



# *The Bedan* **ALUMNUS**

The Official Publication of the  
San Beda College Alumni Association  
Third Epoch • Founded 1942 by Rev. Fr. Desigao Benabarro, CSC

A 2016  
Homecoming  
Edition



# #ForeverRED

High School Class of 1991  
Silver Jubilarians 2016







**TRANS**  
**SMART**



**Dr. Joffre M. Alajar**  
(GS '72, HS '76, CAS '80)

**I**t is the Alumni merry month once again when we get to organize a number of school activities that will "bring home" Bedans here and abroad to experience our unique brand of Bedan fellowship.

Our balik Bedans look forward with much gusto the traditional *Frolics*, or *Pista ng Sto. Niño* sa San Beda (January 29, 30, & 31), the *Red and White Golf Tournament* (February 1) the *Grand Alumni Homecoming* (February 6) and the *Red and White Ball* (February 18). Happily, all roads lead to Mendiola this February 2016.

As anticipated, Jubilarians have been holding mini-reunions and get-together meetings to organize themselves for the Grand Homecoming on February 6. Busiest of them all is HS Class of 1991 (*Silver Jubilarians*) who is the year's host of this annual festive alumni event attended by a huge population of Bedans including the Graduating Classes of 2016.

On a personal note, allow me to congratulate my HS Class '76 batchmates on our Ruby Jubilee as graduates of SBC High. Great to celebrate our 40 years as Bedans!

February is also the season of recognizing outstanding Bedans who made a difference in the life of the nation and the global community. A formal dinner-dance will be hosted once again by SBC Chairman of the Board Manny V. Pangilinan to give special tribute to the Best of Bedans during the traditional Red and White Ball.

This special Homecoming issue of *The Bedan Alumnus* is a Salute to our Jubilarians. We welcome them back to our fold knowing that distance will never be a hindrance to keep us roaring together and to keep the fire burning, well-captured in this year's homecoming theme coined by HS Class '91 "*#ForeverRED*"

Have a great READ... Animo San Beda in twenty one abd

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## Greetings

My warmest greetings to all Bedans and friends participating in the 2016 Grand Alumni Homecoming, themed **"#ForeverRED."**

Your homecoming is expected to last ForeverRED. I hope that your Homecoming theme resonates well even in the future as you gather always together too celebrate your being true Bedans in heart and mind.

Your homecoming should first and foremost be a time to thank our Almighty Savior for the many wonderful blessings bestowed upon us, the beautiful gift of life, and the great moment of reliving your great days in San Beda as a student, and above all, His unconditional love for all of us.

We once again look forward to this celebration with much gusto, and thank the San Beda College Alumni Association for keeping this tradition alive. Special mention to this year's host - the Silver Jubilarians High School Class of 1991 who left no stone unturned to make this Bedan event another milestone worth remembering by all.

We pay a grand salute to all other Jubilarians gathered today knowing that they too, are back with pride, for what they have accomplished in life.

At the end of the homecoming, I hope you can also discuss among yourselves on how your class can assist others experience Bedan Education. We count on you, our dear alumni!

**Go San Beda Fight!**

Here's a grand salute to all Bedans and friends attending the 2015 Grand Alumni Homecoming.

Warm congratulations to the Jubilarians led by HS Class '66 (*Golden Jubilarians*) and the HS Class '91 (*Silver Jubilarians*), the host group of this year's homecoming celebration, and of course, my very own HS Class '76 (*Ruby Jubilarians*).

Our nation has been through a lot of good tidings in this year of Mercy and Compassion. And we carry the same euphoric spirit as we gather together for our traditional annual alumni homecoming. Your theme: **"#ForeverRED"**, is an expression of Bedans' forever coming back with honor and pride. It speaks well of proud Bedans longing to be together forever to reminisce the past, appreciate the present, and remain optimistic in facing the uncertain future.

Be assured that we are keeping you in our prayers, having in mind that our graduates are our real treasures continuously incarnating the Benedictine education in their respective lives.

Again, may our unique Bedan fellowship never cease!

That in all things God may be glorified.





## THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by Comm. Rene Sarmiento | AS POL SCI. '74



Congratulations to this year's Silver Jubilarians (*HS Class of 1991*) led by Atty. Alex Flores, Atty. Cleveland Buela, and Elmer Ugot. I am confident that with them at the helm, the grand alumni homecoming program will be a huge success. All my best wishes to the Golden Jubilarians (*HS Class '66*) led by Butch Africa, Jun Sara, Jay De Vera, Dr. Jaime Galvez Tan, Jun Alday, Will Red Buhay, Toti Hernandez, Atty. Arturo Del Rosario, and Pons Preysler.

\*\*\*

We are glad that Mr. Kishu Sehwanji will be elevated to the SBC Hall of Fame during the Red and White Ball 2016. This is a long overdue recognition for Kishu for his exemplary life achievement as an outstanding Bedan. Kishu was president of the SBCAA during AY 1975-76. Hopefully, this prestigious award will inspire Kishu to stay physically well so he will be able to receive personally his Hall of Fame award. We are saddened by the untimely demise of Kishu's wife Sabita who suffered from a heart attack.

\*\*\*

Congratulations to this year's Bedan Best! We specially congratulate our Outstanding Overseas Bedans, namely: Dr. Ernel Tansongco (*Medicine*) and Mr. Wilfrido Buhay (*Arts & Culture*). This is a proof that the SBCAA continuously recognizes the major contributions of our great Bedans based abroad. It is hoped that this award recognition will encourage more Bedans overseas to excel in their respective fields of work in our global community.

\*\*\*

We congratulate as well Atty. Roberto "Bobbit" P. Cabrera III (*CAS Class of 1990*) who has been recently appointed as Chairman of Land Transportation Office (LTO). With him at the helm of the LTO, we are confident that this office will be able to render better public service.



Our best wishes to all Bedans running for public offices: For President Amb. Roy Sefares and Mayor Rodrigo Duterte; for Vice President Congw. Leni Robredo and Sen. Gringo Honasan; for Senator: Cong. Neri Colmenares and Greco Belgica.



## THE FOUNDATION PRESIDENT'S LINE

65 '62, HS '66

Dr. Jaime Z. Galvez Tan |



I join my HS Class '66 in celebrating our 50 years as Bedans. We are very blessed to have reached this far in our respective lives, and I know we've achieved much because of our Bedan Education.

\*\*\*

Our class is also privileged to have produced three outstanding artists who will receive the 2016 Distinguished Bedans Award in the field of arts and culture. Jun Alday and the late Al Manrique will have their fabulous art exhibits entitled "Dark to Light" at our Pamanang Bedista on February 2 to February 29, 2016.

\*\*\*



Six Distinguished Professorial Chairs are open for nomination. The faculty recipient however should be able to produce a scholarly research that would undergo major screening by the SBC Institutional Research Office. This is in support of the thrust of the College to create a research culture specially in the tertiary education level. The Professorial Chairs available are: Jose Araullo *Distinguished Professorial Chair in Accounting and Auditing*; Capt. Gregorio Oca *Distinguished Professorial in Labor Relations*; Arturo R. Macapagal *Distinguished Professorial Chair in Economics*; Andrew L. Godanun, Sr. *Distinguished Professorial in Social Science*; Robert G. Coyluto, Jr. *Distinguished Professorial Chair in Marketing and Corporate Communications*; Eduardo M. Cojuangco Jr. *Distinguished Professorial Chair in Social Science/Languages/Health Science*.

\*\*\*

The SBC Alumni Foundation is hundred percent behind the creation of a research culture in our higher education in SBC through a research fund augmentation. Thanks to our many valued Bedan donors who share with us the same passion to further boost the SBC Research Program by beefing up our alma mater's research fund.





## At Your Service in St. Benedict

SBCAA Model



Rev. Fr. Austin Cedit, OSA

The Pista ng Sto. Niño sa San Beda at Frolics 2016 with the theme *"Niño Hesus Gabay sa Pangangalaga ng Tahanan at Kalkasan"* was a huge success with the increasing number of alumni in attendance. Our sincerest gratitude to Mr. Rachy Cuna for not getting tired of styling the Abbey Church and the Sto. Niño procession carosa during this three-day festivity. Congratulations also to Mark Jaybee Esalao of the Public Relations and Communications Office for winning the Sto. Niño poster-making contest. It truly depicted the frolics' theme.

\*\*\*



Ben Faylona

We salute Mr. Ben Faylona, former chairman and retired faculty member of the Math Department, for being this year's Dugong Bedista awardee. Sir Ben has served San Beda College for more than 30 years, and it is high time that he be adopted by the SBCAA for he is family to us. Thus, this award is well deserved by him for his exemplary service to the entire Bedan community.

We hope and pray that Sir Ben will be able to recover from his illness, and be able to attend the alumni homecoming and receive personally his award.

\*\*\*

My fellow Benedictines are also this year's Jubilarians: Dom Clement Roque, OSB (Golden CAS '66); Rev. Fr. Anselm Manalastas, OSB (Silver HS '91); and Rev. Fr. Aelred Nilo, OSB (Silver CAS '91).

\*\*\*

More blessings also to Mrs. Gloria Melendree and Noe Yaulat for having been chosen as 2016 Dugong Bedista awardees. Great works by great honorary Bedans!

\*\*\*

Congratulations also to this year's Ruby Jubilarians (HS Class of 1976) composed of Rev. Fr. Rafaelito Alaraz, OSB, Dean Ramon Ricardo Roque, Dr. Joffre Alajar and our deceased brother beloved Fr. Basil Apostol, OSB. This class is remarkable for having the most number of graduates continuing the Bedan Education legacy. Hope you would be privileged to serve the school even during your diamond year.

\*\*\*

Kudos also to the High School Class of 1991 (Silver Jubilarians) led by SBCAA board trustees Atty. Alex Flores,



Mr. Rachy Cuna

Atty. Cleveland Buala and John Lino Alindogan. We were told that this will be the grandest homecoming with another board trustee Cata Figueron directing the entire program. Not to be forgotten are our Golden Jubilarians (HS Class '66) led by Mr. Jay De Vera, Mr. Butch Africa, Dr. Jimmy Galvez Tan, Tito Hernandez and Jun Sare.

\*\*\*



Chairman  
Sisto Brillantes, Jr.

The Diamond Jubilarians (HS Class 1958) are as equally "star-studded". This enviable class is composed of retired COMELEC Chairman Sisto Brillantes, Jr., retired COMELEC Commissioner Gus Lagman, Dr. Rolly Florendo of Mary Chiles Hospital, Mr. Jessie Dinglasan, Mr. Pete Lavarro, and Mr. Celso Barcelo. WOW, reaching the diamond year is remarkable and such calls for a celebration.

\*\*\*

As we celebrate the Jubilee Year of Mercy, we are grateful to God for all His wondrous works and the outpouring of graces. He has bestowed on our Bedan family. May the Sto. Niño continue to guide and bless each one of us and our loved ones so that persevering in our faith and good works we may continue to glorify and praise the Holy Name of Jesus. That In All things God may be Glorified.

Viva Sto. Niño.

# Welcome to Manila's most modern passenger terminal



North Port Passenger Complex brings international flair to passenger terminal convenience.

**At last a facility that puts Filipino port service in the league with the world's best.**



Designed for comfort and engineered for efficiency, the newest seaport hub is a project of port operator Manila North Harbour Port, Inc.

Located at the bustling Manila North Harbor, the new passenger terminal complex affords sea travellers unparalleled mobility in a secure, traveller-friendly and accessible complex. The terminal's sleek and contemporary look is a refreshing addition to the Manila Bay skyline.

Complementing the main terminal facility is an area dedicated for smooth and easy baggage handling and orderly waiting area for ticket processing. Security measures — electronic, manned as well by a complement of K-9 — are unmatched by any other facility of its kind. There is a greeters' area that caters to oftentimes cheerful welcomes and tearful goodbyes.

As passengers enter the main terminal, they are ushered into the round-the-clock, daytime-lit and air-conditioned lobby manned by highly-trained terminal personnel.

High insulated ceilings provide passengers with the luxury of space and comfort where clockwork port procedures take place — from baggage processing, x-ray scanning and check-in.

The terminal sports thoughtful touches: sloping PWD-friendly floors, drinking fountains, play room, nursing room with diaper changing tables, clinic, prayer room and a Wi-Fi ready VIP room.

The waiting area is an expanse of traveller-friendly amenities: rows and rows of comfortable seating and a zoned air-conditioning system that lend a relaxing lounge fee. A selection of filling meals and tasty snacks is available at the food concessionaires area.

As passengers leisurely wait for boarding, clear glass panels all around treat them to a panoramic view of the Manila Bay.

Indeed, the new North Port Passenger Terminal Complex redeems all and rises as Manila's newest world-class icon.

Sea travel has never been this good!



The citation for being a distinguished Bedan alumnus immensely humbles me. I questioned why and how can someone like me deserve this award. I look back at my three decades of professional career, from starting as an auditor to serving as a chief finance officer, and from being an accounting and tax practitioner to expanding my horizons as an entrepreneur. I realized that the basic foundation, the root of whatever success that I may have gained, all points back to my Bedan formation.

San Beda College envisions its students, alumni and community to be Fully Human, Wholly Christian, Truly Filipino, Globally Competitive. In all modesty, I realized that what I have become today were based on personal aspirations of becoming a Christian professional and gentleman from the ideals instilled in me by my Bedan education.

During our college days way back in 1983, the Philippine society was stressed with a major socio political awakening. Mendiola, where our school is, was literally at the center of so many protest actions. This elicited uncertainty whether or not we will be able to finish college at the end of the four-year term. But just like a true Bedan, committed and determined, we kept the faith struggling to keep our focus on our college journey. Just like the rest of my batch, I survived and completed the journey.

Some of us started our career in the practice of accountancy in SGV. San Beda, in a large way, opened to us this opportunity to work for this top accountancy firm in the country. I should say that our career in this firm contributed right now to significant accomplishments and meaningful networks. It has paved the way to a huge sense of ownership over my career of choice. It has expanded not only professional purview but also personal ideals of giving back to society.

More than these opportunities, these two great institutions taught us that we must practice our profession in accordance with the highest professional and ethical standards. These two great institutions taught us that we must keep our integrity intact, that we must conduct ourselves and our practice with utmost professionalism, that we must work harder to advance our career, that we must share what we have accomplished, and that we must pray and thank Him for whatever blessing we receive. All this I espoused and observe up to this day which I believe contributed remarkably to what I have achieved, and in being recognized as a distinguished Bedan in the field of accountancy.

We have always maintained that what sets Bedan education apart from the pack is that Bedan Education is foremost a Catholic Christian Education. We went to San Beda because it is a revered institution for young men who believe that personal formation should not be separated from their Christian ideals, and that knowledge bolstered by faith and virtue is one sure formula for success. I personally feel that whatever accomplishments I reaped this far, I largely owe to my Bedan upbringing and for always living the Bedan ideals of Pax, Ora et Labora (Peace, Prayer and Work). Indeed, God always do the rest for those who do their best.

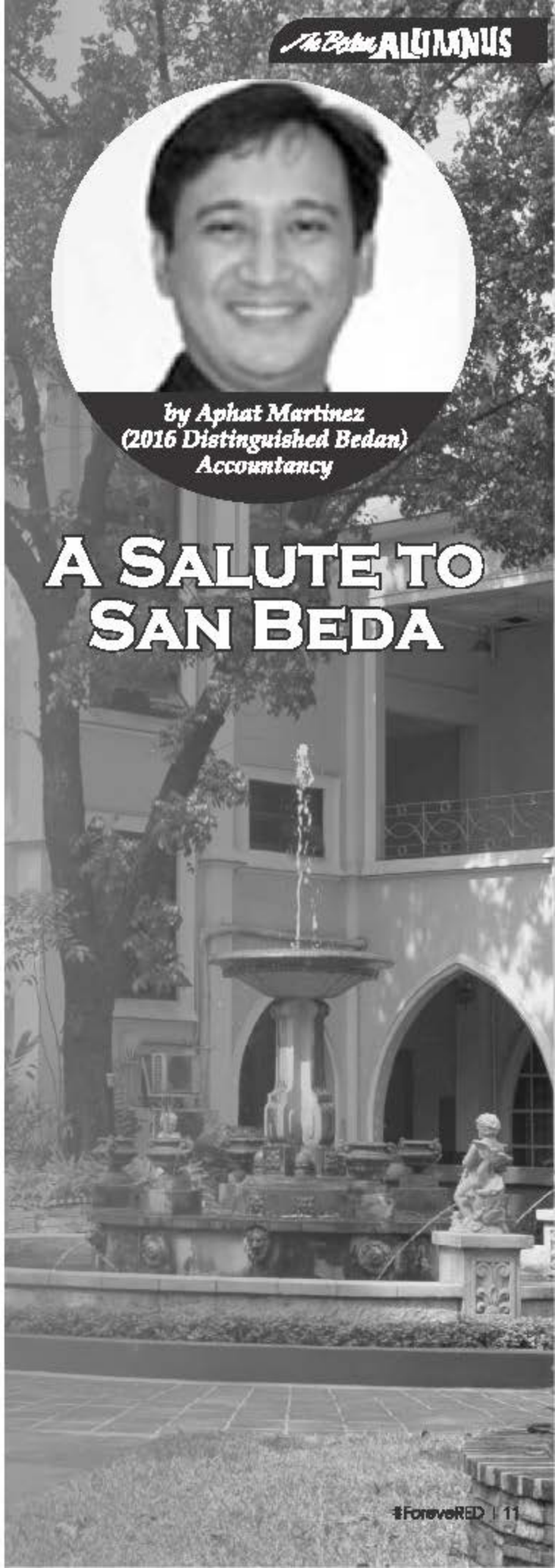
Thank you for the recognition, San Beda. I am greatly honored.

To God be the Glory.



*by Aphet Martinez  
(2016 Distinguished Bedan)  
Accountancy*

## A SALUTE TO SAN BEDA







All set for a typical B

# #Forever

## The 2016 Grand Al

All systems go for the simple yet the happiest of all alumni homecomings hosted traditionally by the silver and golden jubilarians. This year's Silver Jubilarians (HS Class '91) and Golden Jubilarians (HS Class '66), are the main hosts of the night's festivity which promises to be different from the ones we had in the past, filled with simple entertainment, nostalgia, recognitions and fellowships.

Dubbed "*#ForeverRED*", the homecoming celebrates the start of SBC's 116 years of great educational service to the Filipino nation, making every Bedan proud of his/her Benedictine heritage.

The celebration begins at 3:00 PM with a Holy Mass to be officiated by Very Rev. Fr. Aloysius Maranan, OSB, rector-president, at the Abbey Church. Jubilarian awards will be distributed after the Mass. The Fifth Dugong Bedista award to honor SBC's pillars will serve as one of the highlights of the awarding rites.

A dinner program kicks-off at 6PM at the Plaza Montserrat with performers providing a night-filled variety entertainment. Leave it to the Silver jubilarians handling every detail of the show extravaganza. Alex Flores and Cleveland Buela, heads of this year's silver jubilarians, organized the program. This year's homecoming holds special significance as a grand welcome is awaiting the Class of 2016 from the College of Arts and Sciences, College of Medicine and College of Nursing.



A number of *balikbayans* from US, Canada, Australia, Germany, China have arrived since last week attending to several Bedan events to include the Red and White Golf Tournament (Feb. 1) hosted by HS class '72, HS class '80 and the Frolics (January 29, 30 & 31).

This year's jubilarians include: Class'56 (Diamond);





# San Beda Red Army Homecoming

## ForeverRED

### Alumni Homecoming



**Class'66 (Gold); Class'91 (Silver); Class '86 (Pearl); Class'71 (Sapphire); Class'76 (Ruby), and Class'82 (Jade).**

**Here's a toast to an enjoyable evening filled with fun and meaning as we all roar proud and ForeverRED in 2016 and beyond.**







by Atty. Cleveland Buena

Our good old school buddies are extended family to us and because of this, we always look forward to homecomings.

As we all return to our beloved alma mater we take pride belonging to GS'87 and HS'91, and being back to our second home, San Beda, to celebrate our 25th year—to look back at our

carefree high school and grade school days, be thankful for whatever achievements we have accomplished, and share the blessings that were made possible because of our remarkable Bedan education.

On a personal note, I look back with fondness being called a member of the notorious San Beda Eating Team, the forerunner of Elmo Ugot and Gomer Manabat's Drinking Team, who would frequent the infamous "hepa" alley and Mang Roger's Innocuous "balut". I then was told by my grandmother to avail of the school's clinic periodic immunization to spare me from diseases that may result from over-eating street foods. Instead, the school physicians, Dr. Rufino Coronel and Dr. Elias Adamos, suggested that I change my diet to consuming more pizza with recycled sardines and hotdog toppings served by Kuya Mar in the school cafeteria. I found that it was a good alternative since I enjoyed the privilege of signed stub as a bench-warmer of the junior volleyball team of Coach Jimenez; thus, I would consume five bottles of Coke Eight with Beng Viologo and kept the bottle chit for refund. In my opinion, we did not deserve those freebies though, because our team only won once, that was by default against Perpetual.

Back then, San Beda was the first school in Mendiola to  
#ForeverRED

# TAKING PRIDE BELONGING TO "8791"

have a swimming pool and being an all-male school, we would interact with our female counterparts in CEU, La Consolacion and Holy Spirit—using Patrick MacColl's binoculars. I vividly remember being an avid spectator of raucous fist fights between bullies led by the bulky Joma Santos, who is now a customs police, at the back of the swimming pool. In late afternoons, after being subdued by Verns Valdez in a one-sided arm wrestling, I would pack my Blabla shoes paired with Samboy Lim's long black socks (those were the fashion statement during those times before M Barretto and Drel Ledesma invented the red rubber stiletto) and head to my "Batang Bola" peers that included Benj Lopez, Dex Aseron (FIBA World Veteran Therapist), Reggie Torredes, Elgin Lacson, Doc Mark Rey Matias, Mike Magpili, Jerry Belen, John Martinez, Warren De Ocampo, Jun Almarlo, Edward Lavidez, Carlo Carillo and other basketball addicts. We would always get scolded by Sir Roger Baguilon for missing our free throws in the wood-parquet covered court. But in the Junior Football Field that now converted into a parking lot,







I also remember scoring my first and only football goal in my entire life as an Azkal wannabe, thanks to the excess pounds of slow-footed goalie Mike Sy. This could be a fitting tribute to the iconic Football Coach Spanky Badoiato (great guru of Myron Francia, Orlan Remorca and Alex Avinante). I shared with every batch mate the dream of being an athlete, thanks to Coach Ato's never ending tryouts. I did not make all of them.

Our History Class under Sir Lito Coronado would always be memorable, thanks to Mike Tjam's Miss July Playboy Centerfold Magazine and to the yellow pad codico of one Innovative seatmate.

Our class holds the distinction of

having invented the portable battery powered sound system created by the industrious minds of Carlo Atibula, Richie Guinto, Meo De Guzman, Carmello Cervantes, Soteco and Fred Valmeo with Mr. Mayo at the helm. I vividly remember learning to dissect a frog under the astute eye of Sir Danny Seguban. Equally worth remembering would be the intellectual Ventura Babies who later became Sir Nonoy Tayao's cream of the crop; most of them are now successful engineers and chemists here and abroad. I would also always cherish the bronze Saint Benedict Medal given to me and Doc John Nabong by the late Brother Eli. This will always remind us that we are men of "Orat Labora". The retreats and recollections we had during those days would always be momentous, all thanks to the open forum with Rey Asis and Jokie Ada, and the escapade we

had with Joy Cajayon, Arvin Peñaflor and Jon Lacho in helping me carry an asleep

pajama-clad classmate outside the Manresa retreat house. Not to be outdone was Sir Ogie Velas' outdoor camping with Boy Scout braves Joma Marasigan, Jobu Buhain, James Labayo and Dave Doronilla. Despite of being a veteran Boy Scout, I was once scolded by Father Tard and military-trained assistant Principal Blanco for forgetting some lines of the Panatang Makabayan during our early morning assembly in the historical drummer by the flag-pole. Worth cherishing was Madam Adriano's Noli and Fili Fest with Glee Club loyalists Luke Hassaram, Carlo Carreon, Joey Briones and baritone Marion Manaoil belting out their best.

Further, cheers to my Student Coordinating Board buddies John Alindogan, Doc BJ Reyes (our class valedictorian), Simon Saberon and Vietnam based Lex Yap for the remarkable activities we had with Cata Figueroa during those days. To my active to my dynamic 4-45 classmates Alex Flores, Nars Villones, Elias Manalastas, Mike and Ang De Vera, among others, kudos to you guys.

Not to be forgotten are my Subic adventure cohorts Mike Ramos, Allan Mina, Hawaii bound Roville Martin, nacholibre Jeffrey Andres, Kirby Hernandez and those who out of fear would not like to be mentioned. Remember a strong friendship doesn't need daily conversation and togetherness, as long as the relationship lives in one's heart, true friends will never be apart.

Those were our happy youthful school years together, and today, we are back to celebrate our silver jubilee of sharing in the beautiful memories of the past, of our enduring spirit in overcoming the challenges of the present, and of seeing through the bright promises of tomorrow.

We take pride being Bedans, we take pride belonging to 87911





# The Rector's Night

by Dr. Joffre M. Alajar



(l-r) Atty. Jones Cabochan, Atty. Rudy Salasima, Fr. Aloysius Maranan, OSB, Dr. Jaime Galvez-Tan, Atty. Asatiao Cruz, and Comm. Rene Saracinto

**T**he first-ever Rector's Night was held last December 7, 2015 with a number of prominent Bedans in attendance. This is a special project of the SBC Alumni Association as recommended by Mr. Bogs Bonifacio (GS'86, HS'70). The Rector's Night is a special forum where Rev. Fr. Aloysius Maranan, OSB, is able to share with the alumni his many plans and program about San Beda College.

In the said forum, Fr. Maranan presented to the Alumni his vision for the future of Bedan Education. In his 40-minute talk he discussed the many accomplishments of San Beda College over the last five years including the move to university hood by 2017. Fr. Aloy appealed to the alumni to assist its alma mater in realizing the dream of the entire Bedan Community to elevate San Beda College to a university status.



Fr. Aloysius



Mike Rabillo



Jon Bonifacio



Rene Saracinto



Jimmy Tan



Asa Cruz





In attendance were Rev. Fr. Rafaelito Alaras, OSB, prior administrator, Rev. Fr. the SBC board of administrators composed of the school's vice presidents, deans, vice deans, and other heads of offices. This important Bedan gathering saw also the simultaneous attendance of three Bedan Alumni Associations, namely: Comm. Rene Samlento, SBCAA president, Dr. Jaime Z. Galvez Tan, SBCAF president and Atty. Avelino V. Cruz, SBLAA chairman. Attending this affair were Mr. Gus Lagman, Justice Nick Acosta, Mr. James Sy, Atty. Jonas Cabochan, Dr. Conrad Oca, Dr. Ramon Arcadio, Mr. Butch Africa, Mr. Bobbit Mathay, Mr. Joey Alvero, Engr. Erl Gomez, Atty. Alex Flores, Judge Selma Alaras, Atty. Fred Lim, Mr. Jose Araullo, Mr. Tony Suarez, Mr. Angel Arando, Dr. Tony Raymundo, Atty. Cleveland Buela, Atty. Rudy Salallma, Atty. Salvador Medialdea, Mr. Mari Lacson, Mr. Ato Badoleta, Mr. Frank Yulo, Mr. Chito Cantreras, Jesus Balmaceda, Dr. Bob Garcia, Mr. John Lee Garcia, Mr. Caloy Barcelo and GS'66, HS Class '70 members.



A special committee was formed by Fr. Rector to raise the much needed funds for the future of Bedan Education. The committee is composed of Dr. Jaime Z. Galvez Tan as chairman, Comm. Rene Samlento, Atty. Jonas Cabochan, Atty. Avelino Cruz, and Dr. Conrad Oca.

The evening was capped by a dinner hosted by GS'66, HS Class '70 with music provided by Red '66 band.







by Atty. Rene V. Saguisag



Flavor of the Times is the coming May election. The Pinoy is fond of elections, whether it be for the presidency or the Barangay Binibining Palangpang. Many of us are members of the Partido Tengl Tengl Pag Tengl Tengl - takbo sa gilna ng rueda.

Digong Duterte, LL.B. 72 is running for Prez but may yet be declared so, of the Republic of Pasay.

Jojobama Binay (from UP, not Useless People; my late wife, Darling Dulce attended UP) reviewed here in 1987, which saw four Bedans in the Top Ten, led by No. 1, Rudy Robles. He, Tom Tiang (5), Rolito Santos (5) and Eddie Nachura (7) were my studies, as a new, young teacher.

Grace Poe is the daughter of FPJ, GS'53, whose decency must have rubbed off on the founding, for whom the law, and surely our Christianity, must care.

Roy Señeres, LL.B. 71 also aspires to replace PNoy, son of Ninoy, HS'48.

Gringo Honasan is running for Veep. He was here for years but did not graduate at any level as he was an army brat going with his father, a Colonel, all over the land. I understand his grades were good. We last met in a Senate hearing on frats years ago when I learned that a brother of his was also killed in frat hazing.



## BEDANS IN THE MAY 2016 POLLS

Mellowed?

Also running for Veep is Leri Robredo, my grad law school stude a couple of years ago, but stopped to focus on her duties as Cong. I attach here Exhibit A, a pix taken at the end of one Saturday class in Mendola.

I have not decided who to vote for in May as Prez.

It may be a stretch but kindly and playfully fly with wings of fantasy and assume that the arguably Bedan quash-combo of Grace and Leri win. A historic first. Would they prove what my Dulce, would put up around the home where I was her star boarder in Palanan, Makati: "The Best Man for the Job is a Woman?" I considered myself told and knew my place.

The story is told of a heated debate in the French Parliament on whether to give women the right to vote. In peroration, a proponent passionately concluded, "mes amis, we have to give women the right to vote for after all, between men and women, there is a but a little difference."

Whereupon, the assembly rose on their feet and exclaimed with fervor, Vive la difference! (Long live the difference.)

Seriously, the voter may not see much difference in the aspirants but it must be found, for the most prudent choice, for the sake of our people. He or she must be someone who would involve the people in entering into an agreement with a foreign country that may make a life-and-death difference for my apos, eldest 7, Rene III, who, today, loves to play soldier and may have to fight in combat a decade or so from now.

I sued PNoy for not submitting EDCA to the Senate, which represents our people. After close to 500 years of occupation - *taking busabos o alpin?* - by the Spaniards, British, Americans, the Japanese and the Americans again. How I wish PNoy had submitted EDCA to the Senate, for a





bow to Lincoln's government of, by and for the people.

Me thinks he has the vote anyway.

Senator Enrile has said he is for EDCA so Senate concurrence could have been unanimous. Neater. *Pasiya ng bayan, hindi ng dadalawa o alen.* Questions now raised could have been answered then, such as would Clark be an "agreed location"? The current stakeholders there point to Sangley.

The Supreme Court ruling reminds of the blacks saying, as I see us as again, America's Last Plantation, "yessa, massa, we gun to be your niggahs."

Never again! As Senator Enrile entitled his Explanation of Vote on September 16, 1991, when we finally ended the continuous presence of foreign troops for close to five centuries: *"Finally, I am against this Treaty because its basic assumption is an insult to our race. I cannot live with a treaty that assumes that without 8,000 servicemen and some passing warships, we shall fall flat on our faces. I cannot believe that the vitality of this country will be extinguished when the last bargirl in Olongapo turns off the light in the last cabaret."*

Now he can so believe? His moving historic speech was entitled Never Again! Never is not 25 years, from where I sit, and I say, from here, to Bedan Supreme Court nominee, Joey Reyes, good luck! We are schooled to believe that we get what we pray for, or something better.

Good luck too, to Lella de Lima, LL.B.'85, and Nerl Colmenares, AB'80, to neutralize Manny Pacquiao, who may yet become Senate Prez. You two are working hard to win seats in the Senate. Deserving. Manny is working hard for his next pay day in April and maybe finally settle his taxes in the billions. We have many tax evaders who will support him in this scofflaw nation, working stiffly rationalizing that their taxes would be stolen anyway. The Top House Absentee may again become a Non-Performing Liability in the Senate?

Let's put Lella and Nerl there, as quality guarantee or insurance.

# *The Bedan* **ALUMNUS** **CLARIFICATION** **OF AN IMPORTANT ISSUE**

by Fr. Benigno Benabarre, OSB



In page 9 of the last issue (*August to December, 2015*) of **THE BEDAN ALUMNUS**, I published a short article to clarify the important issue of who really was its real founder.

Constructing the statements of Atty. Juan Cabrieto, our diligent Registrar for many years, with the assertions of Atty. Dante Q. Barbosa (AB '57, LIB '80), I concluded that I really was the founder of **THE BEDAN ALUMNUS** in 1962. I was right, but not totally. Why?

Casualty, after the publication of the last issue of **THE BEDAN ALUMNUS**, I found among my old papers, the very first issue of **THE BEDAN ALUMNUS** I founded. Both in the nice cover and in the first page, it is clearly stated: *"August nineteen hundred and sixty-two. Vol. one. Number one."*

So, it is true that the first idea about the publication of **THE BEDAN ALUMNUS** came from the group that met in the year 1959 under the leadership of Atty. Dante Q. Barbosa and that, at least, three issues were published; but, apparently, it is also true that the magazine was not published regularly, for Mr. Francisco P. Valenzuela, the Alumni President for the year 1962 ordered me to take over the magazine and publish it **"REGULARLY"**. Which I did. At that time, I was the Rector and the Alumni Moderator.

I left Manila in the summer of 1967, and returned for good on April 1, 2004. As we do not have the complete collection of **THE BEDAN ALUMNUS**, it is impossible to know the life of the magazine during that long period of time. But among the few copies of the magazine we have, the one giving an account of the centennial celebrations (2001), has only 12 pages, for two combined issues! It has the *"Newsletter form"*.



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**Congratulation to Atty. Alexander G. Flores  
and to the  
San Beda College H.S. Class of 1991, Silver Jubilarians**



## DE LIMA'S FOUR DATES

LEILA DE LIMA follows the tradition of Bedans who have not only excelled in their chosen field as lawyers, but who have also gained fame for their uncompromising and incorruptible character as public leaders. In a short span of eight years during her stints as head of the Commission on Human Rights and as Secretary of Justice, she has easily earned the right to join the ranks of Rene Saguisag, Raul Roco, Augusto "Bobby" Sanchez, and several others who hailed from the same Mendiola halls of the San Beda College of Law, as fighters for justice and democracy known for their courage and integrity. She was too young though to be counted among these Bedan leaders of the anti-dictatorship movement, having graduated Salutatorian of her law batch in 1985, the same year the country was at the cusp of liberation from the tyranny of the Marcos regime. The year of her graduation from the San Beda College of Law though proved auspicious, as she herself will soon be regarded as a leader of the generation of Bedans that will carry the torch passed on by their illustrious predecessors.

Indeed, fortune was written all over De Lima's life and career. She was born and spent her childhood in her hometown of Iriga City, Camarines Sur. Her father, Vicente B. De Lima, eventually became a commissioner of the Commission on Elections under President Cory Aquino. De Lima took up her pre-law history-political science degree at the De La Salle University before entering the San Beda College of Law. In law school, she not only graduated as salutatorian of her batch, but also eventually topped the 1985 bar examinations at no. 8. Her reputation in legal circles as one of the country's leading election lawyers promised her a lucrative legal career, until she was plucked from her private practice and appointed to head the Commission on Human Rights. At that time, the appointment was seen as a political move of the Arroyo Administration to deprive the opposition of her services, by giving the feisty election practitioner what was then considered a "safe" government position that did not invite much intrigue or controversy. De Lima proved everyone wrong.

The election lawyer who was not exactly known for making waves showed that given the right leadership and focus, the CHR was capable of becoming one of the more powerful government institutions to reckon with. She brought to the national consciousness the seriousness of the country's human rights situation. Leading the collegial body, she led fearless investigations on human rights violations committed by the Arroyo military and police forces. She showed that not all was well in the human rights front of the Arroyo Administration. Until De Lima happened at the CHR, nobody, least of all the administration, thought of the CHR capable of being a thorn on its side. Before long, the CHR was an item in everyday news, with exposés and investigations on government wrong-doing hitting the headlines, thus putting Malacañang Palace officials on their toes insofar as Arroyo's human rights record was concerned. The



most reorted investigations of the CHR during this time included the Davao Death Squad, the Maguindanao Massacre, the government offensive on leftist militants, and PNP and AFP excesses in anti-crime and anti-insurgency operations.

This was De Lima's first encounter with destiny. The second came when, to her own surprise, she was invited by President Benigno Aquino III to assume the powerful cabinet portfolio of Secretary of Justice. De Lima accepted, and was given presidential marching orders of delivering complete justice to all Filipinos, regardless of their station in life. She did not wait long to keep herself busy. Barely two months into the administration, she was called in to lead the investigation on the August 23 Luneta Hostage-taking incident. This set the trend for the rest of her tenure in the DOJ, as controversial and headline events that demanded the high-profile intervention of the DOJ came in regular succession in the next five years.

In November 2011, De Lima was accused of defying the Supreme Court when she prevented former President Arroyo from leaving the country and avoid answering criminal charges of election fraud. This act earned De Lima the ire of her own colleagues at the IBP, whose leadership was then still dominated by Arroyo and Corona allies. But this same act also made her popular among the public, as they saw the action of the Corona Court as nothing more than a feeble attempt to let Arroyo escape criminal prosecution. The public was only too happy to have somebody in the Aquino government stand up to the Court, and be the champion of a people clamoring to see justice served on the former president. For this act, disbarment cases were filed left and right by her own colleagues in the legal profession. However, the Court's action also eventually led to the impeachment of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.



As a result, De Lima's apparent third date with destiny was not to be. Touted as the President's top choice to replace an impeached Corona as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, De Lima's bid for the position was bogged down from day one by the same disbarment cases filed against her as a result of her supposed "defiance" of the TRO issued by the same Supreme Court she now aspires to lead. While administrative cases likewise bothered other Supreme Court nominees, including Justices Antonio Carpio and Maria Lourdes Sereno, these were immediately dismissed, and the other candidates with qualification issues were cleared, in time to be considered in the JBC selection meetings. All except De Lima.

In the end, De Lima accepted her fate and continued her work as Secretary of Justice. Despite the seeming appropriateness of her middle name to the position she vied for as chief magistrate of the High Court, Magistrado will remain to be hers only in name, but not in title. But this seeming misfortune had its own blessings, as the appointment of Justice Sereno as Chief Justice paved the way for a closer and more fruitful relationship between the Department of Justice and the Supreme Court in the field of justice reform, where the two agencies led by the President's incorruptible women appointees worked hand in hand together to institute reforms in the delivery of justice in the country.

De Lima's failed bid to assume leadership over the third branch of government simply set her up for another, but more logical, fourth date with destiny, that might in time lead her to another branch of government. Armed with her record as an undeniable champion of both human rights and the fight for justice, and her sterling accomplishments and no-nonsense style of leadership, there was only one challenge left for the most popular member of the Aquino cabinet—the Senate. In her bid for the position of Senator of the Republic, De Lima has adopted the Justice agenda, letting her record of bringing senators, congressmen, an ex-president, and executive officials before the bars of justice speak for itself. Her run-up to the campaign carries the slogan "Mallaw na Hustisya". In the hope of letting the image of an uncompromising crusader for justice reverberate in an election exercise that gives premium to popularity and clarity of message.

Whether or not the Senate is indeed De Lima's fourth date with destiny, only time will tell. If surveys are to be considered, she is presently ranked anywhere from number 5 to number 9, thus assuring her, as of now, of being included in the Magic 12 in the race for the Senate in the 2016 elections. But whatever her fate is after May 9, 2016, one thing is sure, this lady Bedan has definitely left her mark in the public landscape of the country, probably more than any Bedan from the fairer sex, in such a short period of time. Wherever her destiny carries her, De Lima's legacy as a public figure is already assured. And for that alone, Leila De Lima has earned her place among the ranks of San Beda's notable alumni, an addition to their club that her mentor Senator Raul Roco will most certainly welcome.





## TAX REFORM ADVOCACY: Fusing Development Economics and the Bedan Creed for the Common Good

by Rep. Neri Colmenares (Economics Batch 1992)  
Senior Deputy Minority Leader



Rep. Neri Colmenares entered San Beda in 1987 and finished his AB Economics in 1992. He was given the Distinguished Bedan Award in 2013 for 'Exemplary Government Service'. He was an Associate at the Asian Law Center when he was taking his PhD at the University of Melbourne. He is currently running for Senator in the 2016 Elections. He is the Senior Deputy Minority Leader and is on his last term as member of the House of Representatives. He authored the original SSS pension bill in Congress in 2011 and has been an advocate for social pension and tax reforms for years with bills to increase pension, lower income tax and eliminate VAT in gasoline, water and electricity charges. Among the bills he also authored are the Anti-Dynasty Law and the Freedom of Information Law.

Rep. Colmenares has authored several laws such as the Mobile Disaster Alerts Law to warn people of typhoons and calamities through text, creation of special election precincts for persons with disabilities and senior citizens, early voting for the media, recognition and indemnification for martial law human rights victims, the Anti-Torture Law and the Anti-Enforced Disappearance Law. As a lawyer, Neri has argued before the Supreme Court in various issues and has won some of the controversial cases that were decided by the Court the latest of which against the pork barrel in the form of PDAF and DAP. Rep. Neri was also one of the government prosecutors in the Impeachment Trial of then Chief Justice Renato Corona. He is an MCLE Lecturer of the IBP.

He was Chess Champion of Western Visayas and placed second runner up at the Palarang Pambansa at the age of 16. He and Shamir are doting parents to son Ben.

I probably did not realize it then, but many of the principles I live by today sprung from my Benedictine education and its core values of *Ora et Labora*. Those were tumultuous times when I entered "Beda" in 1987, when a new government under Pres. Cory just came to power after years of martial law. I was previously the head of the Visayas Student Catholic Action and was part of a vibrant student movement demanding the return of student councils and school papers. It was, therefore, difficult for me to concentrate on my studies with raging demonstrations in Mendiola and coup d'états every now and then, such that I finished my Economics course in 1992, a year longer than my original batch mates.

Once I settled down, however, I began to gradually integrate the basic Benedictine Hallmarks of community with my social concerns, and not by chance, because the Benedictine sense of community stressed on the common good, love of Christ and neighbor and, of course, courage symbolized by our Red Lion. Some say that this Bedan courage sometimes lead me to take up "hopelessly Quibotic" battles such as my untiring fight against pork barrel and for lowering income tax in the country.

My latest quibotic dream, as some critics observe, is leading the fight for the first ever congressional override in history of a presidential veto on my bill increasing SSS pension. Why shoot for the moon, political pundits ask, and my usual answer is, I probably witnessed too many never-say-die basketball games of our Red Lions and was most likely inspired by their drive to "win them all" fearing neither "fire nor blood".

I enrolled in Economics after first choice Political Science was scrapped from the curriculum. I remember being made to read Todaro's economic theories by my young professor (whose name for the life of me I could not remember now and will be glad to be reminded). Although, I may have forgotten what I learned in that difficult subject called "Econometrics" I still hold dear and use unsparingly the economic development tools I acquired from Todaro which my professor said is suited for developing countries like ours.

I remember class discussions that pension increases and tax reductions have their macro economic benefits: the increase in people's spending power can help spur economic growth. The theory is that an increase in 'take home pay' brought about by pension increase or reduced taxes will be spent immediately since the Philippines has not achieved the stage when savings are affordable to most people. Additionally, if people can afford to buy nutritious food or medicine, this will even help the national health system as less people are vulnerable to sickness that in the long run will burden either the local or national health system.

My economics theories therefore were not limited to strict 'corporate' economics where policies are purely measured on its impact in government spending and revenue loss but also in combination with the Bedan predisposition for the common good and its impact on the people.

I digress now to one of my current advocacies—tax reform, and the need for the leadership of Bedans who stayed true to the Bedan spirit, especially those alumni in government. We should be at the frontline of a growing movement that rejects the trickle-down theory and see public good in outright unburdening the public from unjust impositions of our tax system.



**We are overtaxed and underserved.**

While many of us grumbled against excessive taxation for years it was only recently when this issue gathered momentum in our national discourse, brought about by the tax reform bills filed in both Houses of Congress. Of course, the fact that Pres. Benigno Aquino refused to support the measures on the ground that it will take away P20 Billion from tax revenues only added fuel to the debates.



Those earning more than P500,000 annual income have been taxed at a rate of 32% in 1987 through EO 37 issued by then Pres. Corazon Aquino, when the amount could have probably bought a small but decent house. The government continuously applied the same tax rate until now but the problem is, the P500,000 of 1987 has been seriously eroded by inflation and could not even buy a decent car.

According to a comparative study by the Tax Management Association of the Philippines (TMAP) the Philippines imposes one of the highest income tax in Asia. An annual income equivalent to P500,000 is taxed at 20% in Vietnam and Cambodia, 12% in Laos, 11% in Malaysia, 10% in Thailand and a meekly 2 % in Singapore. This is made more painful by the fact that tax payers do not feel the services commensurate to this over-taxation, with the corruption, dismal health service, and the hellish triumvirate of bad roads, traffic and a dysfunctional MRT-LRT system.

This unjust imposition certainly violates the constitutional provision requiring a progressive system of taxation as those whose income are certainly nowhere near wealthy are taxed at the highest possible rate by government.

According to the 1986-2014 Consumer Price Index of the Philippine Statistics Office (PSO) national consumer prices

#### **Salamat San Beda**

I became quite busy after I became a lawyer and later a member of Congress that I forgot to really thank San Beda and the Bedan community for those memorable years of ora et labora. I write this short piece, not just to reminisce those wonderful college years and to encourage Bedan participation in the tax reform movement, but also, to thank San Beda for the great education, the camaraderie of our close knit Bedan community and the animus to fight like there is no tomorrow for needed reforms in our society. It was because of Beda that I learned the need to heed the clarion call, to work for the common good and have the courage to fight for it. San Beda has been a big influence during my student days. I am glad it is still a big part of me in my work for change and reforms.

have increased by 539% since Pres. Cory issued EO 37. Reading the PSO data, P500,000 in 1987 is now worth P2.7 Million. This is the reason why in House Bill 5842 which I filed in Congress, the highest tax rate is only imposed on those earning over P2.7 Million annually while an annual income of P500,000 only merited a 10% tax rate.

Additionally, the living wage in the Philippines is pegged at P1,086/day as of August 2014 according to research think-tank Ibon Foundation. A living wage is defined as "the minimum amount needed by a family of 8 members to meet its daily food and non-food needs plus 10% allocation for savings". The actual conditions however show that many of our workers are a long way away from living wage conditions. My assertion during the committee discussions was that if the living wage of about P30,000/month were taxed, the income earner will receive lower than living wage. HB 5842, therefore, provides that those earning an annual income of P396,000 (roughly about P30,000/month) should be exempted from income taxation.

Verily, there is a need for tax reform in the Philippines, a battle that must be waged vigorously. This includes the review of the imposition of Value Added Tax on gasoline, electricity and even systems loss. The author's bill taking out VAT imposed on systems loss passed the Ways and Means Committee after a spirited discussion on the absurdity of the imposition. If one were to be taxed with VAT for purchasing a bag for example, at least the tax payer brings home the bag. If one is imposed VAT for 'buying' systems loss, the tax payer brings home nothing. Government does not seem to care that there is no 'value added' in systems 'loss'. This particular measure may not get congressional approval due to time constraints and may require another battle in the next Congress. This situation, however, emphasizes the fact that absurdities and injustices such as these tax impositions do exist.





*San Beda Class '62 / '66*

# A Golden Celebration

Was it Victor Hugo who coined the phrase "It was the best and worst of times" Though centuries and culturally distant, the year 1966 was a period of change and rebellion. There was mistrust towards authority.

Change had to happen may it be the way we grew our hair, the flower power and substance abuse was unintentional but was a byproduct of raging hormones. 1966 was the year of academic accreditation. To be rated as one of the highest standards meant extra work load demanded from the faculty and the student body.

The standards were exceeded and on graduation day a sense of relief was felt but it was saying goodbye to our youth. Fast forward 25, 40 and 45 years the classmates bonded tighter as life did what it has to do.

In 2006 a group of classmates gathered at a resort in Bagac, Bataan. It had no specific agenda except to renew friendships. For some it was a first homecoming after decades of absence. At sunset multitudes of baby turtles were released to the open sea. The tiny creatures faded in moments. A marine biologist mentioned that only a handful shall come back to the shores. We could have been those baby turtles and here we are back to where it all begun. We may be a shadow of the youthful 17 year old on graduation day. A step slower and traces the vicissitudes life has given to us, we have journeyed back to where our Benictine education begun.

We have shared life's beautiful moments. We have shared life's sad moments and as our numbers diminish the bonds are tighter than ever.

Unlike the turtles we still believe that the best is yet to come. The rock group the Turtles popularized a song "so happy together" that's the spirit of class 66.

"Where have all the flowers gone?"

Here we are the best of friends.

ed abad/nonnie abad/butch africa/val agonias/let aguado/alex agulla/boy agullar/jun alday/mario alegre/charles ang/andy apostol/rody arrieta/ed azcona/manny bautista/tito beltran/roger Bermudez/many bondoc/regie bondoc/amang buencamino/will buhay/jose cabarrus/boji cabochon/gary cabrera/bobbitt calderon/jun cases/boy castillo/leonardo chan/philip chan/chris chua/ricardo co/art constantino/sid consunji/tony cotoco/manny cristobal/philip cruz/jun de castro/djoma de guzman/mike de guzman/alan dela cruz/elmer dela cruz/rene dela pena/jay de vera/dong de vera/johnny del rosario/neri dionisio/romy dorotan/jimmy duran/emile Enriquez/john Enriquez/romy Enriquez/robert escolar-chua/do esguerra/diego esquivel/eric evangelista/tito faigal/toby fomier/jimmy tan/jack garcia/jimmy gil/go klan luy/peter go/eddie gonzalez/chito gonzalez/denle guloy/alex hao/titi hernandez/pete hemando/chito Ibanez/gerry Isada/atek Jacinto/rej Jacinto/mike Iachica/mari Iacson/joey leagogo/kiko legaspi/peewee leynes/boy ligon/joe limoanco/boy luansing/eddie magallon/jun magbanua/bing magpayo/chato maneru/dan manlita/mom manning/bok marty/joselu matti/ben mayuga/butch Mendoza/jeng Mercado/dlilp mirchandani/linden moreales/felicesimo nepomuceno/jess nuguid/jake ocampo/kiko ong/kit Ortega/sonny panallan/rolly panillo/mandy paredes/dan perico/pons preysler/dan quinto/danny relucio/tito reyes/hernie reyes/sonny reyes/mon rios/bobbitt rivera/ody Roberto/erle rosete/tony rubio/dick ruebe/emile san diego/willy sanchaz/acus saqueton/jun sare/rolly sinense/louie sison/ding soqueno/Emmanuel Soriano/jun tablan/rene tady/greg tan/leo tan/gerry teotico/abet ticzon/nling tirona/jun trinidad/alvin valle/tito venida/rene verano/gerry vicencio/abet villarosa/alfonso yap/caty yuengian



GOLDEN 50<sup>th</sup> CLASS 62-66 JUBILEE  
PRESENTS:

# AL MANRIQUE'S DARK TO LIGHT JUN ALDAY'S LIGHT

CONSTRUCTION: MANUEL AGUILAR  
COORDINATION: MALOU MANRIQUE  
GRAPHICS: DING SOQUEÑO'S PRINT-X  
MANAGEMENT: BUTCH AFRICA  
DIRECTION: JUN ALDAY



## Class '62 - '66 (Golden Jubilarian) Come Back and Give Back

Fifty years ago, three budding artists were gathered by their teacher, Albert Casuga, to exhibit their youthful works in the campus. The exhibit was entitled "Ani" meaning harvest.

Perhaps the word "Ani" was premature as the three artists, Luis "Jun" Alday, Alfredo "Al" Manrique and Wilfredo "Will" Buhay have not really harvested anything significant yet. In fact, they would still forge on with their careers after leaving San Beda to plant their creative seeds more than to harvest.

Jun, after early flirtations with other artistic endeavors eventually focused on interior design and related fields based mainly in Hong Kong; Al honed his skill as a photographer, graphic artist and painter until his untimely demise; while Will drifted from the academe, to theatre and to other pursuits while continuing to paint in the U.S.A.

On the occasion of the Golden Jubilee of SBC class of 62-66, two artists with dichotomous artistic visions were called upon by their class to share their works not only to them but to the student body of San Beda as a whole and to the public at large as a poignant reminder that San Beda College has also produced outstanding alumni in the field of arts.

"Dark to Light" posthumously exhibits three of Al Manrique's social realism paintings that best exemplify his artistic style while Jun Alday shows a retrospective of his extensive body of work that strives for lightness, harmony and balance.

It is hoped that with this homecoming exhibit, dormant artistic talents from San Beda may be awakened, nurtured and eventually bloom as full pledged artists of the future. May the roster of artists coming from this campus multiply.

### Redeamus et Reddamus\*

\*Latin motto of Class 62-66: "Come back and give back."

Transfigured, we come  
Back to old haunts like the wind  
And give back beauty.

Haiku by Albert B. Casuga  
12/31/15, Ontario, Canada





Two poems composed by  
**ALBERT B. CASUGA**

Former Teacher of Class '62 / '66  
Golden Jubilarians

For his former students  
Jun Alday, Al Manriquez  
And Willi Buhay

Imagine if all of us were caterpillars,  
all inching toward that one branch  
or leaf whence we spread our wings  
to carry out a bounden duty of flitting  
from one rose garden to a hillock  
smothered by a rainbow of pansies:

Would we race to the highest branch  
and shed our cocoon shackles quickly  
to fulfill this raison d'être of spreading  
beauty where it is scarce or now gone?  
Imagine if all that we lived for were a  
task as gleeful as this godlike whimsy.

Would we not scale beyond this boot,  
and swing beyond this silken thread?  
Or tear through bramble or grappling  
gossamer webs that drag us down  
even as we crawl toward sunlight fronds  
to spread our wings and get beauty done?

Wherever beauty is, we will be there,  
And if our truth be true, we will all  
Be stuck there, too, spinning webs  
of words, music that will outlive us all.

# Still Life

On the canvas, still life remains still,  
but for the ravages of neglect and time.  
For a little while, movement there will  
come from light thrown off like mime  
from palpable forms that are frozen  
inexorably, dictates of chiaroscuro,  
ideographic demands, or even unspoken  
meaning jutting out of dashed impasto.  
Will their narrative then lend them light  
like the moon borrows from the sun?  
How luminous will faces shine in sunlight?  
Will flowers glow, will river streams run?  
When these happen, will all the sparkle  
Bound by bastidor\* speak or mumble?

\*Bastidor — frame

# After All These Years

Dedicated to the Members of  
High School Class of 1966 (Golden Jubilarians)



## Distinguish



**Ma. Teodoro Josephat  
C. Martinez**  
(CAS'87)  
*Accountancy*



**Luis A. Alday**  
(GS'62, HS'66)  
*Arts & Culture*



**Alfredo P. Manrique**  
(Posthumous) (GS'62, HS'66)  
*Arts & Culture*



**Paul Joseph M. Garcia**  
(GS'82, HS'86, CAS'90)  
*Banking & Finance*



**Gerald J. Santos**  
(GS'79, HS'83, CAS'87)  
*Business & Entrepreneurship*

## Outstanding Overseas Bedan



**Dr. Ernel T. Tansiongco**  
(HS'55)  
*Medicine*



**Wilfredo R. Buhay**  
(GS'62, HS'66)  
*Arts & Culture*



**Judge Antonio  
M. Eugenio, Jr.**  
(Law'74)  
*Law-Judiciary*



**Atty. Antonio Carlos  
O. Astorga II**  
(CAS'80, Law'87)  
*Law-Private Practice*



**Dr. Raul**  
(GS'  
*Med*

## Raul S. Roco Award for Public Service



**Atty. Arthur P. Tugade**  
(GS'59, HS'63, CAS'76, Law'71)

## San Beda Hall of Fame



**Kiah D. Schwani**  
(GS'49, HS'53, CAS'57)

# Galin 2016 BEDAN ALUMNI AWARDS

## San Beda Sport



**Jorge Blervinido S. Sison**  
(HS'93, CAS'97)  
*Coach (Basketball)*



**Antonio M. Suarez**  
(HS'55, CAS'59)  
*Basketball*



**Julio R. D.**  
(GS'68,  
*Foot*

## Dugong Bedista Awards



**Benjamin Paylona**



**Gloria Melendres**



**Noe Ysulat**

## Bed Alum Recogniti



## Bedans



**Phil L. Cruz**  
(HS'68)  
Education



**Reginald "Jett" J. Pangan**  
(HS'84)  
Entertainment



**Manuel Mariano Martin S. Barretto**  
(GS'87, HS'91, CAS'97)  
Fashion



**Atty. Dennis B. Puna**  
(GS'77, HS'81, Law'90)  
Government Service



**Dr. Wilfredo V. Villacorta**  
(GS'57, HS'61)  
International Understanding



**Paul D. Jara**  
(GS'63)  
Medicine



**Cmdr. Enrico Efren A. Evangelista**  
(GS'76, HS'80)  
Military Service



**Roberto T. Muldang**  
(GS'56, HS'60, CAS'64)  
Public Service

## Distinguished Woman of Service



**Atty. Lilia B. De Lima**



**Amb. Henrietta T. De Villa**

## Bedista Sports Hall of Fame

## Special Recognition Award



**Very Rev. Fr. Paul Vera, OSE**  
(CAS'65)

## Ramon Mitra Award for Legislation



**Hon. Elpidio F. Barzaga, Jr.**  
(CAS'70)



**Del Gallego**  
(HS'72)  
Football



**Melcio Amores A. Ampon**  
(GS'70, HS'74)  
Lawn Tennis



**Pablo R. Dela Cruz**  
(CAS'73) (Posthumous)  
Basketball

## Bedista Alumni



**Irene Mae B. Alcobilla**  
1st place  
2014 Bar Exams



**Jose Angelo A. David**  
6th place  
2014 Bar Exams



**Adrian F. Ammentado**  
7th place  
2014 Bar Exams



**Julius Bryan C. Abesamis**  
6th place  
Nursing Licensure Exams





AMOSUP Seamen's Center  
Hub of Operations  
1983



ASSOCIATED MARINE OFFICERS'  
and SEAMEN'S UNION  
of the PHILIPPINES



Seamen's Hospital - Manila  
1987



Seamen's Hospital Annex  
Manila - On-going



Sailor's Home- Manila  
1994



Sailor's Home Annex  
Manila - 2013



Seamen's Village - Cavite  
1993



8 Anchors Cultural Center  
Seamen's Village Cavite  
2013



Slop Chest - Manila  
2006



Professional Career  
Development Center  
Manila - 2006



Maritime Academy of the  
Asia and the Pacific  
1998



T/S Kapitan Oca  
MAAP Pier - Bataan  
1997



Seamen's Training Center  
MAAP Campus - Bataan  
2000



AJSU - AMOSUP Campus  
MAAP - Bataan  
2009



Seamen's Hospital - Cebu  
2005



Sailor's Home and  
Slop Chest - Cebu  
2003



Cebu Sports Complex  
2012



Seamen's Hospital  
Iloilo - 2005



G.O.R. Seamen's Hospital  
Davao - 2008



JSU - AMOSUP  
Davao Activity Center - 2013



Davao Sports Complex  
Davao City



Iloilo Multi-Purpose Centre  
Iloilo City

#### CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

- AMOSUP Seamen's Center (+63 2) 527 8491-98 / 527 3535
- Maritime Academy of the Asia and the Pacific (+63 2) 741 1024 / 527 2110
- Seamen's Training Center (+63 2) 741 1024
- Professional Career Development Center (+63 2) 527 2110 / 528 0954
- Seamen's Hospital (+63 2) 527 8116-20
- Sailor's Home Manila (+63 2) 527 3605
- Slop Chest - Manila (+63 2) 527 2109
- Seamen's Village (+63 46) 973 0370
- JSU-AMOSUP Mariners' Home - Manila (+63 2) 521 5180 / 400 0461 / 400 0463-64
- Seamen's Hospital - Cebu (+63 32) 346 2598
- Sailor's Home - Cebu (+63 32) 236 9928
- Slop Chest - Cebu (+63 32) 236 9928
- Seamen's Hospital - Iloilo (+63 33) 321 3523
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- G.O.R. Seamen's Hospital - Davao (+63 82) 234 7184

Other welfare Facilities in Partnership with Affiliated Union • JSU-AMOSUP Mariners' Home Annex • JSU-AMOSUP Maritime Museum & Sports Complex



# Thank You, Caloy

(August 29, 1930 – January 27, 2016)



Carlos "The Great Difference" Loyzaga, King of Philippine basketball from the early '50s to the mid '60s, is gone. He passed away January 27, 2016 at the age of 85.

Today's youth may never have seen him play, and a number of them wonder why numerous tributes continue to pour in from people from practically all walks of life.



Arguably, he considered by many sports fanatics as the greatest basketball player to ever represent the Philippines on the international arena. In the '50s, he was given the monicker "the big difference". This can be attributed to the fact that Caloy was simply the greatest on the basketball field both nationally and internationally, representing the country into Olympic games.

Loyzaga played collegiate ball with the San Beda Red Lions in the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) and then suited up for the Philippines in the 1952 and 1956 Olympics.

Loyzaga stood 6-foot-3 but was a dominant center in his time and led the Philippines to a third place finish in the World Basketball Championship in 1954—the country's best-ever finish—where he earned inclusion to the tournament's All Star team.

Here is a tribute from Senator Rene Saguisag, an equally outstanding Bedan

As a Makati Elem pupil and Rizal Hi stude, I read about iconic Caloy Loyzaga being called "Pomfret," among other monickers. Jack Pomfret was a legendary athlete in Canada, all-around, and was a member of four national basketball teams, including Canada's 1948 cage Olympic delegation in London (where Fil-Brit Victorial Manalolo Dravis won two diving golds; father, musikero from Orani, Bataan who migrated to the U.S.).





The other morning, King Caloy left for a better world. Mendiola was OK in the 50's. I entered San Beda in 1955, when Caloy led the Red Lions in winning, after three championships, the coveted Zamora trophy, at a time when there were so many Yo-Soy-Bosoy Types among the priests, teachers and students; we sang with fervor cantemos al amor de los amores, cantemos al Señor, or no mas amor que el tuyo in our Friday Benediction or in our January procession for Santo Nino. We will remember him when we join this Sunday's Mendiola procession.

His son Chito says Caloy was a good family man, a Big Difference truly, given what we see today.

TYTYTYTYTY, Your Highness, we cannot thank and honor you enough, for what you have done for the country.

Pomfret, a patriotic fellow Bedan of the Century.





# TV and 'Bye

by Atty. Rene Saguisag

Just came back from Mendiola, Ed. San Beda was quiet. No class. Tradillon, the Monday after the Sto. Nino celebration, tang pasok.

Walked with Joffre Alajar to church. Sat towards the back of the attendees. Greeted Chito Loyzaga, on a side pew. Chatted with Doc Louie Kodumal.

Mass. Spotted Ting Cuna, Super-Balyador. To his left was a certain Olympian, hmmm, Paing Hechanova yata. The two have canes. Kamukha ko.

My classmate, Basque Fr. Olegario Commeleran, was there, along with the only other Kastilaloy priest, Fr. Banabarra, who must be 200 years old.

Mass over, I was surprised to be asked, like Rene Samliento, to say a few words. We obliged. I started by greeting my GFs, Golden or Gorgeous Friends, by quoting from Wordsworth's Ode, aka, too me, Splendor In the Grass, which I studied under Dean Recay (I majored in English); noted how many long-time friends I was seeing, long-time-no-see, tagal ng walang kita; Caloy as the Big Difference, in my case matagal ng may malaking diperensiya; and ended with the anecdote about the wise old man in the mountain and the pipit held by the cono pillo kid. Asked whether the pipit was dead or alive, the pantas reflected and answered, "the answer is in your hands."

Our post-Caloy future is in our hands, in basketball and everything else.

Then I chatted with Paing H and Ting C, and later with widow Vicky, daughter Bling, son Ruso (who also played in the PBA) and other kin.

Jay Ignacio and Jude Roque were there with several gangmates and I was reminded of the event on Saturday, annual homecoming, but I may have class in San Beda Alabang.(?)

One of my few remaining thrills is guessing to what tune Our Father would be sung. Very conventional this time.

It was in the same church where we would sing decades ago, cantemos al amor de los amores, cantemos al Senor, Dios esta aqui, venid adoradores, adoremos, a Cristo Redentor. . . Good Ama Namin was familiar in tune this time; there are so many variations.

Chito led in signing the Bedan Hymn of Raul Roco and Fr. Maramba but the older generation did not seem familiar with it.

Still and all, a fine sentimental journey home for one who spent some of best years of his life in Mendiola, and its environs.



*May Eternal Peace be  
Granted unto their Souls*

- Roy S. Abesamis (GS'71, HS'75)
- Ramon "Tito Mon" T. Ventosa (GS'46, HS'51)
- Pable "Ambo" P. Dela Cruz (CAS'73)
- Mrs. Sabitha Sehwan, wife of Kishu Sewani (GS'49, HS'53, CAS'57)
- Basilia Concepcion (SBC employee)
- Carlos "Caloy" M. Loyzaga (HS'51)
- Manny Gokim (HS'56)

*Special prayers for the eternal  
repose of their souls.*



# ERIC R. GONZALES

San Beda College Grade School 1975 • High School 1979

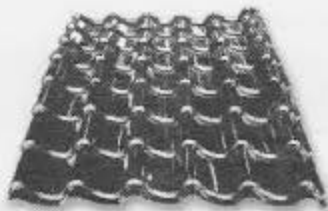
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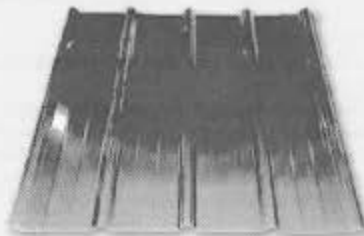
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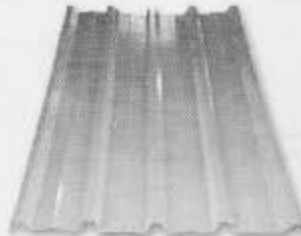
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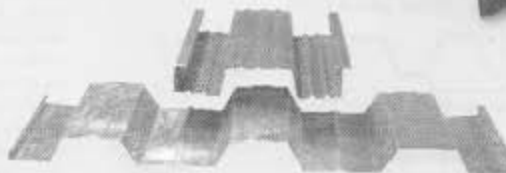
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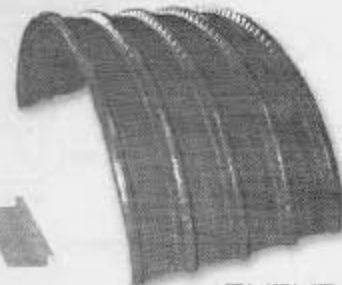
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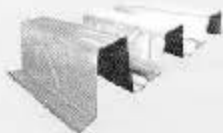


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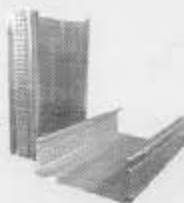
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# ROLL OF HONORS



Gay Marc G. De Guzman  
Major in Civil Service



Luis Jovito A. Santos, Jr.  
JPM, JUPP  
SOF, AUSA



Winifred L. Balala  
VPM, AUSA, DISTRICT, CUSTO  
AUSA, TRO, AUSA, TRO, AUSA



Ernest J. Chua  
SOF, Academy, Cebu



Winifred J. Chua  
SOF, Academy, Cebu



Ramon B. Lina  
VPM, AUSA, DISTRICT, CUSTO



Victor C. Espiritu  
CUSTO, AUSA, DISTRICT, CUSTO



Roy D. Pineda  
VPM, AUSA, DISTRICT, CUSTO



Ramon B. Lina  
VPM, AUSA, DISTRICT, CUSTO

## CAS Class of 1991 @ 25, Together with Great Pride

by Dr. Joffre M. Alajar

The College of Arts and Sciences Class of 1991 comes home together after 25 years. And it is not just a homecoming for them, but rather a homecoming for all, aptly captured in their program theme: **#ForeverRED**.

Being together once more, and maybe perhaps, for the last time, is something that this batch of "still-an-all-boys-club" looks forward this February 2016. It will surely be fun, with full of surprises, and a lot of reliving the old glory days of San Beda High School.

Turning the pages of their Echoes yearbook, this class was then one of the last Bedan boys of the decade of the '80s who enjoyed immensely the sounds of the New Wave Rock, popularized then by British bands. It was also during their time when the nation was still in the difficult process of rebuilding itself from the "destructions" of the dictatorship regime, with the revered late President Cory taking the lead, after she was swept into power by a bloodless revolt in February 1986, popularly known to the world as People Power.

Undoubtedly, there must be many other reasons for anyone to take pride being part of CAS Class of 1991. Today, a number of them have been living a truly purposeful life, and found their respective niches in the professional world. Among the more notable members of the class are Cong. Abraham Mitra, Winifred

Balala, Luis Jovito Santos, Norville Laus, Victor Espiritu, Roy Pineda, and Gay Marc De Guzman. Due to space constraints, only a few could be made mention here.

In a world, that is caught up in the pursuit of the golden cup, CAS Class '91 has always been driven to live meaningful and purposeful-driven lives a great passion that must undoubtedly have been drawn from their four or more years of education in San Beda College.

Fond collections of their great student days would be meaningless without their formators who made a difference in their young lives.

Tonight, the Class will definitely honor their professors these great teachers for their knowledge, values, dedication, commitment and precious time shared for genuinely serving Class '91 well in their years of undergoing Benedictine training and education.

After tonight's celebration, CAS '91 will definitely join other members of the Bedan race in helping San Beda College to become a better school. Their desire to see their Alma Mater cope with the demands of the 21st century global quality Benedictine education remains as strong and fervent as ever. And this desire is not simply words. Actions speak louder for Class '91, with them putting up a modest amount to help Benedictine education thrive in these challenging times.

Meanwhile, CAS Class '91 is roaring to celebrate a milestone at 25, together with great pride!

Congratulations!

## Letter from the Rector

Dear Members of CAS Class 1991:

Your graduation marks not only the end of your college studies but also the beginning of a mission and a struggle.

All your years in school and especially your years in a Catholic Institution have prepared you for the mission to make the Gospel of Christ a reality in our nation. You have been trained not only to be professionals but also to be in the service of the nation, to first of all become a faithful reflection of the Kingdom of God. You are called to help in the creation of a society in which every citizen will enjoy the freedom, rights, and dignity that belong to one made in the image and likeness of God.

Surely you know that this mission involves struggle. You will have to contend with those who oppose change and reform and are bent on perpetuating an unjust system that for them is highly profitable. It is a struggle that you take a lifetime and that none ever to succeed. But the struggle is not only against forces outside you, but also within your own self as you strive to overcome indifference to fear, the desire for personal glory, and self-serving ambition. In this struggle you should seek the triumph of Christ over the world and the triumph of Christ within you. This is what being a Christian is all about.

For this mission and struggle, you have been trained by your Benedictine and Bedan mentors to be a man of justice, work, and peace. Never forget that proper will always be an unfailing source of strength for you. Never forget that your proper will always be for the Kingdom of God and for the common good. And never forget that peace is the goal for which you pray and work.

On behalf of the administrators, faculty members, and service personnel of San Beda College, I commend you all on your graduation and pray that God will always be your light and your strength as you go forth to fulfill the mission that Christ shares with you. God bless you.

*Bernardo M. Perez, OSB*  
BERNARDO M. PEREZ, OSB  
Rector





Globe





## A Bedan wins TOYM

Mon Abrea, popularly known as the Tax Whiz is a former BIR examiner and considered the most prominent advocate of genuine tax reform. He is the founding President of the Center for Strategic Reform of the Philippines (CSR Philippines), an organization that seeks to empower the fast growing sector of Filipino micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) and serves as Think Tank of the Office of Senator Bam Aquino. Concurrently, he serves as Chief Strategy Officer of the country's premiere social enterprise in strategic finance & tax advisory for SMEs, the Abrea Consulting Group (ACG). ACG offers game-changing strategies to help SMEs hit their bottomline while living and enjoying a tax-free lifestyle.

He recently joined the roster of 2015 Asia Young Leaders in the country being recognized as one of the distinguished global young leaders during the Asia CEO Awards 2013 and recipient of the 2015 Distinguished Bedan Award in the field of Accountancy. He is also the author of the bestselling tax handbook "Got a Question about Taxes? Ask The Tax Whiz: Most Frequently Asked Tax Questions in the Philippines."

"I am extremely honored to represent the Bedan Community in this global and national recognition as one of The Outstanding Young Men (TOYM) in the Philippines after being recognized as 2015 Asia CEO Young Leader of the Year and Distinguished Bedan in the field of Accounting and Taxation. Our tax advocacy has allowed me to truly be of service to Filipinos here and abroad. Prominently known as the "Tax Whiz," our social enterprise (Abrea Consulting Group) serving as the Tax Hub for SMEs in the Asia-Pacific and our non-profit organization (CSR Philippines) serving as Think Tank to our legislators on tax reform bills, both have been instrumental in increasing awareness and promoting a culture of honesty among politicians, celebrities, fellow entrepreneurs, and even lawyers in tax matters."

The 2015 Asia CEO Young Leader of the Year and one of the Ten Outstanding Young Men of the Philippines, MON ABREA,

is a former Bureau of Internal Revenue examiner and the most prominent advocate of genuine tax reform. He serves as chief strategy officer of the country's first social consulting enterprise, the Abrea Consulting Group, which offers strategic finance and tax advisory services to businesses and professionals. He is the founding president of the Center for Strategic Reforms of the Philippines (CSR Philippines), a non-profit organization that champions and consolidates initiatives to empower the MSMEs and to push for genuine tax reform.

He was recognized by Asia CEO Awards for his exemplary works as one of the distinguished global young leaders joining the roster of Asia Young Leaders in the country. He is also the recipient of the most prestigious 2015 Distinguished Bedan Award in the field of Accountancy given by the San Beda College Alumni Association.

He is also the author of the bestselling tax handbook "Got a Question about Taxes? Ask the Tax Whiz: Most Frequently Asked Tax Questions in the Philippines."





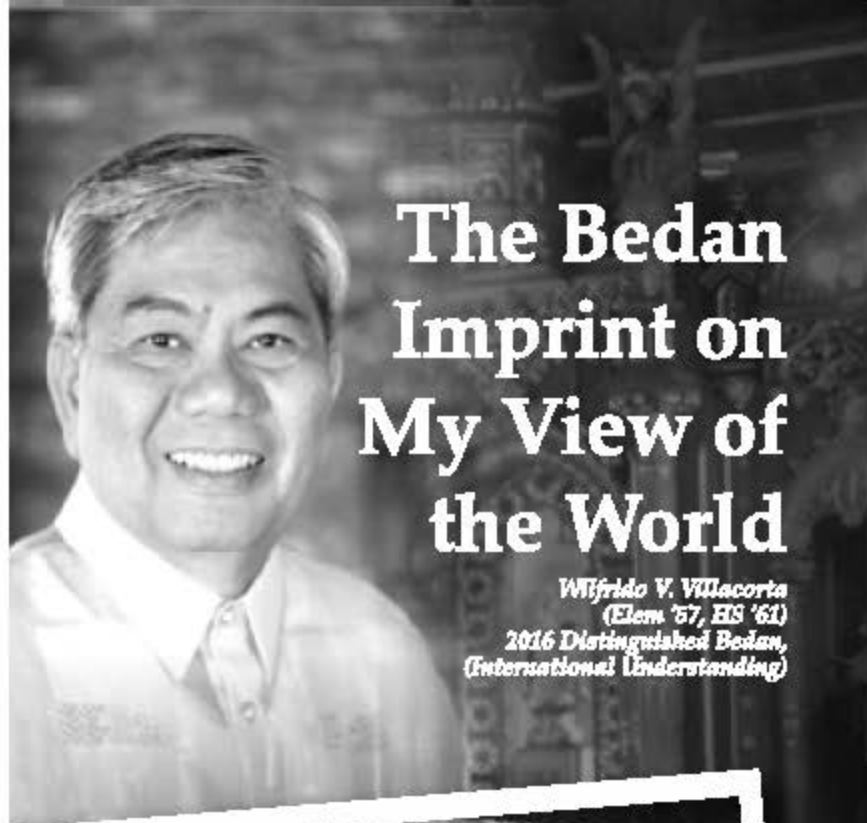
**L**ast month, Dr. Joffre Alajar requested me to write an article for *The Bedan Alumnus* on how my ten-year experience as a grade-school and high-school student in San Beda impacted on my world-view.

Let me begin by recalling how I came to be interested in world affairs. I believe it all started when my parents gifted me with an inflatable globe. That was not exactly the most exciting Christmas present for a Grade Two kid. My father, Olimpio, although he was a physician and businessman, was a voracious reader and book collector. He made sure that the globe he gave me was put to good use, especially when I had history and geography as subjects in later years. If my memory serves me right, my elementary teacher in basic geography and history was Mr. Lhwanag, and my high school teacher in those two subjects was Mr. Bernardo. Using the map of the world as teaching aid, they gave inspiring lectures that made us appreciate the relationship between the location and climate of the countries of the world, and their economies, politics and cultures. It also helped that the San Beda library was stacked with books about civilizations and great leaders that kindled the imagination of our generation of Bedans.

Little did I know then that I would be pursuing graduate studies in International Relations, that it would be my field of specialization in teaching and research, and that I would someday be serving as ASEAN Deputy Secretary-General and later, as Ambassador to ASEAN.

The discipline and fine values that I imbibed during my formative years guided me in my pursuits. The Benedictine monks who headed our institution during my time were Spaniards—Rev. Fr. Wilfrido Rojo was our Rector and subsequently our Abbott; Rev. Fr. Benigno Benabaurne was my Grade School Principal; and Rev. Fr. Sergio Martinez, my High School Principal. They were strict but fair, but most of all, they never posed any obstacle to the development of nationalism in our education. As a matter of fact, they encouraged love of country and world peace in their messages and homilies.

The works of art in San Beda's campus also left an indelible mark on my consciousness. The original buildings were designed in the Neo-Gothic tradition by Swedish architect George Asp. Our daily masses and benedictions were held inside the renowned chapel of the Abbey of Our Lady of Montserrat. Its chapel with its majestic fresco paintings, enchanting pipe-organ music played by Fr. Oriaga, and the pre-Vatican II hymns in Latin were unforgettable. The mural paintings were done by Father Lesmes Lopez and Brother Salvador Alberich. The most impressive are the depictions of heaven and hell in the pinnacle of the apse above the altar, and the Stations of the Cross. Having been immersed in such Renaissance-inspired artistic treasures profoundly globalized our aesthetic sense.



## The Bedan Imprint on My View of the World

*Wilfrido V. Villacorta  
(Elem '57, HS '61)  
2016 Distinguished Bedan,  
(International Understanding)*





## **Bedans honor San Beda's pillars**

In its continuing effort to recognize the many unsung heroes of San Beda College, namely: teachers, administrators, faculty and service staff, the SBCAA established in 2012, the annual Dugong Bedista award. This special SBCAA awards aims to recognize non-Bedans who have a) exhibited exemplary service to SBC service for at least 25 years; b) of good moral character; c) no pending disciplinary or administrative case filed; and d) rendered exemplary service to San Beda College worthy of emulation by other members of the Bedan Community.

For AY 2015-16 the SBCAA Board of Trustees has chosen Mr. Benjamin Faylona, former head, Math Department; Mrs. Gloria Melendres, head of the Learning Resource Center Basic Education Department; and, Mr. Noe Ysulat, Budget Audit Assistant. Winners will receive a Dugong Bedista trophy and cash reward.

It is hoped that this award recognition will further inspire non-Bedan administrators, teachers, professors and non-teaching personnel to continue with their outstanding service to the college marked by dedication, commitment and competence.



Faylona



Melendres



Ysulat

### **Prof. Benjamin Faylona**

Sir Ben, as he is fondly called by peers and associates, is San Beda College's one and only Head of the Math Department. To a number of alumni who have passed the halls of San Beda College, Sir Ben is the very approachable head of the Math and Sciences department of the College of Arts in the decade of the '80s and '90s, who will always go out of his way to assist the students in understanding and appreciating the difficult field of mathematics. His warm smile, fatherly concern and always accommodating aura make him well-loved and highly admired by members of the Bedan Community specially the students and the alumni. At 87 years old, Sir Ben is still conducting tutorials in math at home where he is enjoying his retirement years.

For his significant contributions to the growth and development of San Beda College and his dedicated service marked by loyalty, competence, dedication and commitment, the San Beda College Alumni Association honors Prof. Benjamin Faylona, as recipient of the Dugong Bedista Award for 2016.

### **Mrs. Gloria Melendres**

Mam Glo, as she is lovingly called by members of the Bedan Community, has been with San Beda College for 40 years now. She entered San Beda in 1976 as a High School Spanish teacher. She became librarian, coordinator of libraries

and remained faithful to the Bedan Community since then. At present, she is the head of the Learning Resource Center Basic Education Department.

For her significant contributions to the growth and development of San Beda College and her dedicated service marked by loyalty, competence, dedication and commitment, the San Beda College Alumni Association honors Mrs. Gloria Melendres, as recipient of the Dugong Bedista Award for 2016.

### **Mr. Noe Ysulat**

Everybody's favourite Mr. Noe Ysulat has been a staff of the Accounting Department of San Beda College for over 35 years now. Very industrious and hard working, Noe is San Beda's highly admired Budget Audit Assistant whose God-given industry and accounting talent endeared him to the students, faculty and the alumni. His good heart exudes well both inside and outside of the Accounting Office that the alumni would develop a strong attachment towards him even after graduation.

For his significant contributions to the growth and development of San Beda College and his dedicated service marked by loyalty, competence, dedication and commitment, the San Beda College Alumni Association honors Mr. Noe Ysulat as recipient of the Dugong Bedista Award for 2016.





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# HS CLASS OF 1976 A RUBY CELEBRATION LIKE NO OTHER

*by Joffre M. Alaraz*

It was a memorable evening as the members of High School Class of 1976 gathered together to celebrate their 40 years as graduates of our SBC High School Department. The celebration started with a Holy Mass concelebrated by Rev. Fr. Rafaelito Alaraz, OSB and Rev Fr. Kit Hernandez who are both treasured members of the class. A program followed suit with a video presentation about the San Beda of Today, distribution of St. Benedict medals courtesy of Cardie Roque, speeches and parlor games. A sumptuous dinner was partaken of by the members

of the class with their former teachers and High School principal Rev. Fr. Tarcisio Narciso, OSB. In attendance were Mr. Alex Lazo, Ms. Covina Boadilla Belen, Mrs. Sarah Hamid Manawal, Mrs. Bernie De Jesus, Mr. Bobby Cruz, Ms. Cecille Pet, and a lot more.

Indeed, it was great seeing batchmates of yesteryears on a Ruby celebration like no other.



*Ramel Sanvictores serves as emcee*





*"I now realize that many of you come from 'dysfunctional families'. Some of you were also probably suffering from ADHD. We just did not have the names for these conditions back then."* Ms. Tuviera, our petite high school history teacher, who could pass for a classmate back then — and a fellow alumna now —, made this astute observation in half-jest in an informal reunion a few years ago.

We were fortunate to have many of her kind who through pure grit remained committed to our Benedictine education despite our deficiencies. She was one of our strict but brilliant mentors who did not mince words with those who misbehave and slacken in class. *Mataraysiya!!!* But she hammered into us the value of learning from history.

## Aging lions return to their lair



*Fr. Alaraz presents the Ruby Jubilean Medal to Dr. Ed Concepcion*



*by Eddie M. Concepcion, MD*



And, it has been 40 years since our high school graduation night when as we were heading to join our family for the celebration, our principal, Fr. Tarol, in a last-ditch effort at redemption, suddenly herded us into the St. Anselm's Conference Hall for his memorable farewell homily. We were his most difficult batch in all his four years of being principal, he said. We made a living hell out of his life, he said. Well, he had formally made his apology during our silver reunion in 2001 as he saw what many of us have become. Personally, I am grateful for that good riddance speech. It was a humbling experience for everyone. For him, too, he said.

But has our batch grown wiser? With the beginning signs of falling health and faculty coupled with lifestyles that are far from ideal and hard to shed, our 40th reunion has become a must-attend event; many realize that they will not be around ten years from now.

We grew up during tumultuous times. Yes, more tumultuous than today. We had a good view of Mendiola Bridge from our classrooms. And we learned in elementary that you don't drink molotov cocktails and you don't see pillboxes in medicine cabinets. Some of us even learned how to prepare them. We witnessed organized groups of jeepney drivers and activist students march up to Malacanang from Mendiola in impressive phalanxes chanting "Makibakal! Huwag matakot! Marcos, ibagsak!" And we were taught to dive to the floor upon hearing any explosion because we often talked about how the shrapnel of exploding pillboxes and grenades behave when they hit ground and how Metrocom shoot with their armalites.

And, we were called "martial law babies" as we welcomed a shortened freshman year in high school in 1972. However, we were like restless lion cubs as the pack leader, Fr. Tarol, had a terrible time managing our frat wars, our







bloody skirmishes with students from Baste, the occasional exploding toilet and the occasional whiff of burning hemp in the classrooms. (I have to point out here that many of these practices were instigated by an older batch.) We knew martial law had been declared – the barbed wire barricades at the bridge, Metrocom in full battle gear, and the massive tanks were constant reminders – but we were teen-agers with dysfunctional proclivities. And we had to live up to how we were called in the government-controlled press: Bedan boors!

And so our school attempted to innovate. Individualized Instruction came in and a pilot class was started. This eventually gave birth to San Beda Alabang which was then called the Benedictine Abbey School. Growth in Personhood became a new subject in the hope of putting some dint of civility to the boors. And, we were the first school to have an elective student council in the so-called "New Society". It was called the Student Coordinating Board. And we were taught a new battlecry: "Leadership is Service! Service is leadership!" And we were allowed to sit in a board of discipline right across the dreaded Mr. Blanco, Prefect of Students, and dear reprimanding Fr. Tarcl as they discuss the fate of erring schoolmates. And we were one of the first schools to come out with the school paper and we had free rein on content so long as they remained domestic in scope. San Beda did well given the repression and pervasive fear.

The lions are again going home to their lair. We hope to rekindle friendships and to reminisce good and bad times in the usual abandon and mirth. We bring stories of our struggles and our victories, big and small. But like lions that have left its lair for too long, we go home to replenish. And we have grown wiser as we now value more than ever, our friendships, and recall the people who mattered the most in our lives. –



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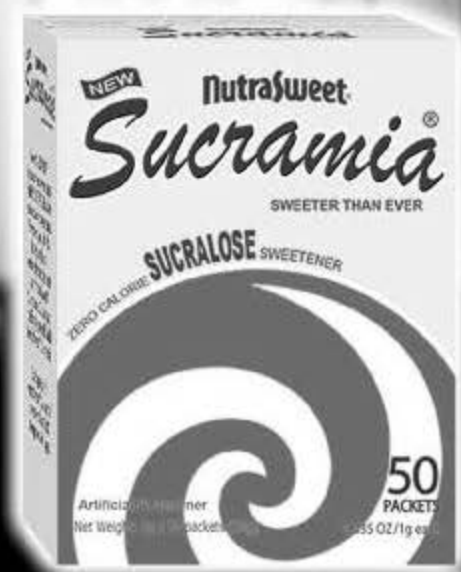
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A black and white portrait of a man with dark hair, smiling slightly, wearing a collared shirt. The background is a light, neutral color.

Greetings from

**Hon. Marlon M. Lacson**

*Councilor, 2<sup>nd</sup> District  
City of Manila*

*BSC Management '86  
Law '90*



Republic of the Philippines  
**House of Representatives**

My colleagues and I in the House of Representatives are united in congratulating my fellow members of the San Beda College Alumni Association, Inc. (SBCAA) for your commendable efforts in finding means to ensure that all SBCAA projects come to fruition.

This is a clear testament that Bedan alumni practice Christian ideals and values that continue to contribute to the betterment of society. In the words of St. Benedict, "we must serve Him with the good things He has given us."

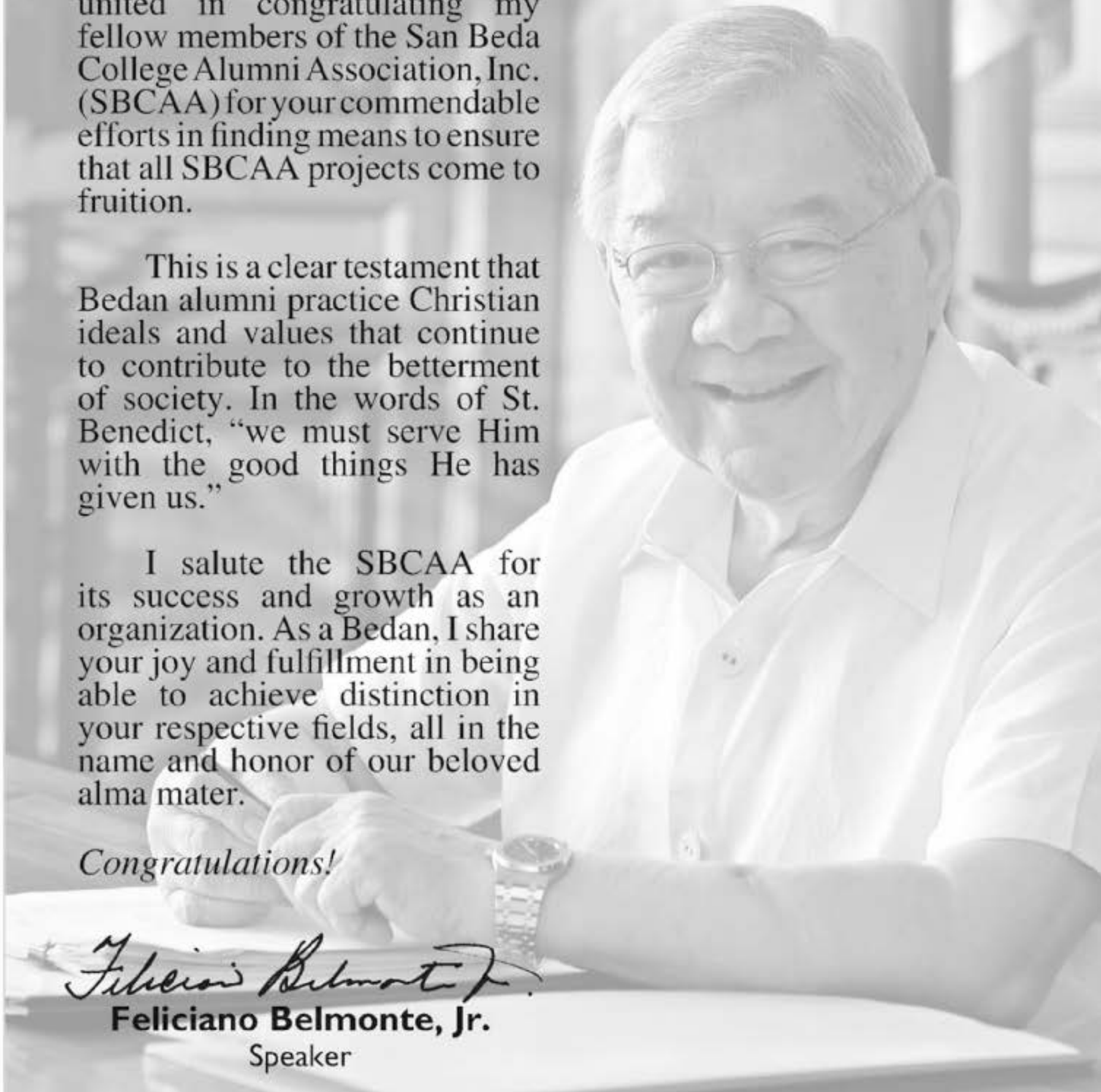
I salute the SBCAA for its success and growth as an organization. As a Bedan, I share your joy and fulfillment in being able to achieve distinction in your respective fields, all in the name and honor of our beloved alma mater.

*Congratulations!*



**Feliciano Belmonte, Jr.**

Speaker







## Ut In Omnibus Glorificetur Deus!

It is my great pleasure to have shared the same San Beda College ideals, core values and beliefs with distinguished alumni.

Over the years, the San Beda College Alumni Association has continued to expand its efforts in reconnecting with alumni from all decades. Each member has a role to play in keeping our association vibrant and growing.

Many special events have been held to commemorate San Beda College milestones and the SBCAA has contributed much to its fulfillment.

May we all continue to take part in our Alma Mater advocacies for San Beda, our country and God!

I am one proud Bedan.

Mabuhay ang San Beda College Alumni Association!

THAT IN ALL THINGS GOD MAY BE GLORIFIED!



**LUIS "Jon-Jon" A. FERRER IV**  
**Representative**

**6<sup>TH</sup> District of Cavite**

San Beda College BS in Accountancy 1994

**GREETINGS FROM:**



**Honorable Herbert M. Bautista**  
**Mayor, Quezon City**

*San Beda College*

*Grade School 1981 • High School 1986 • AB Philosophy & Letters 1992*



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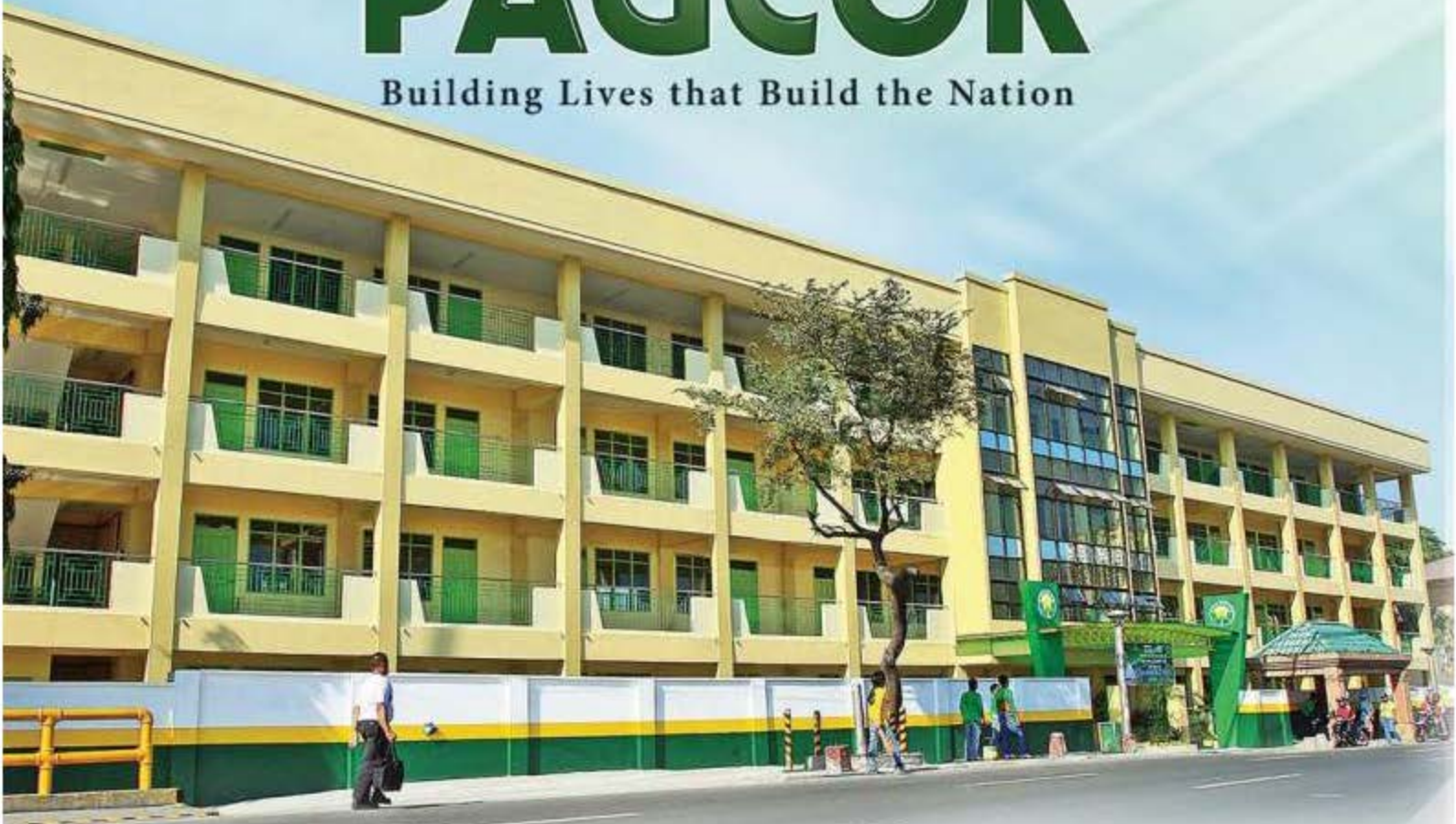
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As of June 2015, a total of 1,739 new classrooms in 361 sites had been completed nationwide. Thousands more are being built in various provinces including areas heavily devastated by super typhoon Yolanda.



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