

Filipino Martial Arts

Digest

Special Edition
2009

PULAHAN + DEROBIO
ESKRIMA



**RHYTHM OF THE HORSE
TAKES A NEW PATH...**



Publisher

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FMA Digest Archives

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The FMA Digest is published quarterly. Each issue features practitioners of martial arts and other internal arts of the Philippines. Other features include historical, theoretical and technical articles; reflections, Filipino martial arts, healing arts and other related subjects.

The ideas and opinions expressed in this digest are those of the authors or instructors being interviewed and are not necessarily the views of the publisher or editor.

We solicit comments and/or suggestions. Articles are also welcome.

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From the Publishers Desk

Kumusta

Pulahan Derobio Eskrima, a new progressive no nonsense yet traditional Organization that brings a breathe of fresh air to the Filipino martial arts, founded by Grand Tuhon Chris Siangco, Tuhon Chaz Siangco and Tuhon Bo Siangco.

Formerly the San Diego Branch of the Pedoy's School of Eskrima, the Siangco family parted ways with the PSE Organization in hopes of reinvigorating their passion in the perpetuation of the Filipino and Hawaiian Martial Arts.

The Pulahan Derobio Eskrima has not been a commercial Organization, rather keeping a low profile. Now the time has come and they are breaking out and offering their style to the full public. As stated earlier this is a no-nonsense style that with its roots brings the traditional and progressive together to be a tough professional Filipino martial art.

The FMAdigest has to thank Master Tasi Alo for all the work he has done in bring things together so you the reader can have a chance to learn about Pulahan Derobio Eskrima, and of course Tuhon Chaz Siangco for his availability and consent in supplying information for this Special Edition.

So please enjoy this Special Edition and if in San Diego, California visit the school and experience the art of Pulahan Derobio Eskrima.

Maraming Salamat Po



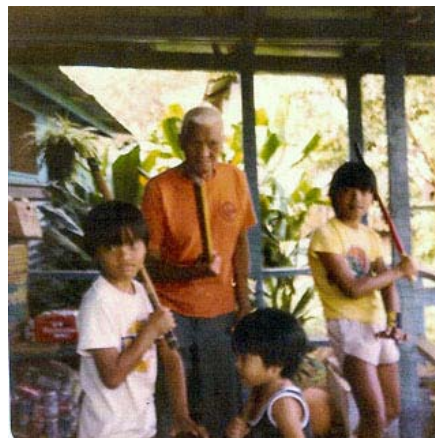
Pulaha-Derobio Eskrima

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Our new found path...as the New Year (2009) comes upon us we have ventured onto a new journey. Former founders of San Diego Branch of the Pedoy's School of Eskrima, my family and I have parted ways with the PSE Organization in hopes of reinvigorating our passion in the perpetuation of the Filipino and Hawaiian Martial Arts. We have nothing but high hopes and blessings for Grandmaster Tyrone Takahashi, as he takes his vision and path with the PSE Organization. We hope the Filipino martial arts community provides their continued support as we partake on this journey.

Mahalo Nui Loa and Salamat Po,
Tuhon Chaz Siangco
Founder of Pulahan-Derobio Eskrima



Tuhon Chaz Siangco, shown here, in front, as the youngest of the three brothers training with their Great Grandfather, Great Grandmaster Braulio Pedoy. (1981)

PULAHAN

Pulahan, literally "those wearing red", refers to the members of a religious movement and warrior cult that developed in the Philippines following the Philippine-American War, around 1902-1907. At its peak, it numbered around 10,000-15,000 adherents. The movement began after the Philippine Constabulary took over patrols in Samar, after the U.S. military declared it pacified.

Pulahan Combat Prowess

The weapon of choice was a heavy, crescent-shaped Bolo knife. Their battle preparations consisted of bottles of holy oil, prayer books, consecrated "Anting-Antings" (magical charms), and other religious paraphernalia. Led by priest-warlords; one of these priest is known to be our Great Grandmaster's teacher General Faustino Ablen, Pulahan were notorious fighters, usually disregarding better technology (such as firearms), in favor of hand-to-hand fighting using their bolos. The Pulahan sought nothing but death in battle, making them very dangerous combatants and also contributing to their high casualty figures. In seeking death in battle, they believed that those who perished would be sent to paradise. The Pulahan main battle tactic was simply to advance upon the

enemy, fire a volley, then throw down their firearms and rush in to the enemy and fight in hand-to-hand combat. (As mentioned in Wikipedia)

General “Papa” Faustino Ablen

To the Americans, he was known as a rebel.

To the Pulahan, he was known as a leader and Holy man.

To the Great Grandmaster, he was known as teacher.

Through cultural perspectives, Faustino Ablen was many things to many people. In history, he is known as the rebel leader of the Pulahan of Leyte. A spiritual rebel movement in arms against the occupying forces of the Americans in the late 1800's - early 1900's. Known to his people as "Papa" Faustino Ablen, he was part of a spiritual sect of holy men, proclaimed healers and deliverers of their people, preaching throughout the land of Filipino unity and the evil of the occupying forces. "Anting-Antings" were magical, spiritual amulets, medallions, and writings that Papa Ablen provided his people before battle and for healing. He was not only known as a healer but also as a fierce warrior. His army of Pulahan warriors was armed with only their razor sharp bolos, their “Anting-Antings”, and their warrior spirit. The fiercest of warriors of the time matched only by the Moro's of Mindanao, the Pulahan brought fear to the soldiers with the battle cries of "Tad Tad" as they rushed the regiment lines fearless of the guns knowing of only one thing, drawing blood. The Pulahan Wars (1902 - 1907) saw much bloodshed on both sides and made Papa Faustino Ablen a wanted man. In history there are many accounts as to what happened to General Ablen, some say he was killed and others say he was captured and never heard of again. From what Great Grandmaster Pedoy has told us through his oral history is that he escaped and found his way to the mountains to live out his life.

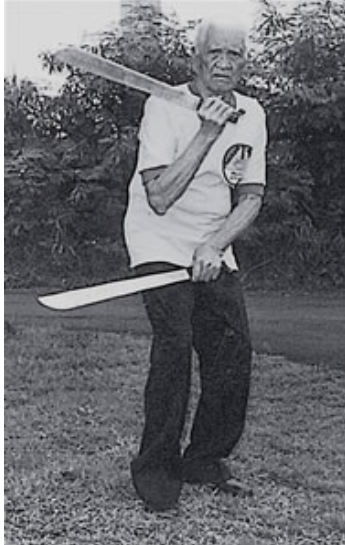
It wasn't until a young boy from Ormoc City ran away from home and came across a small hut and campfire. This boy was Great Grandmaster Braulio Pedoy and the man he found was Faustino Ablen. To Great Grandmaster Pedoy, Faustino was a General of a rebel army who refused to salute and bow down to the American flag. Ablen had told Great Grandmaster Pedoy that he was in hiding and no one has been able to find him until now and that it must be fate that they had met. Faustino Ablen took in Great Grandmaster Pedoy and taught him his art of Derobio; a battle tested no-nonsense bladed art form of Eskrima. For eleven years, the Great Grandmaster trained and lived with Faustino Ablen in the mountains of Leyte; as apprentice and master, as it was done centuries before them. Through a grueling test of his acquired skill and knowledge of Derobio; the young Braulio Pedoy was made Master, Ablen sent Great Grandmaster Pedoy out into the world to learn and spread the art of Derobio to assure its legacy. Great Grandmaster was told to seek out other Eskrimadors and open his heart and knowledge to



Only archived photo said to be of Faustino Ablen who was shot in the eye and captured. Circa 1907

all forms. Through his travels he met many compadres, had many battles that tested not only his skill but his spirit as well.

Great Grandmaster Braulio Pedoy

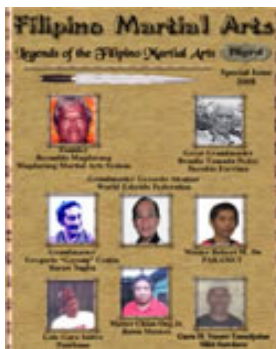
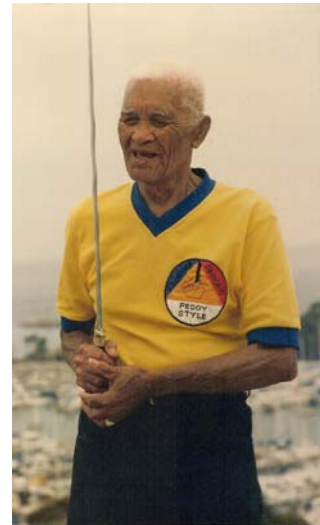


Great Grandmaster Pedoy was born on October 16, 1900 in Ormoc City, Leyte, Philippines. At the age of six, he ran away from home and traveled into the mountains of the Southern Visayas where he was taken in by General Faustino Ablen. The General was a leader of the Independence movement against the occupying American forces on the island of Leyte. For eleven years, the Great Grandmaster lived and trained under the General in the art of Derobio Eskrima. At the age seventeen, Pedoy was tested by the General on what he had obtained in his years with him; their choice of weapon was the bolo. As it was told, the test lasted almost two hours with Pedoy receiving a cut on the chin and near the eye; the General none. Through his ability to survive the battle, the General awarded Pedoy mastership of his art of Derobio and the task to expand his

knowledge of the martial arts and travel the land learning other styles of Eskrima.

In 1924, his travels brought the Great Grandmaster to the island of Hawaii where he worked on the Olaa Plantation. During World War II he worked as a security guard for the Army. Later in life he worked and retired from Gaspro Inc. In 1961, Great Grandmaster Pedoy began the first Eskrima School in the islands. The Great Grandmaster would come to be known for his prowess as a man of counters and as a healer in the art of Hilot; Filipino healing and bone setting.

On April 9, 1976, he was awarded a Certificate of Recognition from the State of Hawaii, House of Representatives; awarded the entitlement "Eskrima Expert Extraordinaire", House Resolution No. 633. In 1991, he was inducted into the International Martial Arts Hall of Fame for his outstanding contribution in promoting the Philippine martial art of Eskrima.



Find out more about Great Grandmaster Braulio Pedoy.
Download Legends of the Filipino Martial Arts Volume IV.
[Click Here](#)

Siangco Collective: The Siangco Ohana (family), true proponents of the martial arts, a culmination of decades of training and instruction.

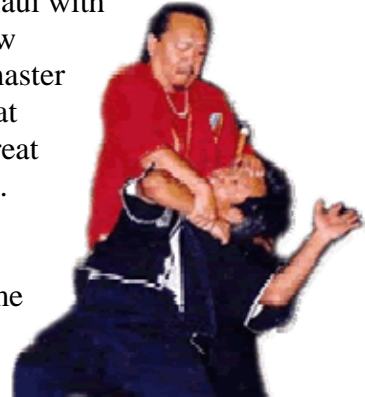


The Mentor - Grand Tuhon (6th Level Pulahan) Chris Siangco... the catalyst that exposed the warrior arts to his sons and guiding force of the foundation of Pulahan-Derobio Eskrima.
- Former Master Chief - 6th Level of the Pedoy's Style of Derobio Eskrima.
- Professor - 9th Dan Black Belt under Grandmaster Julian "Blue" Generalao's Chinese Kenpo Karazenpo Go Shinjutsu.

Born and raised in Hawaii and a lifetime of martial arts experience, Grand Tuhon (6th Level Pulahan) Chris Siangco's martial art influences came from the ones he loved most. As a child, he trained in the art of Panantukan (Filipino boxing) under his Grandfather, Elias "Battling Bolo" Cantere, who was Hawaii's welter-weight champ in the 30's a major player in the Filipino Smokers fight clubs. Growing up he also trained under his brother in the art of Cha 3-Hawaiian Kenpo. He later began training under Great Grandmaster Braulio Tomada Pedoy, who is the grandfather of his loving wife Gail, since the 1960's. He also holds the rank of Professor (9th Dan - Red Belt w/ Silver trim) under Grandmaster Julian "Blue" Generalao, a long time friend and mentor.

Grand Tuhon Chris moved out of the Valley Isle of Maui with his ohana to the mainland in the early 90's with hopes of a new beginning. In 1992, their maternal grandfather, Great Grandmaster Braulio Tomada Pedoy passed away. This was the catalyst that urged Grand Tuhon Chris Siangco and family to fulfill the Great Grandmaster's dream of spreading his art of Derobio Eskrima. With the blessing of Batikan Eduardo Pedoy the dream took form.

In any endeavor that one heads into, you must take time in finding the right path you want to venture on. Grand Tuhon Siangco decided to step off in the old school direction, teaching small private classes out of his home. He wanted to build a strong unit of head students and instructors before heading into the commercial market. For several years he taught in this manner, like the days when he trained in the banana patch and when Great Grandmaster Pedoy used to train his sons behind their home in Waiawa, HI. They were brought up training in this private manner. As the years went on, they have seen enthusiasts come and go; nevertheless, they have groomed dedicated Derobio Eskrimadors which they now call family. In 1996, Grand Tuhon Siangco and the family ventured in the commercial market basing a storefront school in Chula Vista, CA. For several months they kept this venue open; however, due to setbacks they were forced to close. A little disappointed, they still persevered and taught out of their home. In 2000, the leadership and control was passed down to Tuhon Chaz Siangco to bring the Siangco Ohana to a new age.



The Beacon - Tuhon (5th Level Pulahan) Chaz Siangco... the guiding light in the foundation and creation of Pulahan-Derobio Eskrima.

- Former Regional High Chief – 5th Level of the Pedoy's Style of Derobio Eskrima.
- SiGung - 6th Dan Black Belt under Grandmaster Julian "Blue" Generalao's Chinese Kenpo Karazenpo Go Shinjutsu.



Born and raised in Hawaii, Tuhon (5th Level Pulahan) Chaz Siangco and his brothers were nurtured into the legacy of Derobio Eskrima. Training as soon as they could walk and pick up a garrote, the Siangco brothers began their journey at the hands of their great grandfather; the late Great Grandmaster Braulio Tomada Pedoy, Batikan Eduardo Pedoy and their father; Grand Tuhon Chris Siangco. Training one on one in the old ways as it was done hundreds of years before them and compiling over 27 years of training and instruction.



At the request and encouragement of his father, Tuhon Chaz Siangco studied various martial arts throughout his childhood and teen years to broaden both his physical and spiritual mindset within the martial arts. Kajukenbo, Chinese Kenpo, Tae Kwon Do, along with boxing and wrestling were disciplines that Tuhon Siangco studied over his life time, blending them with his family's art of Derobio Eskrima. As an adult, he made it his life's calling to seek out true masters of the arts and promote a brotherhood of Filipino martial arts masters. His path has created many friendships and mentorship's with many great Filipino martial arts practitioners. With the virtues taught to him through the Derobio Creed, Tuhon Chaz has achieved his Bachelors of Science Degree in Criminal Justice Administration and currently working on his Masters in Forensic Science. Now, one of the highest ranked practitioners of the Derobio Style of Eskrima and an accomplished tournament competitor, Tuhon Chaz Siangco is leading his family's art into a new era along with his brothers.

He has had the privilege to teach and train various accomplished Black Belts, Filipino martial arts practitioners, professionals, DEA agents, Border Patrol, police and military personnel. By teaching, he will be able to find his path and learn more of his art through his students. Tuhon Chaz also holds the rank of SiGung (6th Dan - Red/White Belt) under his mentor and teacher Grandmaster Julian "Blue" Generalao's Chinese Kenpo.



The Compass - Tuhon (5th Level Pulahan) Christian "Bo" Siangco... a true man of God and one who leads Pulahan-Derobio Eskrima on a righteous path.

- Former Regional High Chief - 5th Level of the Pedoy's Style of Derobio Eskrima.

- SiGung - 6th Dan Black Belt under Grandmaster Julian “Blue” Generalao’s Chinese Kenpo Karazenpo Go Shinjutsu.

Tuhon Christian "Bo" Siangco "started training at the ripe old age of 5 under the watchful eye of Great Grandmaster Braulio Tomada Pedoy and now spanning over 3 decades of training and instruction. After Great Grandmaster Pedoy passed away he continued his training under Batikan Eduardo Pedoy and his father Grand Tuhon Chris Siangco who promoted him to his current rank Tuhon (5th Level Pulahan).

Tuhon Christian "Bo" Siangco is currently serving in the US Navy where he has been for the last 17 years. Though away from home he never misses an opportunity to train and spread the message of Derobio wherever he goes. His vision is to see Derobio become what Great Grandmaster wanted, something for all to benefit from. He trains by this motto *"In order to be great you must be willing to pay the price in blood and sweat"* Tuhon “Bo” also holds the rank of SiGung (6th Dan - Red/White Belt) under his mentor and teacher Grandmaster Julian “Blue” Generalao’s Chinese Kenpo.



Tuhon “Bo” with Great Grandmaster Braulio Pedoy.
(1976)

Pulahan-Derobio Eskrima

Pulahan: Literally translated “those wearing red”, we pay homage to these warriors not for their political and religious beliefs or fanatical views but to hold on to the virtues of this warrior sect of never bowing down, to never submit, to stand true to our philosophies as a warrior and purveyor of the Filipino combat arts. We want to honor their devout faith in their beliefs, their warrior spirit and skill. We also hold on to the tradition and ranking founded within the Derobio System of the Maestro and Chief instructorship ranks wearing RED; as did our Pulahan predecessors, and as structured by GGM Pedoy in the early 1960’s. The color RED is held to high esteem within our ranks and is a symbol of accomplishment, stature, and skill.

Derobio: literally translated “Rhythm of the Horse”, our foundation to encompass all aspects of combat, the key to all movement, the nucleus of our combative philosophy – to evade and conquer.

This expression of Eskrima as founded by the Siangco Collective is a combative progression of their foundation in the art of Derobio as taught to them by their maternal Grandfather; the late Great Grandmaster Braulio Tomada Pedoy, a highly adaptive and innovative expression of the warrior spirit and skill of their predecessors, the Pulahan Warriors of Leyte.

The Siangco Collective has incorporated various styles of fighting within Pulahan-Derobio Eskrima, keeping its foundation on the original bladed battlefield influenced movements of traditional Derobio and adapting to the dynamic threats of today’s aggressors. Other major influences are that of Grandmaster Julian “Blue” Generalao’s teachings and expression of Chinese Kenpo and the Filipino boxing style of Elias “Battling Bolo” Cantere, paternal grandfather of the Siangco Collective and former welter-weight boxing champ in the Filipino Smokers fight clubs of Hawaii in the 1920’s. Pulahan-Derobio Eskrima emphasizes progressive disarming techniques and defensive

behaviors that encompass all range of combat that allows the fighter to overcome his aggressor and eliminate any further attack. The basis is deflecting and controlling an opponent's aggression through the following combative states:

Counter-Strike Mindset

- For every block there is a corresponding attack, for every attack a block, for every lock a counter. Evade-Counter - Strike/Block with equal or greater force.

Limb Destruction

- Controlled Chaos: maximum damage without a lethal outcome.

Joint Manipulation

- Axis Control: understanding joint movement to efficiently lock and destroy.

Range Progression

- Largo / Long / "Looking" Range: To scan your opponent, visualize movement and attack/defend outside your opponents range.
- Medino / Middle / "Measure" Range: Sensory ranges, using major senses to measure up your opponent, using full extent of your weapons, evade.
- Corto / Short / "Combative" Range: To fully engage your opponent, to completely isolate your opponents weak side, to overcome, counter-for-counter, and conquer.
- Centerline Targeting: focused control of your opponent's angles.
- Transitioning: seamless transfer from each combative range.

Instruction in the following techniques in accordance with above:

- Weapons: Garrote (Stick), Bolo (Long Blade), Daga (knife), Dulo Dulo (Pocket Stick), Duplicada (Double Stick), Espada y Daga (Long Blade / Knife), ASP Tactical Batons
- Street Defense / Awareness
- Non-Lethal Tactical Training (Arrest / Detain / Submit)
- Agaws (Grabs / Locks)
- Sikiran (Filipino Kicking)
- Panantukan (Filipino Boxing)
- Dumog (Filipino Grappling / Stick Grappling)
- Destructive Grab Arts of Grandmaster "Blue" Chinese Kenpo/Karazenpo Go Shinjutsu.

Pulaha-Derobio is structured in a 12-strike pattern or "Doce Teros." This strike pattern allows a fighter to equally disable / strike an opponent on both sides of the body. 12 defenses are then derived from these strikes. From this base, countless techniques are at a fighter's arsenal.

Timing, Rhythm and Fluidity are the three major factors that are stressed throughout ones training in Pulahan-Derobio Eskrima. These three factors are taught to bring ones body, mind and spirit into one harmonious



Grand Tuhon Chris Siangco and
Grandmaster Julian "Blue" Generalao

entity. Every movement, strike, and defense must fall into these factors for what one is trying to accomplish will not fall in to place. In Pulahan-Derobio Eskrima, every movement blends and leads into the other. Seamless transition between each counter attack and defense is emphasized in a fighter's maturation in the art. Nothing is ever separate or rigid. As referring to the horse, envision it trotting through a field. It never loses its stride or rhythm and as it gains momentum and speed, it keeps the same timing, rhythm, and fluidity. The ultimate goal of an Eskrimador is to develop this movement because without it a fighter's strikes and blocks would not matter, this is true with all martial art disciplines. If there is no flow of movement within a practitioner then the art will never live within him.

Great Grandmaster Pedoy often commented that a fighter should behave like the wind and branches. "When the wind blows, the branch bends with the force of the wind and then snaps back when the wind stops blowing". Learning to follow behind the opponent's blow is an important element of learning Pulahan-Derobio. Pulahan-Derobio Eskrima relies on gliding movements, ala contra movements and inside counter to counter movements to keep the opponent off guard. "Never give the same movement twice in a row, or your opponent can easily disarm or counter you. If you take a strike on the inside take it on the outside next time. You must remain unpredictable and remember accuracy is better than speed"

Our Logo, What does it mean?



The two horse heads represent the literal meaning of Derobio, “Rhythm of the Horse.” They also symbolize the duality of a warrior: the Left Head - the aggressive nature of combat and to overcome your adversary at all costs to survive... the Right Head - the compassion of one's heart to not let ego or hatred dictate the outcome of an encounter and lead one back to the virtues of the Eskrimador Creed.

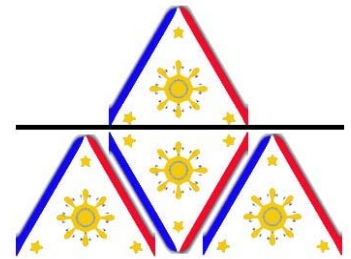
The two Sansibar blades, the very tools of combat used by the Pulahan Warriors of Leyte, guide the two horse heads to a balanced mindset of a true warrior. The blades meet at the center in which is represented by a depiction of the Philippine national flag.

The flag is shown as a V or open reverse triangle representing the basic foundation of the combative footwork of Pulahan-Derobio Eskrima: Footwork Diagram.

The flag also symbolizes the Siangco Collective:

The stars represent the Mentor, the Beacon and the Compass of the Siangco Collective.

The sun represents the teachers, the mentors, and masters that influenced the Collective.



The open triangle symbolizes the open mind and adaptive nature of the Siangco Collective and their belief to blend and adapt to all forms of combat through the guiding philosophy of Pulahan-Derobio Eskrima.

Our Motto: Never Submit... Always Adapt... Counter... Survive!

Derobio Eskrimador Creed

“An Escrimador (a) must have the **wisdom** and discretion to know when to use his/her art. When forced to use it, he/she must show **humanity** against aggressors who cannot defend against it and the **humbleness** not to boast about the power he/she holds. In doing so, he/she will gain **harmony** both with his/her art and with his/her life.”

Wisdom: understanding of what is true, right, or lasting.

Humanity: humane quality, kindness, mercy.

Humbleness: deeply respectful.

Harmony: a pleasing combination of parts or elements.

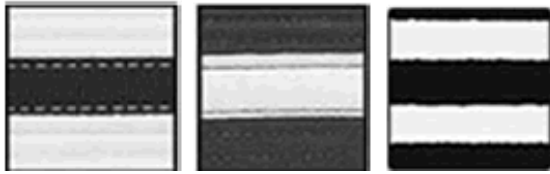
Ranking Structure

Student Ranks: in each there are three levels (Beginner, Intermediate, and Advanced)

**Belt system used is to honor Grandmaster Julian "Blue" Generalao and the story of his journey through martial arts and his first black belt.*



Mapute (White) - Represents a void of knowledge, innocent view of the destination one is seeking in Pulahan-Derobio Eskrima, the beginning of a long journey.



Maitum (Black) - Represents an initial inner conflict of learning to balance the teachings and instructions of the art, the struggles of the journey.



Asul (Blue) - Apprentice - represents the clearing and one finding balance and harmony, one can now see the end of the journey. (Rank equivalent to 1st Dan Black Belt).

Guro / Master / Instructorship Ranks:

Pulahan (Red) - The destination and end of the journey; however, the end is the beginning of truly understanding what you have traveled through and culminating your knowledge into the warrior mindset. Training ends and your learning begins.



Level 1 - Pulahan Maestro - Average 6 - 8 years of tutelage within Pulahan-Derobio Eskrima, one is tested on all curriculum from Mapute to Asul- in accordance to not only the physical but mental and spiritual aspects of the art as well. (Rank equivalent to 3rd Dan Black Belt).



Level 2 - Pulahan Likha Guro - This rank is an introduction to those who wish to become a certified Guro and instructor. Bearer of this rank must exhibit his knowledge and abilities to become a efficient instructor and will hold the rank for 2 - 3 years before being considered for full Guro rank and full certification as an instructor and right to teach or open a school of their own. (Rank equivalent to 4th Dan Black Belt).

Following ranks are appointed and awarded to those who truly embody the philosophies and skills of a Pulahan-Derobio Eskrimador. There are no tests. Appointees have shown dedication and loyalty to the system and expressed the abilities to efficiently instruct.



Level 3 - Pulahan Guro (Min. 8-10 years. Rank equivalent to 5th Dan Black Belt).



Level 4 - Pulahan Lakan Guro - Highest ranking one can achieve in the art of Pulahan-Derobio Eskrima...a lifetime achievement (Min. 15 years- Rank equivalent to 6th Dan Black Belt).

Founders Ranking



Level 5 - Pulahan Tuhon (Rank equivalent to 7th-8th Dan Black Belt).



Level 6 - Pulahan Grand Tuhon (Rank equivalent to 9th-10th Dan Black Belt).

Pictorial

Photos Circo late 1970's early 1980's



Batikan Eduardo with Tuhon Bo



Grandmaster Pedoy with Tuhon Chaz



Tuhon Chaz with Grandmaster Pedoy and Grandma Pedoy.



Tuhon Bo with garrotte in hand and Grandma Pedoy



Grandmaster Pedoy with grand kids



Tuhon Bo and PDE Rep Chris Siangco at demo



Tuhon Bo with Maestro Leslie Largo



Grand Tuhon Chris in black standing with his brothers and Grandparents Elias and Elizabeth Cantere



Tuhon Chaz in black fighting gear at early Tri-State Tournament in San Diego



Tuhon Bo w/ Grand Tuhon Chris in early backyard training session

Friends and Seminars



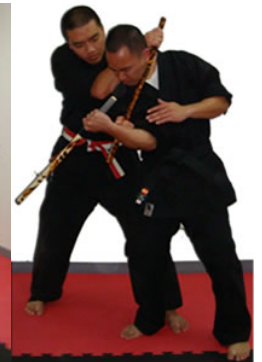
L-R: Professor Pete Salas, Grandmaster Julian "Blue" Generalao, Grand Tuhon Chris Siangco



Chief Instructor Chris Siangco
Guro Norrie Babao
Curtis Siangco 12/2/14



Pulahan-Derobio Eskrima NorCal Seminar 2008



Tuhon Chaz w/ Guro Felix Valencia (LAMECO)
at a training seminar hosted by PDE





Testing and the School



Likha Guro's Jim Maurer and Claudio De Lao during their Maestro test



Tuhon Chaz testing Maestro Cedric... earn your rank!



Training session - Maestro Cedric shown



Training at PDE National City Studio - 2008



Our keiki's ... the future ... Chula Vista Studio

Pulahan Derobio Eskrima

By Tasi Alo

Pulahan Derobio Eskrima, the new progressive yet traditional Organization that brings a breathe of fresh air to the Filipino martial arts scene here in California founded by The Siangco Collective - Grand Tuhon Chris Siangco, Tuhon Chaz Siangco and Tuhon Bo Siangco blazing this new path for Pulahan Derobio Eskrima HQ here in San Diego California with a PDE Rep. in Northern California.

Tuhon Chaz Siangco with



L-R: Guru Roger Gehring , Master Tasi Alo - NorCal Rep., Tuhon Chaz and Grand Tuhon Chris SIANGCO, Guru Arnie Romero, Guru Frances Peterson and Junior Guru Marco Caliz



Guru Roger Gehring knife training part of Pulahan Derobio seminar 2009 in Maui in Grandmaster Lennie Siangco's backyard accompanied by other former SEALs

to create a “ tactical syllabus” called Kajukenbo /G -Kuntao or what we call it - GKT (Gehring Kuntao Tactical) its foundation is in Pulahan Derobio Eskrima training from Tuhon Chaz Siangco using the 'live' garote , knife and bolo training ,

Davis/Cabales Serrada Eskrima System (in which he holds a 3rd degree Guru rank providing him insight into close or corto range using a shorter garote of just 18”) blended with his

Master Tasi Alo's number #1 Senior Instructor Guru 3rd Degree Roger Gehring are in the process of developing a 'Tactical package' for both the military and law enforcement application in San Diego, CA where Guru Roger will be re-locating to.

Guru Roger Gehring brings 20 years of experience as he is a retired Navy SEAL class #143 / SEAL Delivery Vehicle Team 1 Pearl Harbor, Hawaii has combined various techniques and concepts



Brandon and Brenton Wolff with Grandmaster Lennie Siangco(white t-shirt & black pants) - SHangko Fighting System - Guru Roger Gehring is in the middle.

training in Kuntao from Force Master Chief Steve Bailey always emphasizing balanced footwork in GKT.

The various streams of knowledge combining with Pulahan Derobio gives the practitioner a variety of choices for countering surprise attacks to 'stick' and blade tournaments. Timing, Rhythm and Fluidity are the three major factors that are stressed throughout ones training in Pulahan-Derobio Eskrima. These three factors are taught to bring ones body, mind and spirit into one harmonious entity. Every movement, strike, and defense must fall into these factors for what one is trying to accomplish will fall into place creating efficient accuracy when striking or countering. No wasted movements.

In Pulahan-Derobio Eskrima, every movement blends and leads into the other. Seamless transition between each counter attack and defense is emphasized in a fighter's maturation in the art. Nothing is ever separate or rigid. The basis is deflecting and controlling an opponent's aggression and yet always looking to spare the life of the aggressor or minimize physical damage using just enough to neutralize the attack.

We counter behind the power of the attack thus allowing for the full commitment of the opponent's attack at you so when you defend, your block deflects the attack which causes your attacker to miss you. It creates an opening for the counter. You know like when a baseball player swings and misses the baseball pitched at him as the motion of the swing continues it causes the batter to become off balance and not be able to stop his momentum once he is committed to strike at the baseball. Once we neutralize the aggression, We STOP !!

Learning to follow behind the opponent's blow is an important element of learning Pulahan-Derobio Eskrima.

We are totally committed to propagating Pulahan Derobio Eskrima in both Northern and Southern California, its concepts and its principles which are found in the Derobio Creed:

- An Escrimador must have the Wisdom and Discretion
- To know when to use his art.
- When forced to use it he must show
- Humanity against aggressors who cannot defend against it and the Humbleness not to boast about the Power he holds.
- In doing so He will gain Harmony both with his Art and his Life. (Derobio Creed)

The Navy SEAL Creed

In times of war and uncertainty there is a special breed of Warrior ready to answer our Nation's call.

A common man with uncommon desires forged by adversity he stands alongside America's finest Special Operation Forces to serve his Country, the American people, and protect their Way of Life.

I am that Man!

My Trident is a symbol of honor and heritage bestowed upon me by the Heroes that have gone before and embodies the trust of those I am sworn to protect.

By wearing the Trident I accept the responsibility of my chosen profession and it is a privilege that I must earn every day.

My loyalty to Country and Team is beyond reproach. I humbly serve as a Guardian to my fellow Americans always ready to defend those who are unable to defend themselves. I do not advertise the nature of my work or seek recognition for my actions. I voluntarily accept the inherent hazards of my profession placing the welfare and security of others before my own.

I serve with honor on and off the battlefield. The ability to control my emotions and my actions regardless of circumstances sets me apart from other men. Uncompromising integrity is my standard. My character and honor are steadfast.

My Word is my Bond.

We expect to lead and be lead. In the absence of Orders I will take charge, lead my Teammates, and accomplish the mission. I lead by example in all situations.

I will NEVER Quit!

I persevere and thrive on adversity. My Nation expects me to be physically harder and mentally stronger than my enemies.

If knocked down I will get back up every time!

I will draw on every remaining ounce of strength to protect my Teammates and accomplish the mission.

I am NEVER out of the fight!

We demand discipline. We expect innovation. The lives of my Teammates and the success of our mission depend on me, my technical skill, tactical proficiency, and attention to detail.

My training is NEVER complete!

We train for War and fight to win. I stand ready to bring the full spectrum of combat power to bear in order to achieve my mission and the goals established by my Country.

Execution of my duties will be swift and violent when required, yet guided by the principle that I serve to defend. PDE San Diego Gathering 2009.

Brave men have fought and died building the proud tradition and fear of reputation that I am bound to uphold. In the worst of conditions the legacy of my Teammates steadies my resolve and silently guides my every deed.

I will NOT fail!



Testimonials from friends and family...



Never experienced the realm of respect and open mind ness of a true martial artist. Master Chaz is truly a master beyond his years and the love and respect for his grandfather's art. Watch this young man become a legend in the arts.

Sincerely,
Guro Felix Valencia
LAMECO Eskrima



The Filipino martial arts (FMA) has many fighting styles. One particular style is Eskrima. Within, the martial arts community this combat style has gain popularity. It has been over ten years that I have studied and trained with many different styles of Filipino martial arts and Derobio Eskrima has proven to be my preferred form of martial art. I had previous experience in other Filipino martial arts styles, but Derobio Eskrima has outshined the rest because of the arts methods and philosophy. The Derobio techniques were easily adaptable to my personal fighting methods. The quality of training from the instructors helped me develop an understanding of, “movement” using the Derobio techniques. I did not need to conform to Derobio, but rather Derobio became a natural part of me, the techniques adapted to my own body mechanics and limitations. Once a student has learned from the art of Derobio, those specific techniques or movements should be treated as a gift.

Randy Sayson
1st Level Pulahan - Maestro
Pulahan-Derobio Eskrima



The Siangco Collective is a family of great instructors and mentors. I have been a student with Pulahan Derobio Eskrima since 2001. Derobio has changed my life in many ways. I am now a physically healthier person and a more humble yet confident person. Pulahan Derobio is not just an art, but a way of life. I have been told that martial arts is not for everybody or not everyone finds their art. I have been blessed that Derobio came into my life. The training, the intensity, is something I have never experienced in my life. It has made me a better person and now a role model for all new students in martial arts. Everything that I have experienced with the Siangcos and the incredible training partners.

I have worked with have been a great influence in my life. Those who have the chance to learn from this great group of martial artists, take it as a blessing and a gift.

Brian Bumbasi aka “Boodah”

1st Level Asul – Apprentice

Pulahan-Derobio Eskrima

Sibak - 1st Dan

Chinese Kenpo Federation

Derobio uses your natural movement and balances you through rhythm, timing, and fluidity. The movements start long and wide and, with proper and consistent training, tighten to virtually nothing. This is the manner in which the Siangco's teach Derobio. In time, the movements become a natural part of you. There will be seamless transitions and blending between ranges (largo, medio, corto); weapons (garrotes, bolos, knives, dalo dalo, mano); and techniques (agaw, dumog, panantukan, sikiran). To achieve this, one must be willing to humble one's self, open one's mind, and commit to the art. Derobio's philosophies transcend the martial arts. They are metaphors for how to live your life.



The Siangco's are my teachers and mentors in Derobio. Genius is an accurate term to describe their knowledge of Derobio and movement. They effectively adapt their teachings to the individual students, making the most of their natural abilities.

Cedric Tabuena

1st Level Pulahan - Maestro

Pulahan-Derobio Eskrima

I've been a student of the Siangco's since 2004. Pulahan-Derobio Eskrima has helped me understand the meaning and importance in movement. Sure it's evident that movement is a part of all martial arts, but what I have learned and what is stressed by the Tuhons is the importance in movement (rhythm, timing and fluidity). With Derobio techniques the movement becomes tighter, smaller, and faster; in other words, there is no wasted movement, always moving behind the power.

I thank the Tuhons for getting me to this point; helping to train me with an intensity and open mind. There has been a lot of blood, sweat and tears for me but it has been well worth it. I still have more years to grow before I truly understand the meaning of Derobio.

Quito Barajas

1st Level Asul – Apprentice

Pulahan-Derobio Eskrima

Sibak - 1st Dan

Chinese Kenpo Federation

I have studied a few martial art forms on and off prior to discovering Pulahan Derobio Escrima. Although I was never able to fully dedicate myself to a particular style, I knew that if I was given the opportunity to resume my training it would be part of my Filipino culture and heritage.

Then, one day on a walk with my family, I happened to walk past the home of what was then known as Pedoy's School of Escrima. I called to inquire and Tuhon Chaz suggested I come in on a Friday which coincidentally was testing day for current students.

When I first walked into the studio, I was greeted warmly by Tuhon and some of the friends and family in attendance. I was convinced this would be the place for me. The training I have received has taught me better confidence, increased physical well being, and greater humbleness. I am constantly learning more and more about General Faustino Ablen, Great Grandmaster Braulio Pedoy, and the history of Derobio Escrima.

Eight months later, I am enjoying my experience and will continue to do so with the Siangco family, Maestro Cedric Tabuena, and all my fellow students.

Danny Marucut
Pulahan-Derobio Eskrima



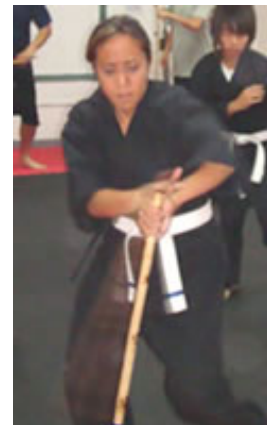
I have studied under the Siangco's and their style of Pulahan-Derobio Eskrima since 2006. In these three short years, I have learned so much more than I expected. The importance of timing, rhythm, fluidity and footwork are ingrained in my mind. The concepts of the "triangle", "fighting half the man", and "going behind the force" help keep my body in the proper position. While these concepts may have been evident to some, it has been a mind-blowing experience for me!

Aside from the self-defense and physical benefits of training in Pulahan-Derobio Eskrima, this art has also brought a sense of balance to my life. I now understand that training both the mind and the body are equally important. I have become a more confident yet humble person. I consider myself lucky to have met the Siangcos and come across such an art form.

With the guidance and support of the Siangcos and my fellow classmates, I look forward to continuing my training in the art of Pulahan-Derobio Eskrima.

Ronnie Ramos
2nd Level Maitum
Pulahan-Derobio Eskrima

Being one of the few adult females of Derobio Eskrima in San Diego, I quickly had to adapt to blood, sweat, and tears - literally! Since officially becoming part of the Pedoy's School of Derobio Escrima in 09/2006 in addition to prior exposure to the art through Grandmaster Lennie of the Shangko Fighting System, I have seen numerous students attempt the Siangco style of training. The Siangco's and all Maestros skillfully train hard and constantly test our hearts as they push us far beyond our limits.



I found that this particular style blends well with females as it incorporates fluid movements and tactics that even someone as small in stature, like myself, can execute through technique without depending on power for power. They are able to acclimate movements that I can handle all while producing the same results.

I continue to train with Tuhon Chaz and the Pulahan Derobio Eskrima Family as their progressive and complete art provides consistent training for realistic situations as oppose to the ring. This fact alone has given me the peace of mind in knowing that I can defend myself in the streets without ever turning my back and for that, I humbly thank the Siangco Collective, Maestros, and fellow students. Salute!!!

Marissa Ramos

1st Level Asul - Apprentice
Pulahan-Derobio Eskrima



There are all types of people that you run across in the world of martial arts, and it is always refreshing when you meet someone who shares your same ideals and goals. For us, Pulahan-Derobio Eskrima is just that sort of group.

We first met Grand Tuhon Chris Siangco at the first West Coast FMA Congregation in 2007. We were honored that

he was willing to travel with his group to our humble event and perform a demo to share their style with the event's participants. As soon as we saw Grand Tuhon's demonstration, we realized that not only did we have our Filipino martial arts in common, but also Kenpo as our foundation. They not only express wisdom of their arts, but also are able to relay the history of their family and its influences. It was great to see how they blended their systems together so cohesively expressing their knowledge.

Pulahan-Derobio Eskrima has shown support for us and the propagation of Filipino Martial Arts. They performed with us at the San Diego Grand Internationals 2008 evening show, and were featured as 1 of the instructor seminars during the West Coast FMA Congregation 2008.

On behalf of dA bEST qUALITY pRODUCTS and FCS, we would like to congratulate Pulahan-Derobio Eskrima on their new journey. Thank you for all your support. You've built a great family and we're glad to support you and all your future endeavors.

Rich Verdejo and Gigie Alunday
dA bEST qUALITY pRODUCTS
California Filipino Combat Systems Representatives



www.myspace.com/dbqp06

Pulahan-Derobio Eskrima Seminar - Workshop

September 21, 2008

By Tasi Alo



Left: Tuhon Chaz Siangco

Right: Grand Tuhon Chris Siangco

Pulahan-Derobio Eskrima Seminar in Vallejo, CA at J-2 Corpus Martial Arts, officially opened the Northern California branch of Pulahan-Derobio School of Escrima Combat Academy, San Diego CA. in affiliation with Corpus Martial Arts, Wahiawa Kajukenbo, Romero Kajukenbo and Ramirez Martial Arts.

Those who attended the 3 hour seminar on September 21, 2008 were presented the history of Great Grandmaster Braulio T. Pedoy with a general overview of Pulahan-Derobio Escrima, its concepts, angles, counters and how it is taught at the Pulahan-Derobio School of Escrima Combat Academy in San Diego, CA. by Grand Tuhon Chris Siangco and his son Regional Tuhon Chaz Siangco (Great grandson of

Great Grandmaster Pedoy).

The participants were taught warm-up exercises designed to incorporate muscle development through the whole arm from wrist to shoulder using escrima moves practicing timing, rhythm and fluidity all while warming up.

All participants experienced what a class would be like at Pulahan-Derobio Escrima Academy with the various phases of training from 'stick' to live 'bolo' training.



Pulahan-Derobio Escrima is an ancient bladed Escrima style that went underground in response to the Spanish occupation of the Philippines. It is a, no nonsense bladed art form that is structured with a Bolo in one's power hand and the other empty. Today, Pulahan-Derobio Escrima has incorporated various styles of fighting within its system, keeping its foundation on its original bladed movements. Pulahan-Derobio Escrima emphasizes disarming techniques and defensive behaviors rather than aggressive actions. The basis of Pulahan-Derobio is deflecting and controlling. The meeting of force with force is only used if unavoidable and is immediately translated into a more "passive" or fluid movement. The force of an attacker's blow is allowed to pass and a counter is employed from the outside, it is a defensive art that stresses disarming and rendering attacker incapable of further aggression.

Pulahan-Derobio allows an attacker or opponent every opportunity to keep his health and life. In defending an attacker, a Pulahan-Derobio Escrimador first waits for aggression or strike. In receiving an attacker, a Pulahan-Derobio Escrimador "opens the gates" meaning we first open and disable our opponents "gates" (i.e. wrists, elbows, shoulders, knees, etc). We allow the attacker the opportunity to recognize the position in which he has placed his life; the hands of an Escrimador. Our gift to him is his life. If aggression follows our strikes, progress with the attacker. However, if the 11th hour approaches and it is either your life or the lives of loved ones are at risks and there are no alternatives, then a Pulahan-Derobio Escrimador will enter an opponents' "inner gates" an opponents' vital areas (eyes, nose, mouth, throat, heart) which will ultimately end all aggression. Another premise of Pulahan-Derobio Escrima is "Limb Destruction".

This is one of the primary means of disarming and or controlling the attacker. The process of blocking is in actuality a strike itself. When the attacker is striking the Pulahan-Derobio Escrimador blocks by striking the limb wielding the weapon, for example, if the attacker is striking the head of a Pulahan-Derobio Escrimador with a stick or blade, the Pulahan-Derobio Escrimador would strike the wrist of his attacker, simultaneously blocking and striking, rendering his opponents attack obsolete. Pulahan-Derobio Escrima also stresses "Multiple Counters" stemming from the method fore mentioned. Following an initial defense, as mentioned above, a Pulahan-Derobio Escrimador would follow up with fluid counter strikes that naturally progress within a figure eight motion inherent in all Escrima systems, rendering an opponent with a barrage of counter strikes flowing from the wrist to the elbow, knee, head etc, ultimately disabling any further threat.

Although Pulahan-Derobio Escrima begins with weapons, it also has an extensive repertoire of empty hand techniques underlying the aspect that what can be done with the garrote can be related to the empty hand, stemming from the belief that the garrote is an extension of one's hand. The concepts of limb destruction and multiple counters are easily translated to effective movements done with the empty hand. Pulahan-Derobio counters, agaws (grabs/locks), and dumog (grappling) are structured on the tactics of "Joint Manipulation". Manipulating an opponents' wrists, fingers, elbows etc. rendering any further aggression futile.

Timing, Rhythm and Fluidity are three major factors that are stressed throughout ones training in Pulahan-Derobio Escrima. These three factors are taught to bring ones' body, mind and spirit into one harmonious entity. Every movement strike, turn must fall into these factors for what one is trying to accomplish will not fall into place. In Pulahan-Derobio, every movement and so forth blends and leads into the other. Nothing is ever separate or rigid. As referring to the horse, envision it trotting through a field. It never loses its stride or rhythm and as it gains momentum and speed, it keeps the same timing, rhythm, and fluidity. The ultimate goal of a Pulahan-Derobio Escrimador is to develop this movement because without it the strikes, blocks and so forth would not matter. This is true with all martial disciplines. If there is no movement within a practitioner then the



art will not live within him/her. Great Grandmaster often commented that the Pulahan-Derobio Escrima should behave like the wind and branches. "When the wind blows, the branch bends with the force of the wind and then snaps back when the wind stops blowing". Learning to follow behind the opponent's blow is an important element of learning Pulahan-Derobio Escrima. Pulahan-Derobio Escrima relies on gliding movements, ala contra movements and inside counter to counter movements to keep the opponent off guard. "Never give the same movement twice in a row, or your opponent can easily disarm or counter you. If you take a strike on the inside take it on the outside next time. You must remain unpredictable and remember accuracy is better than speed".



Pulahan-Derobio is structured in a 12-strike pattern or "Doce Teros." This strike pattern allows a Pulahan-Derobio Escrimador to equally disable / strike an opponent on both sides of the body. 12 defenses are then derived from these strikes. From this base, countless techniques are at a Pulahan-Derobio Escrimadors arsenal. Pulahan-

Derobio is a highly adaptive and dynamic art enabling it's practitioner to counter various attacks and threats.

Thanks to all who attended and supported this seminar special thanks to Professor Jesse Cheyenne Corpus, Tai Sigung Jerry and Simo Vicki Corpus (Corpus Martial Arts/Pedoy Nor-Cal) and J-2 Ohana - who hosted this event, Professor Anthony Ramos (Wahiawa Kajukenbo/Pedoy Nor-Cal) Professor Ron Estellar (Estellar Martial Arts), Sifu Mickey Lopez (KajuWear), Sifu Ken and Simo Dee Ramirez (Ramirez Martial Arts/Pedoy Nor-Cal), Sifu Arnie Romero (J-3Romero Kajukenbo & Eskajudor Fight Gear and Pedoy Nor-Cal), Jeff 'Stickman' Finder, Zar and Cyn Samonte, Sihing Roger Gehring and our special thanks Grand Tuhon Chris and Gail Siangco and Tuhon Chaz Siangco Pedoy School of Escrima Combat Academy, National City, CA.



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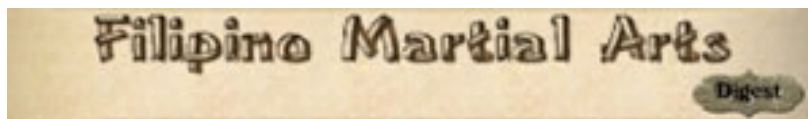
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