

puertodegalera.com
twitter.com/puertogalera



The New Puerto Galera Fortnightly Journal

Volume 1 No. 03, May 16-31, 2017 A PGOonline Publication

After passing tough exams, tour guides given Mayors permit

After passing a 100-question written examination and afterwards a 3-person panel interview, 107 persons out of nearly 200 participants who attended the tour-guiding services training last January 19 are now certified tour guides.

The new Puerto Galera Tourism Council together with the Office of the Mayor conducted the training after identifying the need to professionalize, re-orient and educate the remaining and prospective tour guides.

The Council noted the complaints received by resorts owners and tourists on some tour guides and so-called recruiters who take advantage of tourists by misrepresenting or giving false information.

The Council which is composed 60% private sector and 40% from the local government met last December 2016 to ascertain problems affecting the tourist industry and subsequently, came up with a list of recommendations to the Office

of the Mayor.

The Mayor's Office acted swiftly and organized the training of the tour guides. After getting a lot of participants, it was decided to make the training in 2 batches, January 19 and another batch on January 20. The lecturers for the training module on the Historical Milestones of Puerto Galera was then Municipal Administrator Noe Lineses, for Environment was Mr. Daniel Enriquez, for the municipal profile was Levy Rivera and for the responsibilities of a tour guide was Ms. Tet De Lara.

After the seminar, a written examination was given to the participants followed later by a 3-person panel interview. Mrs. Malou Morillo from Infinity Resort, Mrs. Carmela Datinguino from the Mayor's Office and Mr. Richard Belen from the academe conducted the interview.

The successful participants and now permitted by the Mayor to engage in tour guiding services are as follows:

1. Acabado, Ariel
2. Antonio, Roselyn C.
3. Balabat, Annabell P.
4. Balitaan, Edna
5. Cabrigas, Andrea A.
6. Caringal, Adialo
7. Caringal, Casiano M.
8. Caringal, Joseph B.
9. Caringal, Maricel C.
10. Catapat, Anastacio A.
11. Del Mundo, John
12. Dela Pena, Vicente S.
13. Delocado, Ben Johnsol L.
14. Despi, Madilyn
15. Evangelista, Genelyn
16. Evangelista Jr., Rogelio
17. Galicia, Leonard
18. Garcia, Helen R.
19. Garcia, Lelaine B.
20. Garcia, Lestino
21. Garcia, Shirley P.
22. Garlan, Lolita M.
23. Hayag, Eufrocina M.
24. Janer, Ginafer
25. Magparangalan, Jennifer
26. Mansalupas, Marites
27. Mansalupas, Remar G.
28. Manzano, Arc

>>> on page 2



PGF Editor Noe Lineses giving a lecture on the historical milestones of Puerto Galera to participants of the first tour guiding seminar held last January 19 -20



A huge water tank is now being built in Sinandigan for the Sabang-Sinandigan area

Water problem solved in 6 months, says Mayor RDI

Finally, finally, at long last, the long-awaited, much-anticipated water rehabilitation project is underway.

This following the approval of the Sangguniang Bayan of Mayor Rockey Ilagan's water system rehabilitation and improvement projects estimated to cost more than 70 million pesos in total.

The Mayor promised that the water crisis now running nearly one decade will be over and done with once the water project has been completed.

"I promised them that I will solve this and that is what I am doing. Give me 4 to 6 months and they will see a much better water services", says the Mayor who is now on his 10th month in office.

The project will greatly improve the water supply of Sabang, Sinandigan, Palangan, San Antonio, Poblacion, Sto. Nino, Balatero, San Isidro and some parts of Tabinay.

Municipal Engineer design-

nate, Engr. Rodel Rubio confirmed that the rehabilitation and construction of the new water system covering 9 barangays is underway and that the target date of completion is within 6 months or less.

Two new 6-inch diameter pipes will be laid out from the spring source to the main intake tank in Baclayan. From the Baclayan reservoir, a new pipeline costing 10.3 million pesos will be laid out to fill up the new Sinandigan tank which will service the Sabang-Sinandigan area.

Residents of White Beach and Minolo is now experiencing greatly improved water services after the completion of a more than 4 million pesos rehabilitation project. More funds are expected to be infused to finish the San Isidro-Aninuan area.

To improve the water distribution lines in the barangays, funds were allocated as follows: San Antonio, 1 million pesos; Poblacion, Sabang, San Isidro, Sto. Nino, Balatero and

Sinandigan got 2 million pesos each.

Another 3.9 million pesos will be spent for the improvement of water services in Balatero and Sto. Nino.

Phesi, the proponent of the ongoing multi-billion peso wind farm project, will be donating more than 23 million pesos for the purchasing and relocation of pipes and a brand new modern water filtration system to be installed at the source. This is part of their CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) program.

Phesi said that once completed the water coming out of the taps will be clean and potable unlike what is existing now, which many observe, might not be safe for drinking.

Meanwhile, Judge Tomas Leynes granted the petition of the municipal government for the repair and relocation of pipes within the property of Mulawin Investment, which filed a civil case against the

>>> on page 3

Police nab 2 suspected rapists

Charlyn Bayo Teves, 27 years old, appeared at the police station to report that she was mauled by her live-in partner, Jojie Cervo Constantino at about 12:45 in the afternoon, last April 23.

The police responded and 15 minutes later arrested the suspect. Upon checking the records, the police found out that the suspect has 2 outstanding warrant of arrest and ranked number 2 in the Top Most Wanted Persons of the municipal

police station.

The warrant of arrest was for the crime of "Statutory Rape", issued by Hon. Judge Tomas C. Leynes, RTC Branch 40, Calapan City, dated August 6, 2015 with no recommended bail bond and another warrant of arrest for the crime of "Acts of Lasciviousness", issued by Hon. Judge Edgardo M. Padilla, First Municipal Circuit Trial Court, dated September 17, 2015 with bail bond amounting 12,000 pesos.

The police led by Police Chief

Inspector Lawrence Panganiban arrested another suspected rapist last May 4 at Ponderosa, barangay San Isidro. Stephen Maranan, 20 year old, single and employed as a construction worker had been on the wanted person list since last March 31, 2017 when Hon. Judge Edralin Reyes of RTC Branch 39, Calapan City issued the warrant of arrest after being convinced that there was more than probable cause against the suspect to be charged with rape.



Lawrence V. Panganiban
POLICE CHIEF INSPECTOR

Hail to the Chief

by Mario Lutz

The new Chief of Police of Puerto Galera Police Force is Police Chief Inspector Lawrence V. Panganiban, PNPA batch 2008.

He replaced Police Superintendent Jeck DS Tolentino who was promoted to the headquarter of the Regional Philippine National Police in Calapan.

Chief Panganiban's previous assignments are as follows:

- 2009 Chief of Police of Looc, Occidental Mindoro
- 2012 Chief Operation of PPSC (Provincial Public Safety Company)

- Team Leader 1st Maneuver platoon PPSC

- 2013 acting Chief of Police of San Teodoro, Oriental Mindoro

- 2014 Officer In Charge of Bongabong Police Station

- 2016 appointed as Chief of Police Puerto Galera Police Station

His priorities are the fight against illegal drugs, illegal gambling and mining.

The Chief is from Buenavista, Quezon and is married to Felipa Evora Panganiban who bore him 4 children.

Water problem solved from ... p. 1

former administration. This following a motion from Mulawin interposing no objection and consenting to the water project of Mayor Ilagan.

A reliable source said that the 180 degrees change in attitude of Mulawin is because of the "friendly" relationship of Mayor Ilagan with Mr. Augusto "Kiddo" Kalaw. Mr. Kalaw, representing Mulawin Investment vociferously opposed the agreement entered into by former Mayor Hubbert Dolor with the so-called Consortium, a private

corporation, which were supposed to take a leading role in the water system rehabilitation and construction project for the entire municipality.

"Finding the Urgent Motion (To Allow the Repair and Relocation of Water Pipes) filed by the defendant (municipal government), through counsel, to be well-taken and without objection on the part of the plaintiff (Mulawin Investment), same is hereby granted", stated Judge Leynes in his decision.

After passing tough exams, tour guides ... from p. 1

- 29. Marasigan, Merly B.
- 30. Napiza, Mario M.
- 31. Romasanta, Rammel A.
- 32. Rosales, Jolly Ann
- 33. Tacud, Mark Louie
- 34. Tupas, Estela A.
- 35. Tupas, Jocelyn G.
- 36. Tupas, Rizalie
- 37. Velasco Jr., Francisco D.
- 38. Villanueva, Connie Joy
- 39. Donasco, Nancy R.
- 40. Isole, Dale Ranzy P.
- 41. Sumayod Jr., Ponciano G.
- 42. Ledesma, Mhelody
- 43. Maranan, Marlon M.
- 44. Pimentel, Josephine
- 45. Ricare, Michelle
- 46. Arago, Jessie A.
- 47. Arago, Ofelia A.
- 48. Atienza, Ariston A.

- 49. Atienza, Arnold
- 50. Atienza, Ellen D.
- 51. Atienza, Lerma T.
- 52. Atienza, Maribelle P.
- 53. Balbacal, Rodolfo D.
- 54. Bernardino, Lolita B.
- 55. Bernardino, Maryella B.
- 56. Cabuhal, Ryan L.
- 57. Cajayon, Joey A.
- 58. Cagara, Maria Corazon P.
- 59. Cagara, Narwin M.
- 60. Cordero, Glenda C.
- 61. Datingaling, Arnold
- 62. De Chavez, Jerason L.
- 63. De Chavez, Peter Michael L.
- 64. Dimayacyac, John Y.
- 65. Gaba, Jundel Fran
- 66. Gayon, Emilio I.
- 67. Ilagan, Marcelito
- 68. Ilagan, Timotea A.

Comment from a participant of the recent Tour Guide Training Seminar

"Tour guiding licensure examination seminar given to the people of Puerto Galera for free by our Mayor was one of the best project he had done. We all know that tourism industry is the lifeblood of our economy, so improving services and educating our tour guides will contribute a lot on how tourist sees our hometown now and the near future.

A lot of new information from the past, recent and the future of Puerto Galera were tackled at the seminar. Facilitators also taught us the proper behaviour and procedures in conducting tours, given us more information about our hometown, it's tourist spots, geography, topography and climate. Tourism office also told us the programs and benefits of being an accredited tour guides. This program indeed will be a success." --- Mhelody Danao Ledesma

- 69. Lopez, Raquil
- 70. Magboo, Marilyn A.
- 71. Magbuhos, Bebiana M.
- 72. Magracia, Leonisa P.
- 73. Manongsong, John Abeth
- 74. Marquez, Sergio A.
- 75. Pelaez, Divine Grace M.
- 76. Quezada, Merle Merino
- 77. Rivera, Christian C.
- 78. Robles, Luzviminda B.
- 79. Lopez, Christopher S.
- 80. Lopez, Gloria S.
- 81. Lopez, Rodel B.
- 82. Montilla Jr., Juan
- 83. Montilla, Lucky Jestoni M.
- 84. Montilla, Nancy
- 85. Montilla, Princess Jona M.
- 86. Nijboer, Lily M.
- 87. Orbigoso, Christopher B.
- 88. Pryal, Olivia A.
- 89. Silang, Alexes Joseph L.
- 90. Silang Glenn
- 91. Llanera, Jennie Rose M.
- 92. Benalla, Charlie G.
- 93. Lastimoso, Jerry L.
- 94. Masilungan, Aurelio B.
- 95. Marquez, Maricris
- 96. Romero, Emily
- 97. Romero, Matias
- 98. Samson, Lorejean A.
- 99. Villacrusis, Moses
- 100. Villegas, Frederick R.
- 101. Viray, Regie O.
- 102. Fetizanan, Clabelle R.
- 103. Collomar, Jocelyn G.
- 104. Lopez, Armilyn C.
- 105. Magbuhos, Ma, Teresa B.
- 106. Bitare, Imelda
- 107. Francisco, Mary Joyce

(report from Mayette Isole)



<http://www.steakhouse-sabang.com>

Resort Information and Booking:

e-mail: resort@steakhouse-sabang.com

Phone: +63 (0) 977 804 9015

Steakhouse Reservation:

e-mail: info@steakhouse-sabang.com

Phone: +63 (0) 917 328 5954

Located directly at the Beach
Sabang Beach, Puerto Galera
PHILIPPINES

Utopia Resort & Spa

— ★ ★ ★ —

PUERTO GALERA

Tel 0918 555 5720

Tel 0926 600 2554

WEEKLY LUNCH SPECIALS

Monday to Friday. 11.30 am - 2 pm

PHP 250 Per Person

Choice of Filipino Dish, Western Dish or

Make your own Pizza with 3 toppings

MENU CHANGES EVERY WEEK



Pork or Chicken Adobo
with soup and a seasonal
fresh fruit salad and iced tea.

Chicken Parmagian comes
with a side salad and a
seasonal fresh fruit
salad and iced tea.



Make your own Pizza (12 inch),
choice of 3 extra toppings.
Mushrooms, ham, bacon bits,
salami, sweet peppers,
Pineapple, olives and a
sprinkle of fresh chilli for free.



*** Shuttle Services Available for Sabang & Muelle

History of deforestation and the Mangyans in Mindoro

by Mario Lutz, 1 of 5 series

The island of Mindoro has an area of almost 10,000 square kilometers. Mountain ranges from northwest to southeast cover around forty percent. From these ranges numerous rivers run into the riparian areas. In the rainy season they become big rivers and overflow to the lower areas. The mountain ridges also divide the island into two different climatic zones. In the north and east there is no clear division between rainy and dry seasons. Rainfall is rather evenly distributed throughout the year, principally between July and November during the southwest monsoon (habagat) and between November and March during the northeast monsoon (amihan) with a short dry season from April to

June. In the west and south, however, an extensive rain period starts in May and lasts until October, with a longer dry period the rest of the year. Typhoons strike the island particularly between August and December, causing heavy damage to the infrastructure, destroying crops and houses. The more or less evenly distributed rainfall in the east of Mindoro is favor-

able for cultivating agricultural products, and leads to faster vegetative growth than in the west, where cogon grass, a robust and high kind of grass, occupies large areas of land and erosion is a severe problem.' The total population of the provinces of Mindoro was 832,642 in 1990. More than 550,000 people lived in Oriental Mindoro, almost double the number of those in its sister province Occidental Mindoro.

The population is heterogeneous, originating from the different provinces of Central Luzon, the Ilocos provinces and the Visayas. The average annual increase of population was between two and four percent in the last few decades. Basically, immigration proved responsible for this high figure. Most of Mindoro's residents live in coastal areas and between 60 and 80 percent of them are farmers who make a living from the cultivation of wet rice fields, coconuts and citrus fruits. The indigenous inhabitants of Mindoro, however, are the peaceful Mangyan who today predominantly inhabit the island's interior. Anthropologists divide them into six major ethno-linguistic groups, the

Tadjawan, Alangan and Iraya in the north and the Hanunoo, Buhid and Taobuid in the south. According to latest estimations some 75,000 Mangyan lived in Mindoro in 1990, i.e. around nine percent of the total population. Most of the Mangyan families still live according to their traditional way of life in small local groups of 30 to 300 people. They make a modest living by means of shifting cultivation; harvesting rice, corn, and vegetables and gathering tubers and wild plants.

Some still do a little hunting and raise hogs.² The Mangyan are, however, in danger of losing their cultural identity, which is unique in the Philippines. The constant influx of settlers in search of land, the conflict between the New People's Army (NPA) and the Philippine government, the encroachment of big corporations exploiting the natural resources and, most disastrous, environmental destruction are the principal factors endangering the basis of the Mangyan's way of life.

At the turn of the twentieth century, tropical forests covered almost two-thirds of Mindoro's total area and extended to the coastal regions. In 1908 a U.S.

forestry expert stated that 63 percent of Mindoro's area was covered with forest, 36 percent was grass land and only one percent was cultivated area. More than two-thirds of the forests or 44 percent of Mindoro's total area were classified as of commercial value (Merritt 1908, 13). Today the face of the island has almost completely altered. Wide areas of Mindoro are deforested. The forests have given way to settlements, farm land and pasture land for large cattle herds. In 1971 it was estimated that only approximately one-third of the island's total area was still covered with forest. The latest satellite maps and photos, however, reveal that this area has been further reduced, and only a small portion of primary forest, particularly around Mt. Halkon, is still left today.³ Unfortunately, this development in Mindoro fits into the overall development in the Philippines.

Before World War I there had been around 60 million hectares of forest in the Philippines covering ca. 55 percent of the land area. It was estimated that only seven million hectares were left by 1987, most of it second growth. And this development

continues.

The latest United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) figures state that between 1990 and 1995 a total of more than 1.3 million hectares of forest were destroyed, which amounts to 16.2 percent of the total forest area of the year 1990. The Philippines is destroying its forests at a faster pace than any other country in the world. Although government officials are involved in the often illegal export of timber, the indigenous peoples are still blamed for the forest destruction.' Thus, it seems necessary not only to analyze the development of deforestation on Mindoro, but also to provide answers to the questions: What are the reasons for this rapid deforestation: To what extent are the Mangyan particularly affected? How did they react to this development?

American Colonialism, Logging Companies and the Mangyan Although Mindoro played an important role as an entrepot for Chinese goods before the establishment of Spanish colonization, it became a neglected island at the periphery of the archipelago after the Spanish conquest until the end of the nineteenth century.

Mindoro was almost completely undeveloped. No roads existed between the few

small coastal settlements, and thus the only way of communication was by ship. Only 0.3 percent of the island's total area was said to be cultivated in 1870, with the remaining area being classified as forested.

During Spain's colonial rule, Mindoro was well-known for its rich and valuable trees which were used, for instance, for the construction of galleons in the shipyard of Cavite. Consequently, the value of export of all kinds of timber ranked first, though the Spaniards did not even exploit the remarkable quantities of valuable timber located near the coast. The overall export of products from Mindoro remained at a very low level until the end of Spanish colonialism (De la Cavada 1876, 2:35ff; Schult 1991, 30-34).

The predominantly Tagalog-speaking population of the small scattered and isolated settlements on the coast made a very modest living on a subsistence level at that time. They left their homes only to till their fields on cleared former forest land in the immediate vicinity of their settlements. **(TO BE CONTINUED)**

PVC Structures, Designs & Solutions

Lot 1 Sabang Road, Poblacion, Puerto Galera, Oriental Mindoro, 5203



THE SMART CHOICE FOR ALL YOUR BUILDING NEEDS

Our Guarantee

We provide after installation service. All fixtures and fittings are products from Europe and adhere to EU standards.

Telefax: (043) 2873519/ 287-3530

Email: sales@pvcSDS.com

➤ Doors, Windows

➤ Single or Double Glazing

➤ Insect/Security Screen

Mirrors, Shower Screen, Wardrobe Doors

➤ Glass Fences

Cell Nos.: 0928-5029663
0918-9014571

Web: www.pvcSDS.com

*Noe Linesses SILVER BULLET***Ordinance vs loud bikes needed**

ITS hard to understand why our town and provincial legislators remain deaf to the growing clamor by majority of their constituents to enact ordinances against loud motorcycles that produce nerve-wracking noise even in the late hours of the night not just along major roads but also along quiet neighborhood streets.

In some parts of Metro Manila, namely Makati and Marikina, ordinances against the use of loud noise producing open or free flow pipes for motorcycles is being prohibited.

The Land Transportation Office (LTO) has issued guidelines about the operation of motorcycle on roads and highways for the benefit of the general public. Among these is the prohibition of modifying any part of the original design of a motorcycle or scooter without approval from the agency and the Department of Trade and Industry.

The LTO has very few field staffs, local government officials must at the least help in enforcing the law.

Ordinances and rules against the fast growing number of loud motorcycles should be enacted by municipal governments to ensure the effective implementation of the law.

Our councilors can pattern the ordinance after motorcycle level standards being implemented in the United States.

In the State of Arizona, for instance, rules for motorcycle riders are very clear: "A person shall not operate or as an owner permit the operation of a motorcycle in this state that is not equipped with the Manufacturers Original Muffler Or Other Original Noise Reduction Equipment or with a replacement muffler or replacement noise reduction equipment capable of reducing the noise levels below the maximum operating noise levels. A person shall not use a muffler cutout, bypass or similar device on a motorcycle operated in this state."

Because of the publics clamor, state and local legislatures in America, still enact laws against loud motorcycles although under current federal noise statutes, it is illegal to

modify an exhaust system to increase noise.

In Boulder County, Colorado, for example, has a law stating: "No person shall operate anywhere in unincorporated Boulder County any vehicle having a muffler that has been equipped or modified with a cut-off, bypass, or any similar device or modification."

All the measures against the use of open and free flow pipes by motorcycle owners inside and outside our country have only a single purpose - to reduce noise, which is defined as "any sound which annoys or disturbs humans or which causes or tends to cause an adverse psychological or physiological effect on humans."

Resort owners in the Sabang area along the main road to Poblacion have been complaining to officials regarding the loud noise generated by the motorbikes. One resort owner even had to give a discount to a group of divers when they threatened to file a suit against the resort for the discomfort caused by the loud motorbikes.

Another resort had to install thick glasses on their windows to ensure their guests will not be bothered by the noise.

Many residents residing along the road especially where there are habal-habal bikes had been clamoring for regulations not to disallow bikes but to disallow modification of the bikes to produce those terrible roaring noise.

The barangays can also make a barangay ordinance prohibiting loud bikes and collect penalty payments for those violating the ordinance.

"It is very disturbing. I cant even sit on my porch without having to hear someone blasting by and making sure they goose the throttle to make more noise," said one resident. "Anyone who invests more money to make a motorcycle louder just hasnt grown up yet. Most of these guys are older, I can see them riding by. I am not saying dont ride a motorcycle, just tone it down."

Calling our municipal councilors, an ordinance versus loud motorbikes is needed. Please help us rid Puerto Galera of irritating loud motorbikes.

Why we need to have lifeguards on beaches

by Mario Lutz

Summer is a very busy time at White Beach. Thousands of tourists converged in Puerto Galeras most popular tourist spot. With this situation comes more responsibilities for the business owners, law enforcement officers, the local government unit and our public health workers. The long weekend last April 28 to May 1 means more visitors than what Puerto Galera had during the Holy Week period. Was Puerto Galera prepared for that?

Sadly, 3 people lost their lives due to drowning 2 kids and 1 adult male.

Morning of the 29th, a floating body was spotted in White Beach. People rushed to rescue and started CPR as the victim was still breathing. Someone called for an ambulance but it was taking too long so the rescuers decided to put the man into a tricycle and brought him to the hospital. On their way, almost one hour after the incident happened, the trike was met by the ambulance in Balatero. Unfortunately, the man died on the way to the hospital.

The man was with a kid who also drowned that same day. A day later, another kid drowned in Bulabod beach.

One wonders, why wasn't there a standby ambulance service during such a peak period? Where was the tourist police, tourism personnel who could have acted as the first responders?

The Fortnightly called Mayor Rockey Ilagan to ask him these questions. In our conversation the Mayor stated that the Barangay and the LGU underestimated the numbers of arriving guests for that weekend. Mayor Ilagan said that he rushed to the scene as soon as he got the news and ordered to have an ambulance on standby and health workers to be on duty in White Beach during the long weekend. He also ordered the presence of more police officers at the area. He said that the MDRRMC will conduct first aid courses and training for lifeguards.

What Does a Lifeguard Do?

A lifeguard, whether its on the ocean, inland, or at a swimming pool, is the person in charge of the safety of everyone near or nearby. This can mean a lot of things: save drowning victims, provide first aid, protect the environment, enforce all laws, or just provide directions.

To accomplish this, lifeguards need to have a lot of skills at their disposal. They, of course, need to be very accomplished swimmers. This means being physically fit, regularly exercise, and comfortable in the water. They often need to face difficult swimming environments such as the ocean, which has cold temperatures, strong currents, waves, and animal life.



They also need a lot of education in medical and practical matters. As they are often the first responders, they need a good amount of EMS training. This can mean the very well known CPR, but it also means other skills such as tending to a wound or burn. Whatever the emergency, a dashing lifeguard will often be the first one to face it. For other emergencies such as a fire or a disabled boat, they have to know how to address and respond to the situation. Assistance in these areas not only saves lives, but also protects the environment. This can also mean specialized knowledge depending upon the area where they work, such as areas of high surfing activity versus boating activity.

Once they have all of these internal skills, they need equipment to help them best serve the public. The most basic and one of the most useful pieces of equipment is a watchtower. This can be a large structure with large binoculars or it can be as simple as a very tall chair. Whatever the form, a watchtower is there to help survey the waters and quickly observe any accidents.

Once an accident does occur they need specialized equipment to help them take action. For small pools, this is often a large buoy to help drowning victims stay afloat and stay calm. These are great pieces of equipment since they are easy to carry, light, and save lives. Boats for the ocean, may be a part of the equipment necessary to keep lives safe. Depending upon their area, there may also be specialized equipment for boaters or surfers. Regardless of the form, there will always be some equipment available as a rescue attempt will only be performed as a last resort with no equipment.

Finally, to maintain the shore of the ocean, a lifeguard will use an assortment of flags and other communication equipment to keep swimmers and boaters aware of potential dangers.

I think it is time, that we make sure our visitors are safe, while enjoying the beautiful beaches of Puerto Galera.

The Puerto Galera Fortnightly Journal

Published by PGOL Printing Services Telefax: 043-287-3101

Website: www.puertodegalera.com E-mail: info@puertodegalera.comFollow Us on Twitter: twitter.com/puertogalera**Help Us Help Puerto Galera, Advertise, Thank You.****Your AD here...
Advertise in the
PG Fortnightly**

CALL OR TEXT - 0939-9387818 or 0917-8181418

Telefax: 287-3101 E-mail: info@puertodegalera.com**IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS**

Police Station	- 043-2873043	Waterworks Hotline	- 0915-3796217
Mayor's Office	- 043-2873045	TV NET (Cable TV)	- 043-2873178
Fire Station/Rescue	- 0915-9001179	Tourism Office Head	- 0927-4392001
PG Hospital	- 0917-3023312	MDRRMC Head	- 0917-5620092
Rural Health Unit	- 0917-6230758	PG Fortnightly	- 0917-8181418
ORMECO	- 0917-8940169	Printing Press Office	- 0917-7771418

Investigating the Crash Site of B-24 Liberator "Who's Next"

by Rick Kirkham

ED: It is the story of 12 Americans who died when their B-24 bomber airplane slammed on Mt. Malasimbo on December 7, 1944.

First heard of this from my co-worker Mario Lutz narrating a hiking adventure where they found a wreckage of a B-24 bomber airplane. Then, I got a flashback, remembering when I was young, sometime in the late 70s – a Mangyan telling my father about a wreckage of an airplane on Mt. Malasimbo.

Mario gave me a link to a website by Rick Kirkham, another foreign resident who went up the mountain to investigate the crash site of the B-24 Liberator, uncannily called "Who's Next".

Rick and another foreigner climbed 3000 feet to learn more about the crash site and honor the memory "of the young men above, who never got to see their loved ones again and died a lonely death on top of a foreign mountain."

We got the permission from Rick to publish his blog. We have also added materials we have researched on the Internet.

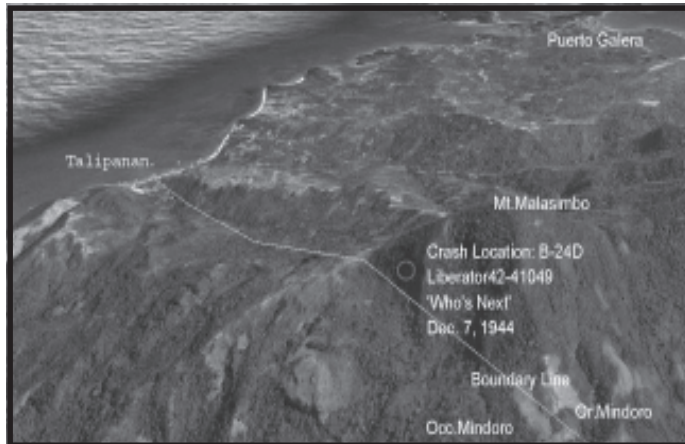
— ooOoo —

Investigating the Crash Site of B-24 Liberator 'Who's Next' - June 10, 2013 by Rick Kirkham

Well I have had a hard introduction to the demands of finding airplane remains on a mountain. Our Iraya guides were great. They set a cracking pace and we had to stop every 600 vertical feet. Both I and my friend Drew are fit, but climbing



A B-24 Liberator - bomber airplane used in World War II



Google map of the Crash Site by Rick Kirkham

so quickly from sea level, with high heat and humidity left us exhausted. The first 4 hours got us to 2200 ft altitude. Initially through light forest and coconut trees, but then onto a ridge with cogon grass. Drew was eaten alive by leeches which were everywhere; I had doused my socks, shoes and trousers with tobacco water (cigarettes in water) and was left alone (though, I was picking them off every few yards).

From the cogon ridge we then started the true climb. A near vertical climb through dense jungle. Sound of birds,

insects and monkeys everywhere. No trail – our guides hacked the trees and brush as we started to climb up the mountain. The going was extremely hard with loose rocks and very precarious, traverses across the slope. Two hours hard climb got us to the site of the crash. We were so tired that after a quick bite to eat hanging off the side of the cliff, we started straight down. Got back to Talipanan having drunk 7 liters of water in the 10 hours climb. By far the hardest thing physically I have

>>> on page 6



Standing Left to Right: Acker, Engineer; Jones, Pilot; Schmidt, Bombardier; Savage, Co-Pilot. First Row, Left to Right: Williams, Asst. Engineer; Spicer, Gunner; McKee, Radar; Long, Gunner; Snyder, Navigator; Harrison, Radio Operator.

Spicer and Jones were replaced and not on the plane when it crashed. Bowling, Desmond, Mathis and Co-pilot O'Brien who were on the plane, are not in the photo, as they were added to the crew after this picture was taken.



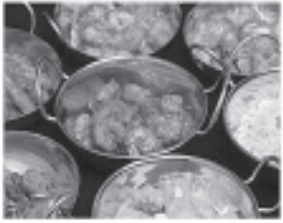
Steps Garden Resort

Sabang, Puerto Galera, Oriental Mindoro
 Contact No.: 043 287 3046 / 0915 381 3220
 E-mail Add.: info@stepsgarden.com



Sabang, Puerto Galera, Oriental Mindoro
 Contact No.: 043 287 3085

FREE SHUTTLE



Bar and Restaurant
Curry Buffet every Wednesday
Friday Night BBQ
Sail Training
Wet Wednesdays
Pool Table
Free WiFi
Event Catering



Service boat:
Monday to Sunday 8am-10pm
Tel: 09175205874 / 043 287-3401
Email: clubhouse@pgyc.org
www.pgyc.org



Father n' Son Shipping Lines

SCHEDULE OF TRIPS

Muelle to Batangas

1st Trip - 7:30 am
 2nd Trip - 9:00 am
 3rd Trip - 10:45 am
 4th Trip - 12:45 pm
 5th Trip - 2:35 pm
 Last Trip - 4:15 pm
 (usually weekends)

Batangas to Muelle/WB

1st Trip - 7:30 am
 2nd Trip - 9:30 am
 3rd Trip - 11:15 am
 4th Trip - 1:30 pm
 Last Trip - 4:15 pm

Sabang to Batangas

1st Trip - 8:15 am
 2nd Trip - 9:15 am
 3rd Trip - 11:30 am
 Last Trip - 1:00 pm

Batangas to Sabang

1st Trip - 7:30 am
 2nd Trip - 11:30 am
 Last Trip - 2:45 pm

WB to Batangas

1st Trip - 6:30 am
 2nd Trip - 8:00 am
 3rd Trip - 10:15 am
 4th Trip - 12:00 n
 5th Trip - 2:00 pm
 Last Trip - 3:30 pm
 (usually weekends)

FOR BOOKING AND RESERVATION, PLEASE CONTACT

Reggie Visaya - 0927-3099601
 or 0933-3154204
 Aireen (Batangas) - 0923-6990806

Investigating the crash site of the B-24 Liberator ... from page 5

ever done.

'Who's Next' hit on the steepest part of Mt. Malasimbo near a marble cliff. The slope is between 70 and 80 degrees. The last 250m of the climb is through dense rainforest, on a 75 degree slope with no trail. We had to hack our way through the jungle and into the cloud layer – no longer a hike as we were really climbing. Quite scary as lots of rotten wood to hold and loose rocks under foot. Rare orchids everywhere.

The plane slammed right into the cliff and it would have disintegrated upon impact. Over the years the debris has slipped down two small ravines. The largest parts of the aircraft remaining are two lower sections of the undercarriage. The rest of the remains are confined to melted wiring, odd scrap metal and Plexiglas – all less than 1 inch in size. They are not laying on the surface, but buried under the ground. There are recent signs of digging at the site as the local tribe the Iraya have over the years mined the site for scrap metal. These people are very poor and they hike 7 hours round trip to sell scrap for P10 a kilo. Very different from treasure/souvenir hunters who have taken parts for their own gain. The Iraya sold the scrap to survive. Children often live on nothing but rice and vegetables so I can't condemn them for taking the metal. If there are remains on the site, then the Iraya will leave them where they find them.

The last GPS fix I was able to get gave our altitude at 2200ft. Once we climbed higher we were in the lee of the mountain and could not longer get a good fix. We estimate the wreck site is at between 2800 and 3000 ft and close to 13 27 N and 120 53 E.

So why did we do it ? In memory of the young men above, who never got to see their loved ones again and died a lonely death on top of a foreign mountain.



Rick Kirkham with a part of the plane's undercarriage

Editor's Note: Below is a poem written by the brother of Co-Pilot O'Brien to honor the 12 airmen killed on 7 December 1944 when they crashed into Mt. Malasimbo while returning from a night mission to Clark Field in their B-24 named "Who's Next?"

Who's Next

by Al O'Brien, 10 April 1999

*December seventh, nineteen hundred and forty four
 A date of sorrow, (like that infamous one three years before)
 For families of twelve Air Corps men*

*Who, while flying in the dead of night, and then
 They were next*

*Their plane, with such a prophetic name
 was a veteran, scarred, plying in this deadly game
 Had traveled o'er the Pacific ocean wide*

*To now forgotten places, Owi, Tacloban, Anguar, Moratai
 They were next*

*A bomber of the Forty Third Bomb Group,
 A night flying Sixty Third Bomb Squad snoop
 With the latest marvel - Radar - set up inside
 Making it harder for our Japanese foes to hide
 They were next*

*Who were these men; courageous, enduring this war, this
 ravage*

*the pilot who's time was in, was named Tom Savage
 Unselfishly, he choose to fly again so others of his crew
 Could land at mission's end and also say "I'm Through "*

They were next

*The co-pilot, Jim O'Brien, I knew quite well
 An Irish kid, my brother, and when he fell
 our family, in deep sorrow, mourning, crying,
 Asked, how could this happen? Bucky dying?*

They were next

*For our fight against Japan's barbaric throng
 We paid a price with Snyder, Schmidt, and Long;
 Williams, Acker, Bowling, Desmond, Harrison, McKee, &
 Mathis*

*Complete this mission's doleful, deadly list
 They were next*

*Many of this veteran crew from all across our land
 could have finished combat time: deliverance had been near at
 hand*

*But cruel fate raised its head and with a resounding "No"
 For on that night they flew into Malasimbo
 "They were next"*



Scandi Divers with Swengland and Campbell's Beach Resort

Big Lalaguna, Sabang Puerto Galera
 Oriental Mindoro, Philippines 5203
 Cell #: +63 977 816 3665

Rambulan sa Galera, a great success

Thousands witnessed the Underground Battle Mixed Martial Arts (UGB-MMA), cage-fight competition last April 28 and 29, 2017 in White Beach, Puerto Galera.

UGB-MMA and the LGU, under the leadership of Mayor Rockey D. Ilagan brought for the first time ever in Mindoro a great mixed martial arts sports event.

With 30 fighters making a total of 15 battles the add nice looking round girls, live music and an exciting party atmosphere and you got one great night to remember.

The event started with a weight-in for the fighters then a competition on who will be the round girls followed by a live music party on April 28.

On April 29 which was the night 30 athletes from all over the country came together in Puerto Galera to show off their fighting skills to hundreds of

people on a very hot and humid Saturday night. The show had something for everyone; girls fighting in a cage, lots of full contact martial art battles, a grudge match, re-matches, newcomers, hot round girls, drinks, pulutan and live music.

The air was high with excitement, expectations and tensions as the first fighters came out of their corners to face each other in a what some people call caged gladiators competition. The hundreds of visitors witnessed, many for the first time, an outstanding sport event, in a beautiful beach setting. Media people been battling for the best position behind the cage to catch the best picture of the fighters while service personnel of Tanduay Philippines served ice-cold drinks for very affordable prices. On the first night, spectators been able to buy the famous Mindoro Sling for 20

pesos but on fight night prices been raised a little, but with 50 pesos big cup of Mindoro Sling, no one could complain. Miras Deli from Sabang was serving sandwiches, nachos and other delicatessens.

Marco Heft, a German Boxer backed out of the competition and cast a shadow over the event. The organizers announced the Hefts withdrawal, and as he is one of only two local fighters and the only member from the foreign community, it was a rather sad announcement that he cant fight. He did not passed the medical examination during the last minute test, doctors said he cant fight due to severe back spasms. Some people rumored that his withdrawal was caused by his coach Shark. The coach reportedly posted in his Facebook page the night before the fight rude comments about his fighter, regretting that he

“wasted his time” and which many think might have caused Heft to withdraw from the fight. Whatever is the truth, it certainly was disappointing to his fans, and supporters who showed up, some even with German flags.

Mayor Rockey Ilagan could not be at the event as is mother was brought to Saint Lukes Hospital after suffering a suspected stroke and her surgery was scheduled on the very same day of the main event. Understandably, the Mayor chose to support and comfort his Mama but sent his best wishes for the event.

Rambulan sa Galera was discussed also in Facebook during the preparation period where mostly identified political opponents of Mayor Ilagan posted their criticisms, claiming that an event like that would not suit a tourist town. Some even expressed their confusion



about why the Mayor would support a “useless, bloody event” and that he should on fix first the water crisis.

Many of the Mayors supporters said that this was an unfair comment noting that the water problem is primary in the administrations to-do list and that fortunately, the Sangguniang Bayan, under the leadership of Vice Mayor Marlon Lopez approved the

water project. The approval means the water crisis might be over within this year. The local government was able to finish Phase I for White Beach before the Rambulan event.

Looking at post of visitors and from what the Fortnightly Staff could hear during the event from spectators the night was greatly appreciated by everyone, tourists and locals alike.



Interview with Marco Heft

by Mario Lutz

The Underground Battle MMA “Rambulan sa Galera” last April 28-29, 2017 was a big success. We had two local fighters, Dale Cataquiz from Balatero, and Marco Heft, a German, living and working in Sabang joining the Rambulan, an event organized by the municipal government.

Unfortunately, Dale lost his first MMA fight and Marco was a no show.

The evening before the fight-night, Marcos Coach Matt Sornberger, aka “Shark”, posted some strange, some would say rude posts on his Facebook wall about Marco. The posts gave the impression that the fighter and the coach was not in good terms.

The morning after the incident, coach Shark stated that he was sorry on his online tirade against Marco and added that he was in the clear with his fighter. He apologized to Marco and supported his choice to have a different corner. No bad feelings, says Shark.

However, this seem to be not enough to convince many

people not to assume that Marco gave up on his coach and everyone who supported him. We, at the Fortnightly, also believed that Marco was greatly affected by coach Sharks social media attacks and why he subsequently backed out.

Marco did in fact did not fight and the reason given to the organizers and relayed to the crowd was because of severe back spasm problems.

So what really happened?

Marco reached out to the Fortnightly after he found out about the rumors about him and wrote a message saying that he was in bad luck. He also said that he was at the hospital in Manila for treatment and further check ups. He apologized to everyone and offered an online interview to set things straight.

“I did not bailed out because of my Coach. I had been in pain for 4 weeks, following a back injury. I tried everything to be able to fight! It was and is my dream to fight. I trained so hard for this event, gave everything, I have to make it happen. But

the morning of the Fight Day, the pain was unbearable, I even passed out twice, so I got no choice other than withdraw from the fight. I am really sorry. Dr. Arroyo in Sabang and Jeff Spapperi, a chiropractor, took care of my injury. I had two cortisone injections and was on Ibuprofen the whole time to be able to train and fight. At the morning of the fight-night. But around 5:30 am I can neither sit, nor lay down, I am in so much pain right now.”

PG Fortnightly: Where are you right now?

Marco: I am in Manila, running tests and for treatment.

PG Fortnightly: Are you having treatment right now?

Marco: Yes, the Doctors need to make a MRI to see how bad the damage of my disc in my back really is. Worst case scenario would be a surgery.

PG Fortnightly: How long will it take and how serious is your injury?

Marco: We don t know yet. We need to discuss that with the medical team after they done the MRI. I hope I can continue

fighting. Its my life, I dont know what to do if thats the end of it.

PG Fortnightly: Was your Coach comments part of the problem?

Marco: I dont want to comment on this matter at all. I could not fight because of my injury, nothing to do with the coach. Everyone who knows me know how hard I have trained for this fight, I would never bail out just because of some comments someone would make. I am professional enough to have that not affecting me.

PG Fortnightly: Do you have a message to your fans and supporters?

Marco: Yes. I am very thankful for everyone who supported me. That is very important to me. I am very sad at this moment, it feels like I let everyone down. I understand if they are disappointed but I could not fight. There was no way.

PG Fortnightly: When did you first heard that you have a shot at Rambulan sa Galera?

Marco: I have been informed about 8 weeks before the event that I can fight. Immedi-

ately, I started to train for this very event, trained very hard and with discipline.

PG Fortnightly: Will you be treated here in the Philippines or do you plan to have that done in Germany?

Marco: My flight to Germany is already scheduled for end of May. I will be seeing a specialist there in Germany and have it dealt with there. I am every year 2 to 3 months in Germany anyways.

PG Fortnightly: How are you feeling at the moment?

Marco: At this time, I feel really bad, I am in more pain than before.

PG Fortnightly: What do you say about all the rumors and the bashing on FB?

Marco: I am really disappointed. I would never bail out on a fight, all people around me know that. That some people

even thought that hurts me badly. Thats not me.

PG Fortnightly: Did anyone pushed you to fight? I mean, you knew you had an injury, you had already pain while training for the fight?

Marco: No one pushed me to anything. It was my own decision, I needed and wanted that fight badly, maybe too badly. My team was supporting me all the way. I really thought I can make it happen.

PG Fortnightly: Thank you for the interview Marco, and we all hope you will be back in the ring soon. Regards from the people of Puerto Galera and have a speedy recovery.

Marco Heft authorized us to publish at puertodegalera.com his medical examination and his x-rays. We all hope we can see Marco fighting in one of the next events here in Puerto Galera.



The New Puerto Galera Fortnightly Journal

Volume 1 No. 03

May 16-31, 2017

Calendar of Tourism Events

Events	Target Date	Venue
• Coconut Festival	January 2017	Poblacion, Puerto Galera
• Lovers by the Beach	February 2017	White Beach
• Bikini Open		Sabang, Puerto Galera
• Body Painting		Sabang, Puerto Galera
• Malasimbo Music and Arts Festival	March 2017	Villa Malasimbo
• Foam Party		Gym/ White Beach
• White Beach Music and Arts Festival	April 2017	White Beach
• Holy Week Mega Events		
• May 13 FIESTA	May 2017	Poblacion, Puerto Galera
• Agri Eco-Tourism Festival	June 2017	Poblacion, Puerto Galera
• Aqua/ Water Festival	July 2017	Poblacion, Puerto Galera
• Puerto Galera Bay Bathub Regatta	August 2017	Poblacion, Puerto Galera
• Music-Laban		Sabang, Puerto Galera
• Tamaraw Falls Fest	September 2017	Villaflor, Puerto Galera
• Sabang October Fest	October 2017	Sabang, Puerto Galera
• Kaaldawan		
• Kulinarya Food Festival	November 2017	Muelle Bay
• Foundation Day	December 2017	Poblacion, Puerto Galera
• Fiesta ng Bayan		

Mga Higanteng Kima, ipinunla sa tabing dagat

Naging tagumpay ang isinagawang pagpupunla ng mga higanteng kima (giant clams) sa may baybay-tabi ng Tanganan sa loob ng Puerto Galera Bay.

Ayon kay Danny Enriquez, kasapi ng CRMB (Coastal Resources Management Board) at isa sa mga empleyado ng pamilya Locsin, malusog at patuloy ang paglaki ng mga "baby" giant clams na ipinunla noong Nobyembre 2016.

Ang "seeding" o pagpupunla ay pinangunahan ni Mayor Rockey Ilagan noong MAB Awareness Day at Tamaraw Conservation Month, kasama ang Puerto Galera Dive Association na siyang nangolekta ng 16 "baby" giant clams sa loob ng Puerto Galera Bay.

Layunin ng proyekto na mag-talaga ng isa pang tourist spot, matapos maging tagumpay at malimit na puntahan ng mga divers ang naunang giant clam project na inilagay sa medyo malalim na



Si Mayor habang nagse-seeding ng baby giant clams sa Tanganan Peninsula sa loob ng Puerto Galera Bay.

bahagi ng dagat. Upang makahikayat ng mga hindi divers at mga snorkellers, ang ikalawang giant clams project ay inilagay sa malapit sa baybay-tabi.

Mahigit sa 1,100 na divers kada buwan ang bumibisita sa

lokasyon ng unang giant clams na lumaki ng mahigit sa isang metro ang bawat isa at nanganak ng maraming babies sa looban ng Puerto Galera Bay. Sa tulong ng pamilya Locsin, nagtalaga ng mga gwardiya para pangalagaan ang mga giant clams.

Apat na lalaki, timbog sa droga

Pagkatapos makatanggap ng impormasyon na may nagbebenta ng ilegal na droga, nagsagawa ang PDEA at pulis Puerto Galera ng magkasanib na operasyon noong April 21 para mahuli sa buy-bust ang suspek na kinilalang si Jerry Valenzuela Gabuya, 23 taon gulang, single, walang trabaho, mula sa Pasay City at kasalukuyang nakatira sa Sitio Minolo, San Isidro.

Sinabi ng impormante ng pulis na ang lugar ng operasyon

ng suspek ay sa White Beach at nakikipag-transaksyon sa pamamagitan text sa cellphone.

Nagkunyaring buyer ang isang pulis kasama ang impormante at pagkatapos makabili ng isang sachet ng hinihinalang "shabu", agad na inaresto ang suspek.

Matapos makatanggap ng impormasyon, nagsagawa muli ang PDEA at pulis Puerto Galera ng isa pang buy-bust operation na kung saan 3 suspek ang nahuli.

Kinilala sila na sina Valentino Caniaberal, 61 taong gulang, mula sa Poblacion at ang 2 niyang kasama na sina Bryan Keith Fiedacan, 23 anyos, mula San Antonio at si Joel Recto, 41 anyos, mula sa Aguada.

Nakabili ang mga operatiba ng isang sachet ng hinihinalang shabu na nagkakahalaga ng 1,000 piso. At ng kapkapan ang mga suspek nakakuha ang mga pulis ng 2 pang sachet ng hinihinalang shabu.



Trading & Printing Services

- *Brochures/ Fliers
- *BIR Receipts/ Invoices
- *Office Forms/ Tarps
- *Business/ Call Cards

T: 043-2873101 or 043-4740670
E: puertogaleraoffice@gmail.com

In Memoriam

Felix Manalo



Date of Birth: March 18, 1958
Date Died: March 16, 2017
Interment Date: March 22, 2017

Two months has passed yet it seems like only yesterday. In our hearts your memory lingers sweetly, tender, fond and true. There is not a day that we don't think about you. Your smile, your kindness and the gentleness in your voice, our heart aches as we remember the sweet and precious memories you have left us to live with. Words cannot express the void that was left with us. Always be remembered by his wife and children and loved ones. God grant eternal light to shine on him.



**PIZZERIA
RISTORANTE**

FREE DELIVERY IN SABANG

0915 349 3615