

# Filipino Martial Arts

Filipino Martial Arts  
Weapons & Training Gear

Digest

Special Edition  
2005

## Stickman

Specializing in modern  
H-Impact sticks and staffs since 1986!

## Sandata Crafts

Home to some of the finest wooden  
martial arts weapons.

## Philippine Martial Arts Supplies

## SMAK-Stiks

Safe Martial Arts Kombat Stiks



## Fighter Blades.Com



## Sinawali Trade

Arnis, Kali, Eskrima Equipment  
Quality products direct export from the Philippines

## Panlaban Unlimited

Weapon of the Warrior

Where quality is Priority and Professionalism is the norm

## **Publisher**

Steven K. Dowd

## **Contributing Writers**

Stickman ®

Sandata Crafts

SMAK-Stiks™

Philippine Martial Arts Supplies

Panlaban Unlimited

Sinawali Martial Art Supply

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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.

The authors and publisher of this digest are not responsible for any injury, which may result from following the instructions contained in the digest. Before embarking on any of the physical activities described in the digest, the reader should consult his or her physician for advice regarding their individual suitability for performing such activity.

## **From the Publishers Desk**

### **Kumusta**

Many people who practice the Filipino martial arts are constantly looking for equipment and weapons. In this issue are some of the best weapons makers that are known. And have quality merchandise and reasonable prices. Most of the weapons that are sold by these companies are hand made by the owners or under their supervision.

In bringing you the reader articles about these companies, it is hoped that they not only are telling you about their products, but they are also giving a little insight about themselves, the owners.

For it is important in buying this kind of merchandise that the people owning and selling the product should also have experience with the product and some experience in Filipino martial arts. It is my belief that if they have experience in the Filipino martial arts, then they understand the desire for quality equipment and weaponry that is desired by all practitioners of the Filipino martial arts.

Some of these companies make the actual real deal weapon; others make practice weapons for the safety of training with others. In short is it a good idea to check these companies out when deciding to purchase you equipment and find one that you are comfortable with, and gives you the satisfaction of service and quality that you personally desire.

**Salamat Po**



[www.stickman-escrima.com](http://www.stickman-escrima.com)

*STICKMAN® products are designed by martial artists for martial artists and strive for the highest quality. Since 1990 our line of sticks, staffs and training knives have been made from the toughest, longest lasting materials available without compromising the balance and feel for top performance. Our plastics are chosen for weight and density similar to hardwoods that are used for martial arts, woods that are becoming increasingly rare and which now are often cut too young, affecting the hardness and quality of the wood. In addition, we choose materials that are attractive, so that you will appreciate and enjoy your STICKMAN® products.*

His father and grandfather, who learned boxing skills in Chicago, first introduced Jeff “Stickman” Finder into martial arts as a child in the late 1950’s. In the early ‘60’s his older brother introduced him to combative self-defense skills that were taught at a military academy. In 1964, someone anonymously left him a copy of Jay Gluck’s now classic book “Zen Combat”, which opened his interest to many forms of martial arts, including Aikido and ninjutsu. In 1966, at the age of 11, Jeff had the opportunity to travel for several months in the Far East. There he was exposed to the culture and martial arts of Japan, China, the Philippines and Thailand. Though he didn’t begin formal training in the arts until graduating from UC Berkeley (’77) with a BA in History (Asian focus), through his teen years he worked out with friends who did Taekwondo, Judo, and Chinese Kung-fu. In college he took Aikido classes at Cal under Shiohira-sensei (Ki Society) and Kajukenbo with Don Roelle, who was at that time a black belt candidate under Master Al Reyes Sr.



In 1977 Jeff began his formal martial arts career, enrolling in Bok-Fu Kenpo in Berkeley, California. He did most of his training under Sifu Al Thomas, earning a black belt in this system through the School of the White Tiger. This was a good foundation in physical training. Forms, sparring and bag work were practiced daily. This was an “old style” school, with bloodstained mats, holes in the walls and duct tape on the heavy bags. At one time there were 135 students; in one day, Sifu Thomas cut 100 and put the rest on probation. A month later there were 6 left; two eventually received black belts (Marc Sabin being the other one). During the next 12 years this would be his primary art, but he would also cross train to varying degrees in Aikido, Gracie Jujitsu (with Cesar and Halph Gracie), May Thai, Silat, Tai Chi Chuan, and later on Wing Chun through advanced instructors under Grandmaster Chris Chan.

In 1979 Jeff met Bob Flores in Santa Cruz, a native Filipino who had trained alongside Leo Gaje in Pekiti Tirsia in their youth. This was Jeff’s introduction to the Filipino martial arts (FMA). For several years the little bit he learned from Bob, plus Dan Inosanto’s book “Filipino Martial Arts” were all he had to go on. Then, in 1985 while

attending a Max Pallens karate tournament in San Leandro, Jeff watched a demo of several different Filipino martial arts systems, including one by the Serrada Escrima Association of Stockton, under the late grandmaster Angel Cabales, who was a living legend in the art. Jeff attended a 2-day seminar the following weekend and became a student of the system. Angel originally sent him to train under Anthony Davis, who lived 35 miles away. After a year of study there, Jeff was finally accepted as a private student with Grandmaster Cabales. For the next 1-1/2 years he commuted to Stockton weekly, a 150 mile round trip from Berkeley, to practice in Angel's living room, often with other more advanced students such as master Sultan Uddin and soon-to-be master Wade Williams. Often after a day of training, Jeff would accompany Angel to the Stockton academy in the evening to work out with the students there. Jeff received his Advanced Certificate (#33) on December 30, 1987, the same day Wade received his Master's Certificate. Although he was not previously certified, Jeff began teaching Serrada Escrima at the White Tiger in Oakland with permission of Grandmaster Cabales. In February of 1987, Angel did a seminar at White Tiger with several of his top students at that time, including Sultan Uddin, Wade Williams, Carlito Bonjoc, David Mah, Anthony Davis and others, to promote the school as the official Bay Area Cabales Serrada academy under instructorship of Jeff Finder.

Another facet of Jeff's training began in early 1987 when he began studying Tai Chi Chuan under the late master John K. Wong, founder of the Wu Shing Academy in Suisun, California. Jeff was originally attracted by John's ability to translate the relationship between hard and soft styles of martial arts, but soon discovered much more. "Uncle John", as he was known to his students, started out under Kempo grandmaster William "Thunderbolt" Chow in Hawaii. There he befriended Adriano Emperado, who would become a co-founder and head of the Kajukenbo system. John Wong was the first mainland administrator for Kajukenbo, overseeing at one time 3,000 schools! Eventually he left the politics behind to teach his grandfather's system of Tai Chi. Besides the martial arts, John came from a Kahuna family and was into healing and spirituality. Jeff had long been a student of the writings of Max Freedom Long about the Hawaiian religion of Huna. John became a mentor in this area, and much of this phase of study was devoted to Applied Kinesiology for the body, and spiritual discussions to develop appreciation for higher levels of consciousness. A practicing meditator since the age of 18 (transcendental meditation, Aikido meditations, guided visualization, etc), these years with John not only tied together different aspects of martial arts but also tied together the link between the physical and psychic arts. Jeff eventually earned a black belt in Chuan-fa through his studies here.

In 1988 Jeff participated in the 1st U.S. National Escrima Championships in San Jose, run by Alfredo Bandolan. There he fought Arlan Sanford, who would be one of the original Dog Brothers. From this experience he was invited in 1989 to become a member of the 1st U.S. National Escrima Team, under coaches Fred Degerberg, Alfredo Bandolan and Richard Bustillo, which went to Cebu in the Philippines in August of 1989 for the founding of WEKAF (World Escrima/Kali/Arnis Federation) and the 1st World Championships for full-contact stick fighting. Jeff went to the finals in light heavyweight, losing a split decision (tournament officials gave him a 1st place trophy anyway, after reviewing a referee's scoring error). The following week Jeff again took second place in a tournament in Manila, again involving controversy that included death

threats by RP military personnel against the referee and members of foreign teams. In spite of the controversy, this was an exciting and memorable trip.

It was after his return from the Philippines that Jeff decided his future in the martial arts would be in Escrima, and from that point forward this became his primary art. He began writing about his experiences in the Philippines and his training under Grandmaster Cabales, first for the short-lived but influential *Escrima Review* newsletter and then online for the **Escrima Digest** and later the **Escrima\_Arnis** digest. It was also after this trip that he began experimenting with different materials for sticks, seeking a stronger, longer lasting stick. He became the first to market synthetic sticks to the public, and in 1998 he was inducted by Grandmaster Gaudiosa Ruby into the U.S. Kali Association Hall of Fame for his contributions to the art.

At this time (late 2001) Jeff Finder has been teaching students for 18 years and is now teaching just a few students privately or in small groups.

### **Tested and Endorsed**

When Stickman first began producing plastic sticks in 1990, starting with the hits, there were those who said this was “not traditional” because plastics did not exist in “the old days”. This ignores the pragmatic nature of Filipino society, which makes use of every available resource. For instance, in “the old days”, good quality metal was in high demand but limited supply. However, when the United States took the Philippines from Spain in the Spanish-American War, the U.S. moved to gain political control over the entire archipelago, including the fiercely independent southern regions of Mindanao and Sulu. In order to facilitate transportation of men and supplies, the U.S. began laying railroad tracks across this region. What soon happened was the tracks would be torn up as soon as they were laid down; the Moro warriors had found a new source of high-quality steel to mine for making their swords!

One of the criticisms of modern materials came from some Hawaiian acquaintances that took a very spiritual view towards using wood. They cited old stories of warriors who would have their weapons blessed by Kahunas (priests) before going into battle, charging their sticks and wooden swords with mana (energy). Supposedly such sticks could discharge this energy by mere touch, so these sticks would be thrown into the path of approaching enemies, acting much like land mines and stunning or even killing them. Well, it just so happened, that Stickman knew an old Kahuna living in the Bay Area, so he took his sticks there for examination. This Kahuna was blind, so he worked by touch. He also had allegedly used the ‘mana’ energy trick with his blind cane on several occasions to ward off muggers! Well, his opinion was instant – these plastics worked just as well for him as natural wood. As he put it, some plastics ARE slippery and wouldn’t work, but these are not. Quite frankly, this is something anyone could tell. Some materials feel slick, others do not, and those that are slick would not feel right in the hand. His final word on this was that these sticks could hold as much energy as anyone can put into them, so these sticks are officially “Kahuna approved”! I bet nobody else has gone that far to prove the value of their sticks!

## **FMA Practitioners**

One of the first people to see and try these sticks was Stickman's teacher, the legendary Angel Cabales, grandmaster of Serrada Escrima. He thought the HITS were an interesting and useful innovation, with a good combination of lightweight and solid grip, and when the Panther series was developed, he liked those too. Until his death in 1991, his name was used with permission in all advertising to promote STICKMAN® products. Some people look at things for what they are, if an old *manong* like Angel could see the value in something new, maybe these things would actually work!

Since then, many other teachers in the arts have used these sticks, sometimes receiving them as gifts, but often buying them for themselves. One interesting story, as told to me by Simo Paula Inosanto, is that she and Guro Dan carry HITS when they travel internationally, since these sticks will pass through customs inspections at a glance. "Clearly" an advantage over traditional wood sticks!

In 1998 Guro Jeff "Stickman" Finder was inducted into the U.S. Kali Association's Hall of Fame by Tuhon Gaudiosa Ruby, for his contribution to the Filipino martial arts in pioneering the use of durable modern hi-impact materials for stick training. Between 1990 and 1998, thousands of STICKMAN® sticks came into use, not only in the USA, but as far abroad as Argentina, Australia, Guam, the Philippines, Singapore, Germany, Great Britain, Canada, and even Finland! Some companies that refused to carry STICKMAN® products "because the money is in re-selling rattan when people break it", have since begun making their own clones of our products. Imitation, as it is said, is the sincerest form of flattery. Many imitators are no longer around, and I doubt that those who are offer as many varieties of materials, lengths and thick nesses as original STICKMAN® sticks.

## **STICKMAN Products**

Stickman was a pioneer in offering a wide range of stick sizes for martial artists. This generally means that sticks are custom cut upon order, so it sometimes takes awhile to get sticks made because there is often little back stock. The sticks described on this website are the ones that have established themselves since 1990. If you have specific requirements, contact **Stickman** for custom sizing.

**Sticks are not toys!** Even in controlled drills or sparring, people can be injured by a weapon. What a stick does is amplify the speed and power of your movement through extension and leverage. Respect your weapon and show respect for your training partners.

The synthetic sticks fall into 3 general categories: clear, represented by our unique light-weight hollow HITS and by the heavier solid SHADOWS, black, represented by the popular Panther and Panther-II sticks and the COMMANDO training knife, and our unique gray and black 'snakeskin' sticks, the COBRA. Most of our sticks are sold in 7/8" diameter, except the HITS, which are 1". Our longer staffs are all 1" thick, while the shorter cane lengths can be either diameter. Any material listed with a '+' (such as Cobra+) refers to the thicker 1" version of the basic stick.

## HITS

Made from Hi-Impact plastic used for jet fighter canopies, motorcycle face shields and police riot shields, these 1" diameter hollow sticks are amazingly tough, durable and light. The 1/8" walls can stop a .22 caliber bullet at point blank range, yet a 28" stick only weighs 7 oz. (28 grams, or 1 gram/inch), same as 3/4" skinless tournament rattan! The first pair of these was used for 8 years for demonstration purposes, hitting full power against stop sign poles, light poles, car bumpers and buildings, plus used for hundreds of rounds of full-contact training against each other, different types of sticks, and the steel bars on face masks! These finally broke while attempting to demolish a brick wall. Unlike clear hardware store acrylics, if these break, they break cleanly, not with a jagged knife-like edge.

Occasionally some people feel a vibration of these sticks in their hand, though most do not have any problems. All sticks have their frequency of vibration. Generally using a firmer grip with HITS will eliminate any problems. Weight can also easily be increased by putting decorative tape on these sticks, and adding mass this way absorbs vibration. Since they are so light anyway, HITS are quite tunable in this regard.



## Panthers Series

**The Panther II:** Is our most popular stick, similar to thick, heavy rattan in weight (approximately 10.5 grams/inch) but in a more compact size suited to most hands. These have excellent shock absorption qualities and excel in training drills for hard stick-to-stick contact. They are most similar to natural wood in that they can get nicked or gouged if they strike hard sharp-edged objects like steel knives or edged sai's.



**Panthers:** Our original black stick, often mistaken for hardwood. These look identical to the Panther II but are 25% heavier. The Panther II was developed because these were so heavy, which is why the later model is better for most people and applications. I make very few of these now, but they are still have a place. Panthers work best as very short 'knuckle busters' or as a staff. This is also the material used for the Commando knife because of its heavy weight, durability and its ability to take a nice finish.



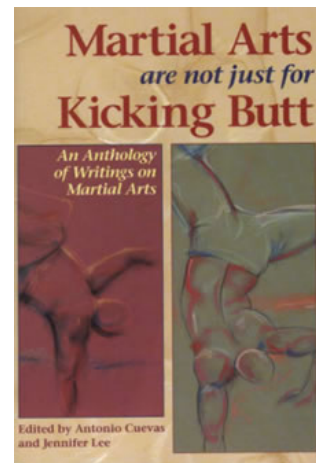
## SHADOWS



Shadows are solid versions of the HITS, but with a look of their own. Modern, sleek and high-tech, they glow beautifully when they catch the light.

A literary anthology of original writings published by North Atlantic Books on the martial arts, featuring prominent authors such as George Plimpton, Bira Almeida, Richard Heckler, John Gilbey, Ron Sieh, Carol Wiley et al - covering boxing with Muhammed Ali, Capoeira, Aikido, Tai Chi Chuan and more. This includes the first major publication by Jeff 'Stickman' Finder on the history and current direction of the Filipino martial arts! Get your autographed **copy here**. 187 pages of good reading.

\$15 Including Shipping



Also **NEW** Stickman's Escrima Blog [[Click Here](#)]



[www.sandatacrafts.com](http://www.sandatacrafts.com)

Welcome to Sandata Crafts, home to some of the finest wooden martial arts weapons. We have high quality and high performance Japanese, Filipino, and other martial arts weapons. Our products are handcrafted in the Philippine Islands and made from exotic hardwoods such as Kamagong (Iron Wood / Philippine Ebony) and Bahi (Palm Wood).

Sandata Crafts takes a very personal approach to their customers; they do not use automated responses. There are no shopping carts on the website (due to the fact that most retail orders are highly customized), customers have to email Sandata for inquiries.



This allows the people of Sandata Crafts to be able to personally speak to their customers so that they can understand the customers specific needs.

Their basic aim is to provide the martial artist with excellent personalized service and quality of Philippine-made Filipino Martial Arts weapons. Sandata, as

much as possible, tries to reply to every inquiry within 24. Many times, they are able to answer most inquiries in just minutes.

Owner, JM Taylor 25 years of age, resides in Quezon City, Metro Manila, Philippines. At the age of 11 for a year JM studied Aikido. But due to a fracture, he had to stop, and didn't continue his training until after the injury was totally healed.

JM began studying Hong Sing Kung Fu and Arnis Rapado for about 8 months in 2003. But again he was unable to continue his training because the gym he was training at closed down and he couldn't afford home training. JM later learned about a group in the Philippines training in Katori Shinto-ryu. This group is a branch of the Sugawara Martial Arts Institute, studying Katori Shinto-ryu, and Iwama style Aikido.

JM uses the Katori Shinto-ryu style ironwood bokken in class. He also uses a Bo, which his company produced, and soon Sandata Crafts will be coming out with a naginata that will be tested in the Katori Shinto-ryu dojo. Many Japanese sword fighting students would prefer his/her sword to be made in Japan, aside from promoting Filipino martial arts weapons, Sandata Crafts is also trying to establish the ironwood Japanese Martial Arts weapon line as a worthy alternative to the standard white oak JMA weapons. It is for people who want to try the same weapon in a different kind of wood, but still get the same quality and durability as the standard white oak.




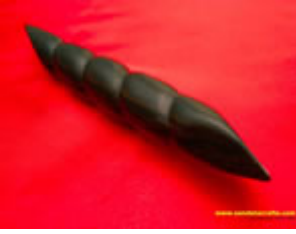
It would be nice for Filipino martial arts practitioners to think of Philippine-made Filipino martial arts weapons as more desirable than Filipino martial arts products made elsewhere. JM and his business partners aim to help their country's export market, even if the company's sales are obviously much smaller compared to other major export products of the Philippines.

Although many other stores offer basically the same Philippine-made products as Sandata Crafts, their main goal is to provide quality weapons. Sandata Crafts ensures the best quality possible in every weapon, and has always replaced any rejected weapon sold to a customer.

Their weapons are made to order. They do not have a stockpile of weapons. This explains why it usually takes 2 to 3 weeks to get the weapon to the customer. They do it this way because most of the retail orders are customized weapons. Most of their clients want their weapons a certain length, weight, and/or have certain designs/names engraved on the weapons they purchase.

JM was fortunate in meeting the person that would become the main wood carver for Sandata's products, through his Arnis instructor, Master Limuel Bansa. When JM met his newly found wood carver, he had just graduated from college, and was working part-

time, trying to get a couple of business ventures to work. Fortunately this worked out and Sandata Crafts was created.

	<p><b>Carabao Horn Dulo-Dulo</b> Similar to the Dulo-Dulo (Pasak/Yawara), but is shaped like the horn of a Carabao (the Philippine counterpart of the Buffalo).</p>
<p>The Dulo-dulo is also known as Pasak or Yawara. It is approximately 7 inches in length. This product can come with a hole on one end so that you may use it as a key chain, which can double as a personal defense weapon.</p>	<p><b>Dulo-Dulo</b></p> 

Sandata's whole product line can be seen on their **Website**. They have, Bokken, Shoto, Tanto, Bo, Tonfa, Nunchaku, Kama, Arnis sticks, Arnis swords, Garote, Kris swords, Kris daggers, a regular dagger, knives, 3 types of dulo-dulo (ipon style, dos puntos, and carabao horn), and wooden knuckles. They give out free mini-daggers for certain orders. They also offer basic engraving services. Almost all weapons are made of Kamagong, but most of them can also be made of Bahi.

The arnis sticks and Bo can be made of rattan. Sometimes, they will get requests for entirely different kinds of weapons. For example, they were able to supply someone in Japan with a double wooden sword (soushintou).

Sandata Crafts will be releasing a whole new slew of Filipino martial arts weapons, some of which will be variations of what they already have. They will also be releasing weapons in a new type of hardwood, which they can't reveal at the time of this writing, but hopefully you'll visit the **Sandata Crafts website** and see them sometime soon in the future.

### Contact

If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions about anything related to this site, feel free to contact us.

You can reach us at these contact details:

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Sandata Crafts is run by Simple Business Collaborations, Inc., located in Quezon City, Metro Manila, Philippines.



[www.smakstiks.com](http://www.smakstiks.com)



**Finally**, a padded training stick even the “Grandmasters” of old would approve of.

*“SMAK-Stiks, LLC, is committed to producing martial arts training tools that will enhance an individual’s training and progression in the martial arts. This commitment is fueled by our love and respect for the martial arts.”*

**Winston Tamisin**

On February 15 2005, a revolutionary Filipino martial arts padded training stick hit the market. SMAK-Stiks are padded training sticks unlike no other, in that they function more like a real stick.

While other training sticks are too whippy or padded, SMAK-Stiks are stiff and thin, but at the same time safe to use. This patent pending design makes it much easier to transition between SMAK-Stiks and real sticks.

*“The success of any martial arts training tool depends greatly on how well the tool bridges the gap between safety and realism. Every training tool designed by SMAK-Stiks™ begins with this basic principle.”*

**Rizalito Tacadena**

SMAK-Stiks, which stands for Safe Martial Arts Kombat, is also the name of the company that designed and manufactured the SMAK-Stiks products. This company was formed by five-second generation Filipino Americans seeking to elevate their own Filipino martial arts training by developing a training stick that allowed them to train at 100% speed and intensity without the risk of serious injury.

As practitioners in Sayoc Kali and Neo Tribe Kali, the founders drew from their own FMA backgrounds as well as soliciting input from various FMA instructors to design a truly unique and effective Filipino martial arts padded training stick

When it came to details, SMAK-Stiks left nothing out. Their sticks are equipped with a padded punyo, which can be used for short-range strikes. However, the most unique design feature is the nylon core. This core varies from model to model and allows SMAK-Stiks to be used in all ranges. From sword range to grappling range, to performing disarms or joint locks, you can do it all with SMAK-Stiks.

*“SMAK-Stiks were designed mainly for Filipino martial arts practitioners. There are dozens of FMA styles, all with varying techniques and approaches to training and combat. Consequently, SMAK-Stiks are available in varying lengths, weights, and stiffness. Additionally, we have designed custom SMAK-Stiks for those who were looking for a specific feel and functionality.”*

**Pete Tamisin**

In addition to being an effective training tool, SMAK-Stiks are also made of the highest quality materials. One of these materials is the nylon shell that covers the striking area of the stick. This covering is made of a special fabric called ballistic nylon. It's actually the same materials used in the manufacturing of bulletproof vests. Along with being durable, the shell is also water repellent. This allows any foreign material such as sweat or dirt to be easily wiped off.

*“Many of the instructors who helped test the SMAK-Stiks were very impressed with the durability of the product. Even after several weeks of intense training, the SMAK-Stiks held up very well.”*

**Rizaldy Tacadena**

If you have any questions or problems regarding your order, have no worries. SMAK-Stiks has a great customer service staff. What makes their customer service staff so helpful is that most of them are also Filipino martial arts practitioners.

*“One of our goals at SMAK-Stiks is to make sure that our customers are 100% satisfied with their purchase. This can only be accomplished with great customer service and thorough understanding of the product and its application.”*

**Edison Reformado**

### **Founders**



Left to right

Rizaldy Rey Tacadena, Winston Tamisin, Pete Tamisin, Ed Reformado, Rizalito Rex Tacadena

For more information on SMAK-Stiks, go to **[smakstiks.com](http://smakstiks.com)**

# Philippine Martial Arts Supplies

[www.pmasupplies.com](http://www.pmasupplies.com)

Mr. Arvino Logarta has been studying Arnis/Kali/Escrima since 1994. After studying Modern Arnis under different teachers he is now studying under Sir Mark Santos. He is a true blue Filipino martial arts practitioner who has studied Arnis/Kali/Escrima the “Old School” way. Yes that means studying full contact without protections or armor that is used today. He has studied directly under Grandmaster Ernesto Presas, brother of Grandmaster Remy Presas who is the father of Modern Arnis. Sir Mark Santos also had the rare and great privilege of studying Kali Ilustrisimo under the legendary Tatang Ilustrisimo himself for one and a half years.



Sir Mark Santos with Arvino Logarta

Sir Mark Santos started studying martial arts when he was 6 years old. He first started studying judo and later on when he was 11 years old he started studying under Grandmaster Ernesto Presas. Under Grandmaster Presas, Sir Mark Santos studied Modern Arnis and knife fighting, Karate, Judo, Kendo, Ju-jutsu and several martial arts weaponry including Sai, Tonfa, Nunchucks and Jo. He currently holds a black belt 4th Dan in Modern Arnis under Grandmaster Presas, 5th Dan in Zikdokan Karate under Shihan Louelle and Tino Ceberano who were direct students of Master Gogen Yamaguchi more popularly known as “The Cat” and 3rd Dan in Japanese/European Jujutsu. He also practiced kendo for 4 years in Grandmaster Ernesto Presas gym.

Sir Mark (as we all affectionately call him) has taught Arnis and practical self-defense in the NBI (National Bureau of Investigation). It is a special Philippine Government Agency whose counterpart in the United States is the FBI (Federal Bureau of Investigation). He also taught the security protection detail of French and Italian dignitaries in the Philippines. He is now currently a police officer for a branch of Law Enforcement in the Philippines. Last year Sir Mark was posted in Mindanao specifically Zamboanga and Jolo where the dreaded Abu Sayaf and MILF reside, one of the most dangerous places in the Philippines.



Owners of Philippine Martial Arts Supplies  
Arvino Logarta & Fhey Santos

Philippine Martial Arts Supplies started 5 years ago in 1999. With the growing demand and popularity for Filipino martial arts namely Arnis/Kali/Escrima all over the world, they started supplying to a group of instructors and middlemen who go abroad and sell martial arts products to their students and to martial arts stores. Filipino martial arts Supplies being martial artists themselves, they thought whom better to supply martial arts equipment to other martial artists than martial artists who use

the same equipment.

The Philippine Martial Arts Supplies goal is to produce and distribute quality martial arts equipment for training and self-defense use. All of their products have been tested and used by them personally to ensure that customers receive items are fully functional both in the dojo and in the streets.

All of their weapons are made from premium exotic hardwoods such as Philippine Ebony otherwise known as "**Iron Wood**" and "Black Ivory" (Kamagong as it is called



Hand carved Engravings on ironwood arnis stick  
Supplies products are made from the best materials that nature has to offer, handcrafted in great detail to give maximum performance in practice and aesthetic beauty for your collection.

locally), make no misconceptions about the "Iron Wood", it's densely compact constitution makes it a very hard wood that could shatter or be broken when hit with a denser material like cement or concrete but why would the old master's use these items in their legendary "Death matches"? Also, Palm wood or Coco-wood (also known as "Bahi" locally) and premium Palasan and the rare Labsica rattan sticks.

Practitioners and enthusiasts from Kendo, Aikido, Iaido, Kobudo, Ninjutsu, Arnis /Kali/Escrima etc, will find that Philippine Martial Arts

Supplies does not adhere to violence but when there is no choice we would like our customers to have an effective piece of equipment on their hands.

## Contact Info

Philippine Martial Arts Supplies have two small provincial factories in the provinces and a shipping point in Manila, Philippines. Interested parties may go to the **Website** and **Email** them directly if they have questions about their products and they will happily reply.

All products from Philippine Martial Arts Supplies are handcrafted only after an order is placed to ensure the quality of the wooden weapons.

All products from Philippine Martial Arts Supplies can be custom made in terms of weight, size and dimensions in accordance to the wishes and specifications of the buyer.

- Custom made designs, logos, ensigns of schools, dojo's, associations etc, to be engraved on the weapons is available upon request with an accompanying engraving fee.
- Most of the Japanese wooden weapons made by Philippine Martial Arts Supplies are made of Philippine Ebony or "Iron Wood" or Kamagong, as it is known locally. This type of wood is an exotic wood known for its beauty and extreme durability.
- All "Iron Wood" products are wax finished. No artificial paints or varnishes are used in finishing our products thus giving you that hands-on natural feel of this exotic wood.
- These exquisitely crafted weapons can be used in rigorous training but they are also very ideal for collection and display because of their beauty.



Philippine Martial Arts Supplies  
Work Shop





[www.panlaban.com](http://www.panlaban.com)



Located in a small shop in Pampanga all the manufacturing of swords, and canes for the Arnisadors, are personally hand made. Officially established in 2004, Panlaban Unlimited has provided weaponry throughout the Philippines and suppliers outside of the Philippines for many years.

Panlaban Unlimited has expanded in a way so to offer people outside of the Philippines a way to obtain the weapons that are used in Arnis, Eskrima, and Kali, and also various Japanese weapons. With reasonable prices this company now offers their unique and professionally made weapons to all individuals whether martial artists or just collectors.

Panlaban Unlimited is the official weapons maker for the IMAF (International Modern Arnis Federation). It should also be noted that special designed weapons could also be obtained from Panlaban Unlimited if a picture or drawing is sent with the measurements required.



[www.sinawalitrade.com](http://www.sinawalitrade.com)



Toby Barthelmes was born in Frankfurt, Germany and raised in Switzerland, “in the Italian quarter” and attended music school in the French quarter to gain his music teaching degree. Once obtaining his degree the German government assigned Toby to the German school of music located in Manila, Philippines as a teacher.

Teaching in manila since 1999, Toby was assigned the task of creating a project through music that would blend and unite the German and Filipino culture. In searching for a unique, but plausible way to do this, Toby meet Guro Ariel Ramos, and in watching Guro Ramos demonstrate the art of Arnis came up with what he thought would be the best to demonstrate the cultural blending that he desired and would accomplish the goal he was assigned. You can read more on Toby Barthelmes in the FMAdigest Vol. 1 No.4 issue.

Even today Toby resides in Manila, continuing his training in arnis. He has formed a business with Guro mark Santos called Sinawali Trade which offers Arnis, Kali, and Eskrima equipment, “Quality products directly exported from the Philippines.





**Filipino Martial Arts Magazine**



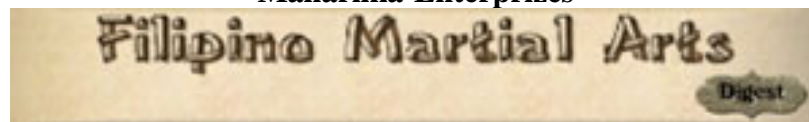
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