Confederation of the Philippines, Inc.
 Business, Industry and Retired Cavaliers, Inc.
 (BIRCI)
 Cavalier Association of Veterans
 PMA Foundation, Inc. (PMAFI)
 PMAA Educational Foundation, Inc. (PETFI)
 PMA Alumni Association, Inc. (PMAAAI)

LISTEN TO THE "THE VETERANS HOUR"
 @ DWDD 1134 kHz AM / Live web streaming at:
www.afpradio.ph/www.crsafp.ph
 Tuesday/Thursday, 2-3PM

A "Veterans' Dialogue" between veterans' organization, PVAO and major stakeholders was held last July 5, 2011 at the Main Restaurant of the AFP Commissioned Officers' Club in Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City to revitalize the Filipino veterans' community.

Prominent for his advocacy on veterans' welfare, Hon. Rodolfo G. Biazon, Chairman of the House Committee on National Defense Security in the 15th Congress, was invited to grace the event and discuss matters relevant to pending legislation on veterans' concerns.



Guests pause for a moment of prayer before the dialogue starts.



Retired BGen. De Leon airs his reaction to a question raised during the open forum.

"There can be no moment of honor and grandeur to freedom-loving Filipinos than a Veterans' Dialogue that we are having now," said Justice Manuel Pamaran as he delivered the opening remarks for the said event.

The meeting was well-represented by various chartered veterans' organizations under the Veterans Federation of the Philippines (VFP), affiliated organizations & associations of veterans' sons & daughters.

Participants in the dialogue thanked Administrator Ernesto G. Carolina and the newly-created Veterans Affairs Management Division (VAMD) for organizing the dialogue which they described as a "good venue" for veterans to express their concerns and ask questions on various issues affecting the veterans' community – particularly on matters concerning the their organizations and the benefits of their members. The dialogue was likewise a suitable time to apprise the veterans of the continuous efforts of the present administration in improving the welfare of the Filipino veterans' community.

Mr. John Maglalang, representative of Rep. Rodolfo Biazon, said he was very pleased with the turn-out of the dialogue. He requested the VAMD Secretariat for a copy of the questions raised by the participants for Rep. Biazon's information. Mr. Maglalang confirmed that there will be a **Veterans' Dialogue-Part 2** to be hosted by Rep. Biazon wherein leaders of various veterans organizations will again be invited. ■



Leaders of veterans' organizations discuss among themselves before the dialogue starts.

IN THIS ISSUE

Veterans' Updates dedicates this issue to the common aspirations of the Filipino veterans community in upholding the democratic way of life—not only for the interest of all Filipino veterans—but more so, in shaping a legacy of heroism and love of country that will serve as a beacon for the present and future generations.

"SERBISYO SA BETERANO, SERBISYO SA BAYAN."

2011 PVL National Officers Sworn In



A, PVAO administrators oath to Phil. Veterans Legion's National Directorate and Sons & Daughters International Officers at AFPCOC's Lakambini Room



The National Directorate Officers of the Philippine Veterans Legion (PVL) led by Prof. Teodoro P. Calica and Capt. Marlon Z. Dantes as National Commander and Vice National Commander, respectively, were sworn in on August 18, 2011 at the Lakambini Room of the AFP Commissioned Officers Club, Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City.

PVL Sons and Daughters International officers also took their oath of office administered by PVAO Administrator Ernesto G. Carolina. The others who were also inducted are Mr. William G. Pasiwen (Deputy Nat'l Cmmdr-Luzon), Mr. Avelino Martin (Deputy Nat'l Commdr-Visayas), Mr. Ricardo B. Madayag (Deputy Nat'l Commdr -Mindanao), Mr. Pobleo Capito (Nat'l Dir. -Luzon), Mr. Roberto Gacayan (Nat'l Dir. -Visayas), Mr. Jose Apolinario (Nat'l Dir. -Mindanao), Mr. Manuel Reyes (Nat'l Adjutant), Mr. Pablo O. Valdez (Nat'l Treasurer), Mr. Arcadio Gonzales (Nat'l Inspector) & Atty. Ricardo Higwit (Nat'l Judge Advocate). Their Sons & Daughters counterparts are Estela Mandap (Nat'l Pres.), Milagros Valdez (Nat'l VP), Eduardo Liban (Secretary), Palma Dizon (Treasurer), Japakar Aribaw (Auditor), Mercy Dalinyag (Nat'l Liaison Officer), Sixto Ramos Jr. (Sgt. At Arms).

Last July 29, 2011, the PVL national directorate held their elections at the PVAO Conference Room,



VAMD Chief Edgar Castro addresses the members of the PVL national directorate prior to the elections.

to decide who among them would succeed the post vacated by the late Atty. Salvador Princesa as National Commander, and elect their other officers. Recognizing PVAO's role in managing veterans affairs, PVL members welcomed the PVAO's assistance through its newly-created Veterans Affairs Management Division. Mr. Edgardo D. Castro, Chief, personally led his staff who supervised the elections to ensure honest, fair & orderly procedures in accordance with existing PVL By-Laws. Under the PVAO Rationalization Plan, VAMD is also tasked to conduct regular sectoral surveys & advocacy programs that truly represent the aspirations, desires, & sentiments of veterans & their families. It works towards the vision of the **Defense Secretary Voltaire T. Gazmin** in positioning the Veterans Federation of the Philippines (VFP) as an umbrella organization that will harmonize all veterans groups into a unified veterans community. ■

Senior Veterans Lead Fun Run

To make their 57th Founding Anniversary celebration hip, trendy and remarkable, senior veterans of the AFP Retired Veterans Association (AFPREVA) organized and led a Fun Run dubbed, "**Takbo, Beteranong Pilipino**" last August 5, 2011 at the AFP GHQ Grandstand, with no less than former President Fidel V. Ramos as the guest of honor.

AFPREVA is a group of retirees from the Armed Forces of the Philippines organized to provide assistance & support to servicemen & their families in claiming pension & other benefits upon their separation from the active service. Throughout the years, it has served its purpose of helping its members facilitate benefits from welfare agencies and financial institutions such as the Philippine Veterans Affairs Office (PVAO), AFP-Finance Center & Pension Gratuity Management Center (PGMC), among others.

A lifetime member of AFPREVA, FVR excitedly supported the fun run that commenced at 5AM. He helped assemble the veterans, widows & children of deceased veterans and other guests. He also headed the warm-up exercises & drills prior to the fun run. FVR was assisted by AFPREVA's able officers headed by their President, Col. Simplicio Duque and Vangie Barba, the event organizer.

Administrator Ernesto G. Carolina headed the PVAO participants who joined the three-kilometer-run & five-kilometer-run events. Also present were participants from the uniformed service including the Philippine Navy, Philippine Army, Philippine Navy, Philippine Coastguard, Philippine Marines and the Philippine National Police. MERALCO, the corporate sponsor in the event, was also represented by its employees who enthusiastically joined the activity for physical fitness, team-bonding & to relieve stress from daily business routine. Winners in both events went home with medals and cash prizes. ■



Former President Fidel V. Ramos led the warm-up

