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MW JOHN L. CHOA
Grand Master
1990

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EDITORIAL:

FREEMASONRY: Our Way of Life

MW John L. Choa will occupy the Grand Oriental Chair for the masonic year 1990-1991. So it is the sovereign will of the brethren in the just concluded Annual Communications held in Los Baños, Laguna.

MW Choa's reign will be full of challenges. Internally, the Craft is creeking on some of its joints and needs the jolt of a surgical knife. The reading of the more authoritative brethren is that our quality of membership continues to be our heaviest baggage. One tragic result of the presence of these rough ashlars is their ignorance and inevitably their lack of appreciation of the real meaning of freemasonry. Thus we witness lamentable attempts on their part to tinker with the fundamentals of freemasonry, not knowing that if they succeed the Craft will be no better than the ordinary run of the mill non-stock, non-profit corporations of charity. Until these unenlightened brethren perceive the real light of masonry, it is expected that they will continue to confuse the Craft with their service clubs and try to reshape masonry on the mould of these lesser organizations. Their re-education is a must.

Externally, the Craft is besieged by the societal changes sweeping the country. We are in the midst of a milieu where so many hostile forces are seducing our people to break away from the democratic way of life. A lot of our people have their antennas on the Craft awaiting the rebirth of masonic heroes who can lead them to the path of liberty with justice and to the life of freedom with equality. Too long has the Craft relied on its glorious past. Such an over - reliance is a confession how unworthy we have been to our legacy. The challenge is to improve our past for unless we do so the past will always hound and heckle us. It will be our greatest indictment.

MW Choa appears well prepared to meet these challenges. His masonic credentials leave nothing to be desired. He is well grounded in blue lodge masonry. He served as DDGM for many years and in 1984 was chosen as the Most Outstanding DDGM in our jurisdiction. He has travelled every nook and corner of the country and hence knows the pulse of our brethren. His personal background shows how valiantly he has beaten the adversities of life and the experience will surely help him view the problems of the Craft from a more pragmatic prism.

MW Choa's choice of the theme — Freemasonry, Our Way Of Life — is therefore commendable. If freemasonry has not been making an impact today, it is because we have not made it our way of life. A lot of us verbalize the tenets of freemasonry but the value of freemasonry lies less in the beauty of its vocabulary but more in its validity in every day life. Unless and until we practice out of our lodge its tenets and truisms, freemasonry will wither on the vineyard of our own selfishness. (RSP)



From the Grand Oriental Chair

● MW John L. Choa

My aim is to inculcate into the minds of each Mason the importance of projecting a disciplined life so that I have chosen a very simple yet very masonic theme for us this year: "Freemasonry As Our Way of Life." As Masons we should always endeavor to practice the dogma of Freemasonry as our way of life in order to let our lights so shine before our fellowmen.

Our program thrust includes a special emphasis for each month where all the activities will be reported to the Grand Lodge. Blue Lodges then are required to send a report of their activities to the Grand Lodge. The program thrust contained in a kit was distributed to all DDGMs, DGLs, and to the three elected Lights of each Lodge at the ANCOM '90. The kit also contained the Duties and Responsibilities of the DDGM, a format for our masonic workshop which should be used during our District Convention.

Our Senior Grand Lecturer, VW Danilo Angeles, was requested to prepare a module of twelve lessons both for our Continuing Masonic Education and Lodge of Instruction and an edict was issued to make it mandatory for each Lodge to provide 10-15 minute contemplation on the esoteric meaning of our Craft for a commonunderstanding among the brethren. Likewise, an edict was issued for the purpose of making it mandatory for every Blue Lodge to conduct orientations to a prospective petitioner before he is initiated and before he is passed and raised to the Sublime Degree.

On December 19, 1990 our Grand Lodge will hold a six-in-one affair: (1) Call for a Special Communication to celebrate our 78th Anniversary, (2) Celebrate the blessing and dedication of our New Grand Lodge Temple, (3) Hold an oratorical contest for our youth, (4) Honor all our Past Grand Masters, (5) Present awards to the Ten Outstanding Masons, and (6) Launch the printing of our Masonic Yearbook which will chronicle the history of our Grand Lodge from 1912 to the present.

In order to underwrite the cost of producing our Masonic Yearbook which will be about 700-800 pages we have prepared advertising contracts which are included in the kit distributed to each Blue Lodge. Each Blue Lodge will be required to subscribe to a minimum of two pages in the yearbook: one page to contain the pictures of the five elected Lodge Officers with the list of the members of the same Lodge at the bottom and the second page to contain the brief history of the Lodge. However, if the Lodge cannot afford to subscribe to

the two-page requirement, then the slots could be sold to the public as a pure and simple advertisement. The circulation of the Masonic Yearbook will not be limited to the Philippines, for it will be sent to all Grand Lodges throughout the world where we have fraternal ties.

We shall celebrate our Diamond Jubilee this coming Ancom '90 at Bacolod City and therefore we will issue a commemorative car plate at P500.00 a pair. For this purpose we have also included a reservation form in the kit for the brethren to fill out and send to the Grand Lodge together with the payments thereto. Only those who have remitted their payments will be given a commemorative car plate.

Since all the programs we have prepared are simple and attainable, we therefore expect to unite our efforts to attain success in our endeavors. But most of all let us always practice Freemasonry as our way of life: Kindness in the home, Honesty in business, Courtesy in society, Fairness in work, Pity and Concern for the unfortunate, Resistance towards evil, Help for the weak, Forgiveness for the penitent, Love for one another and, above all, Reverence and Love of God.

GM'S PROGRAM IN A NUTSHELL

1. Imposing upon ourselves a code of ethical and moral conduct higher than the rest of men (all year round)
2. Improving Lodge management (May)
3. Honoring Mason heroes (June)
4. Visiting long-lost brethren as well as those who are sick and bedridden (July)
5. Honoring Past Masters, Senior Masons and Charter Members (August)
6. Enhancing family togetherness (September)
7. Undertaking charity and community projects (October)
8. Sponsoring lodges of remembrance, sports, and physical fitness activities (November)
9. Having a six-in-one affair in December
10. Stressing spiritual consciousness (January)
11. Renewing family ties (February)
12. Focusing on the youth and appendant organizations (March)
13. Looking forward to the next Ancom (April)
14. Deepening our Masonic understanding (all year round)
15. Conducting lodge of instruction (all year round)
16. Admitting quality members only (all year round)

SERVICE AND SACRIFICE
FOR THE CRAFT IS WISE!

A MAN WITH THE MIDAS TOUCH

by J. Flor R. Nicolas

Democracy to a great measure owes its viability, vitality and vibrancy to the men and women who by their own efforts have risen from the humblest stations in life to the highest positions of leadership in all fields. Our 73rd Grand Master, **M.W. BRO. JOHN L. CHOA,** is one such man.

BITTER — SWEET CHILDHOOD

Our incumbent Grand Master was born in Manila on August 2, 1943. His father, Choa Tai Hun, was an author of four Accounting books and chief of the BIR when MW Manuel L. Quezon, PGM, was Philippine Commonwealth President. His mother, Lim Giok Eng, was a midwife. Had both parents lived longer, John Lim Choa might have lived a different, most probably sweeter, life in his youth. But, of course, that is a hypothesis contrary to the fact. At seven John was an orphan. Hence, he was taken to The Children's Garden at Taytay, near the boundary of Antipolo, Rizal. This orphanage was founded by M.W. Bro. Charles Moorsebrook, who would become our Grand Master in 1964, and the Honorable Asuncion Perez, Secretary of the Social Welfare Administration (SWA) during President Elpidio Quirino's term.

It was at The Children's Garden that the young orphan first heard of Freemasonry and personally witnessed the sincere affection and loving concern of the Freemasons for the orphans. Deeply impressed by the benefaction of the Freemasons, which included taking care of the orphans' early education, the young John Choa made a promise to himself: "When I will come of age, I, too, will join the Masonic fraternity."

EARLY CLASSROOMS, ODD JOBS, HIGHER LEARNING

The young John took grades 1 to 5 at Hope Christian High School and finished the sixth grade at the Taytay Elementary School, where he demonstrated keen interest in Boy Scouting.

After finishing two years of secondary education at the Juan Sumulong Memorial High School, he left The Children's Garden and courageously ventured into the jungle of the survival of the fittest, into the urban wilderness of grab-as-grab-can ruthlessness.

He clawed and scraped along Evangelista St. corner Claro M. Recto Avenue in downtown Manila; there he scraped and clawed, shining shoes and vending sweepstakes and sampaguitas and comics.

At 15 he worked as a janitor in a printing plant and then as a messenger. Later on he was promoted to the position of salesman.

The struggling teenager enrolled in the evening school of the Far Eastern University (FEU). In 1963 he completed his high school studies. In 1967 he finished the course leading to the degree of Bachelor of Science in Commerce (BSC), major in Accounting. He obtained the degree of Bachelor of Laws (LI.B.) also at the FEU in 1971. In the following year he was a member of the Philippine Bar.

BUSINESS/PROFESSIONAL VENTURES

Seasoned in the school of hard knocks, the young accountant and barrister endeavored to put his formal education and training into optimal use. His efforts paid off. To date, he is founder and president of Stanley Printing Company, Printers Merchandising Corporation, Stanley Plastic Company, and Inter-Continental Resources and Investment Corporation.

Atty. John L. Choa, moreover, is a principal partner in the Choa, Montilla, Albeza and Associates Law Office.

A PROMISE FULFILLED

Not losing sight of the promise he had made to himself as an admiring ward of The Children's Garden, he knocked at the door of Freemasonry. He was initiated at Manila-Mt. Lebanon Lodge No. 1 in April 1974 and shortly afterwards he was passed and raised.

Since his raising to the sublime degree of Master Mason, he has made Freemasonry as his way of life. For him, leading such a life involves, among other things, kindness in the home, honesty in business, courtesy in society, fairness in work, pity and concern for the unfortunate, resistance toward evil, help for the weak, forgiveness for the penitent, love for one another and, above all, reverence and love of God.

DEVOTED FAMILY MAN

On December 29, 1974 Atty. John L. Choa married the former Lily Dy. To date, they are loving parents to four equally loving children: John Russell, Jr., 14; Stanley Philip, 12; Jannie Grace, 10; and Mark Robert, 5.

Recalled MW Bro. John: "We agreed on that specific date for our wedding in order to have a three-day honeymoon. On January 2, (1975) I had to report back to work."

Persistent application to the work at hand — that, to him, is an antidote to socio-economic disadvantage.

ACTIVE CIVIC LEADER AND ORGANIZATION MAN

His own difficult youth, as well as the good example shown by the Freemasons to the children at the "Garden", has impelled MW Bro. John to have a deep compassion for the disadvantaged members of our society. A committed Christian, he has manifested his dedication to the upliftment of the quality of life of Filipinos, particularly the poorest of the poor.

He is, indeed, proud to serve as a member of the Board of Trustees of the orphanage he grew up in: The Children's Garden. Certainly, he knows how to glance back to where he came from. He is also a member of the Board of Trustees of Deaf Evangelical Alliance Foundation (DEAF) Inc. in Cavinti, Laguna. To its beneficiaries, DEAF provides, among other things, free board and lodging as well as free education from the elementary to the collegiate level.

In 1979 he was the president of the Manila Downtown Y's Men's Club. In the same year he was chosen Most Outstanding President of Y's Men's International-Philippine Region.

In 1982 he was District Governor for Y's Men's International-Metro Manila District. A firm believer in the potentialities of youth, he has been an honorary member of YMCA-Manila, Inc.

The founder, organizer and charter president of Square & Compass Toastmasters Club No. 4749-75, he was in 1985-86 District Governor for Area IV, Toastmasters International-Philippine District.

What has been said of the late MW Bro. Conrado F. Benitez, our G.M. in 1936, as an organization man may, to a great extent, apply to our present G.M.; that is, he has never counted the hours if these hours can be devoted to alleviate the misfortune of the less fortunate and thus add to the joys of our impoverished people.

MASONIC INVOLVEMENT, MASONIC ACHIEVEMENTS

Shortly after his raising, he became a member of Manila Bodies, A. & A.S.R. and of Lodge Perla del Oriente No. 1034, S.C. He also obtained dual membership in Capitol City Lodge No. 174, F. & A.M.

In 1979, the year he was actively involved in the Manila Downtown Y's Men's Club, he was invested with the rank of 32° Knight Commander of the Court of Honor (KCCH).

In 1980 he was elected Worshipful Master of Manila-Mt. Lebanon. In the same year he received the Most Outstanding Member Award from Manila Bodies.

In 1981, right after serving as W.M. of Manila-Mt. Lebanon, he was appointed District Deputy Grand Master (DDGM) for Masonic District 1-A. In fact, he was DDGM for MD 1-A up to 1986.

In 1981 and again in 1982 he received from our Grand Lodge the Distinguished Masonic Service Award. This was the time that he was chairman of the Scottish Rite Luncheon Forum.

In 1983 our Grand Lodge again awarded him with a Plaque of Recognition for his Masonic achievements. For having whipped up MD 1-A into an A-1 district, he was selected Most Outstanding DDGM for Masonic Year 1984-85.

In 1984, too, he was coronated 33° Inspector General Honorary (IGH) by the Supreme Council.

He was also actively involved in the Grand Guild of Past Masters of the Philippines, so that he was elected Deputy Grand Guild Master.

In 1986 our Grand Lodge once more gave him a Plaque of Recognition and the Distinguished Masonic Service Award.

His deep commitment to the Craft may be seen from the various positions he had in the Grand Lodge or in the appendant bodies at various times. These include the following:

- *Grand Representative,* United Grand Lodge of England
- *Venerable Master,* Mt. Arayat Lodge of Perfection (1979)
- *Wise Master,* Manu Chapter of Rose Croix
- *Commander,* Confucius Council of Kadosh
- *Master of Kadosh,* Gautama Consistory M.R.S.
- *High Shereef,* Bamboo Shrine Oasis
- *Ambassador,* Nile Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S., Seattle, Washington, USA
- *Member,* Board of Trustees, Manila Bodies, A. & A.S.R.
- *Member,* Board of Trustees, Masonic Charities for Crippled Children
- *Member,* Board of Trustees, Capitol Masonic Corporation
- *Member,* Royal Order of Scotland
- *Member,* Order of the Eastern Star

OTHER MASONIC AWARDS & HONORS

M.W.Bro. John holds honorary membership in many a Masonic Lodge in the Philippines, such as San Carlos 186 , Negrense 200, Mencius 93,Molave 261, Dipolog 162, M.V. Ko Memorial 210, Agusan Valley 160, and Mayon 61.

He is also an honorary member of Islam Temple, A.A..O.N.M.S., California , USA, and of Aloha Temple, Honolulu, Hawaii, U.S.A.

The M.W.Grand Lodge of China, in addition, awarded him with a Plaque of Honor for Distinguished Service.

"NEARER, GRAND EAST, TO THEE!"

In 1987 he was elected Junior Grand Warden (JGW) of our Grand Lodge . He was Senior Grand Warden (SGW) in MY 1988-89. At this time, with M.W. Bro. Raymundo N. Beltran at the helm of our Grand Lodge, then RW John L. Choa was chosen president of the Temple Builders Club (TBC). Upon assumption of the TBC presidency he prepared a plan for raising funds needed for the completion of our new Grand Lodge Temple. With strong support from the other officers and members of the TBC, he energetically and tirelessly pursued the prepared plan to a successful conclusion—successful because at the last count the TBC, in its fund-raising campaign, was able to gross more than six million pesos (P6-M) for our New Grand Lodge Temple.

Asked how he has managed to do many things successfully despite his heavy schedule, he answered, "I use the 24-inch gauge."

In 1989 he was Deputy Grand Master (DGM), unselfishly assisting M.W. Bro. John C. Nabong, Jr. in diverse Masonic endeavors.

THE GRAND ORIENT AT LAST!

His total devotion to our Fraternity, coupled with his acute sense of civic duty, steadily led him toward the Grand Oriental Chair.In the afternoon of April 28,1990 on the occasion of the 74th Annual Communication of the M.W. Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines, the orphan-turned-successful-businessman/lawyer, who was dubbed by German author Mariles von Brevern in one of her books as "a self-made man" and who is frequently referred to by people close to him as "a man with the Midas touch", was installed our 73rd Grand Master.

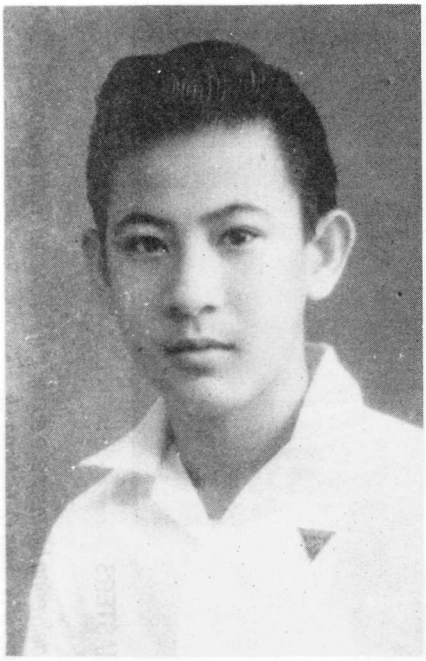
As we experience acceptance in a friendship we come to know that someone sees values in us. Being valued by someone who counts is the first step toward valuing oneself.



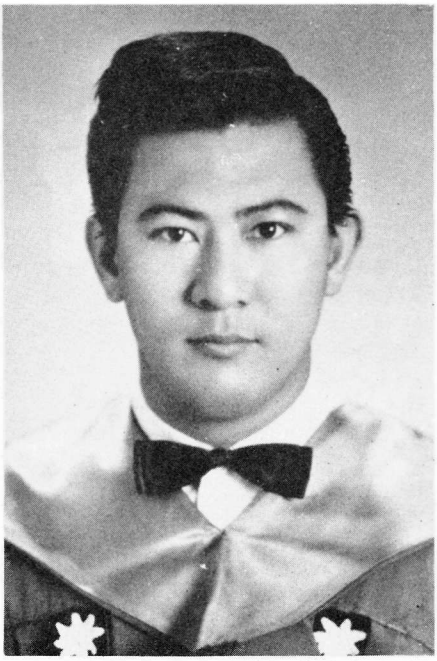
John and fellow orphans at the Children's Garden



A HAPPY FAMILY
(L-R): John Rossell Jr., Jannie Grace, Sis. Lily, GM Choa, Mark Robert & Stanley Philip



John as freshman, Hope Christian School, whose Board of Trustees he is now a member of.



John Lim Choa: BSC graduate, FEU, 1967



The young shineshoe boy and vendor (in last row) with fellow seniors and mentors, FEU High School, Evening Session, 1962-63



GRAND GUILD OF PAST MASTERS

MW Rosendo C. Herrera, PGM, President of the Grand Guild of Past Masters delivering his message during the Fellowship Night on April 25, 1990, at the U.P. Los Baños attended by about 150 brothers and sisters, foreign dignitaries and MW Juan C. Nabong, Jr.

MW Herrera stressing the need for a more closer relationship with the families and members of the Grand Guild of Past Masters by way of Dinner Fellowship after the days work on its annual communication.



MW Theodore L. Way, PGM, Grand Lodge of China (standing) responding to the acknowledgement of his presence together with other Past Grand Masters of the Grand Lodge of China, foreign dignitaries, Grand Master Nabong and other Past Grand Masters of the Grand Lodge of the Philippines sitting at the head table, during the Fellowship Dinner of the Grand Guild of Past Masters at U.P. Los Baños, April 25, 1990.

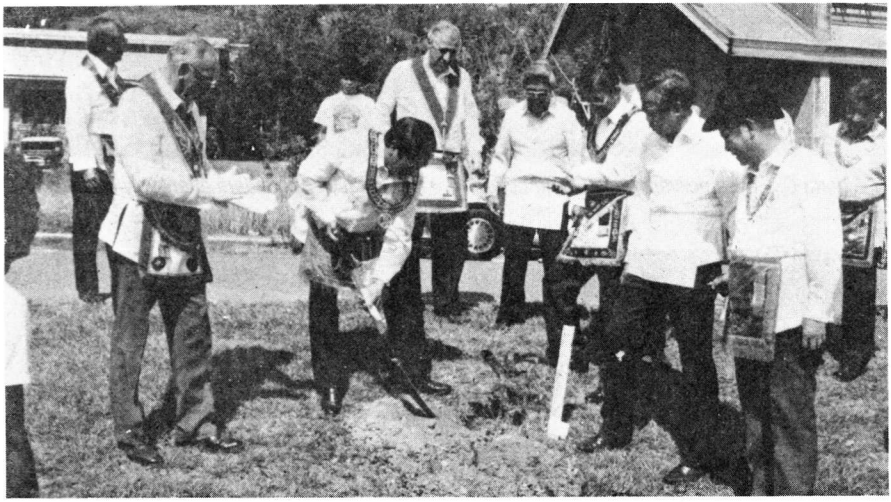


Unveiling ceremonies of the life-size monument of Bro. Dr. Jose P. Rizal



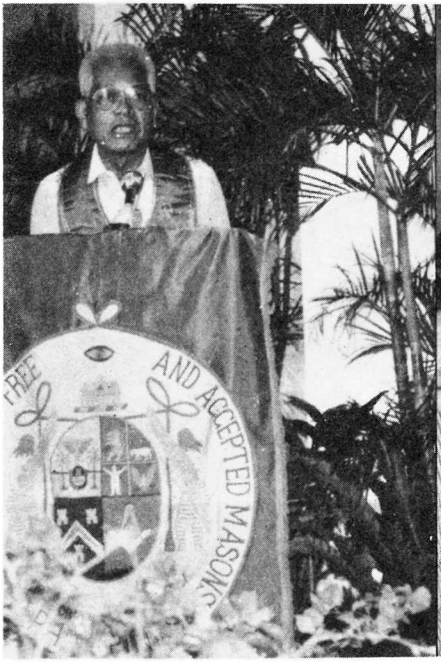
GM J.C. Nabong, Jr. and visiting dignitaries at the unveiling ceremonies







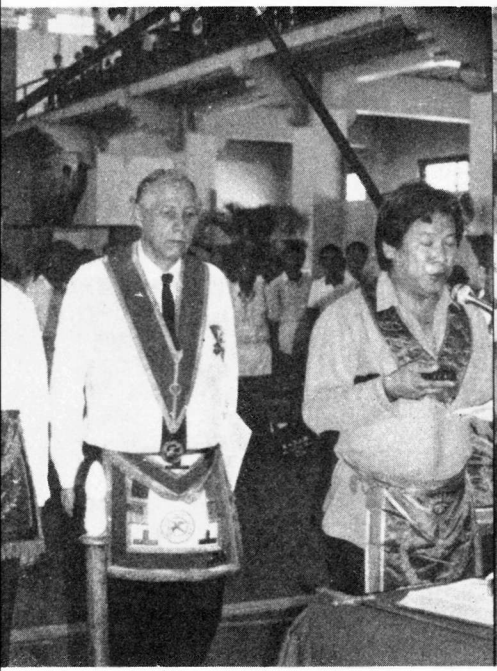
Grand Lodge Officers and visiting dignitaries planting trees for posterity



VW Alberto C. Reyes delivering his Grand Lodge Oration



RW Rizal D. Aportadera attentively listened





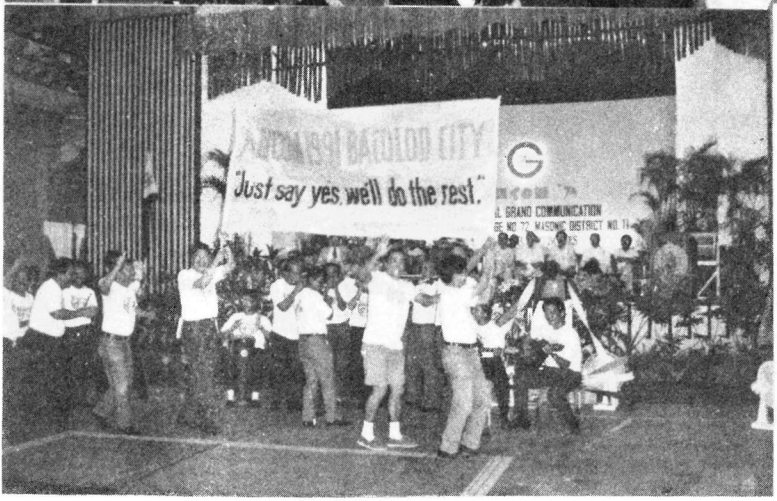
Welcoming visiting dignitaries



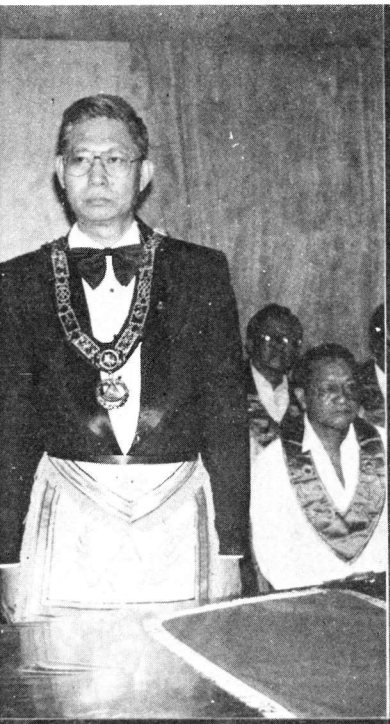








The great debate and the enthusiastic bidding for Ancom '91









MW Rosendo C. Herrera, IO, and MW Reynato S. Puno, MC installing Grand Master John L. Choa









The Grand Master delivering his inaugural address



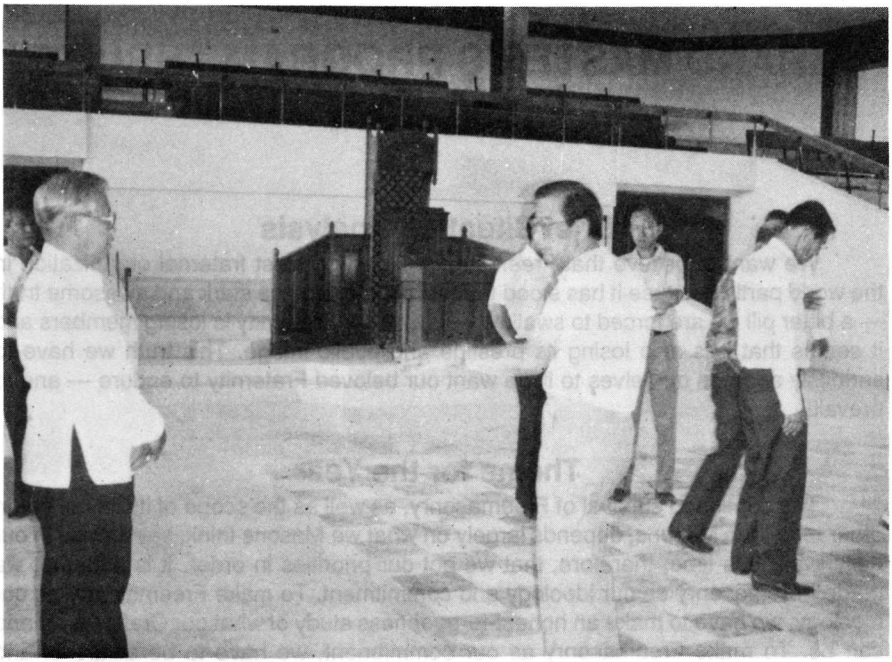
The Family



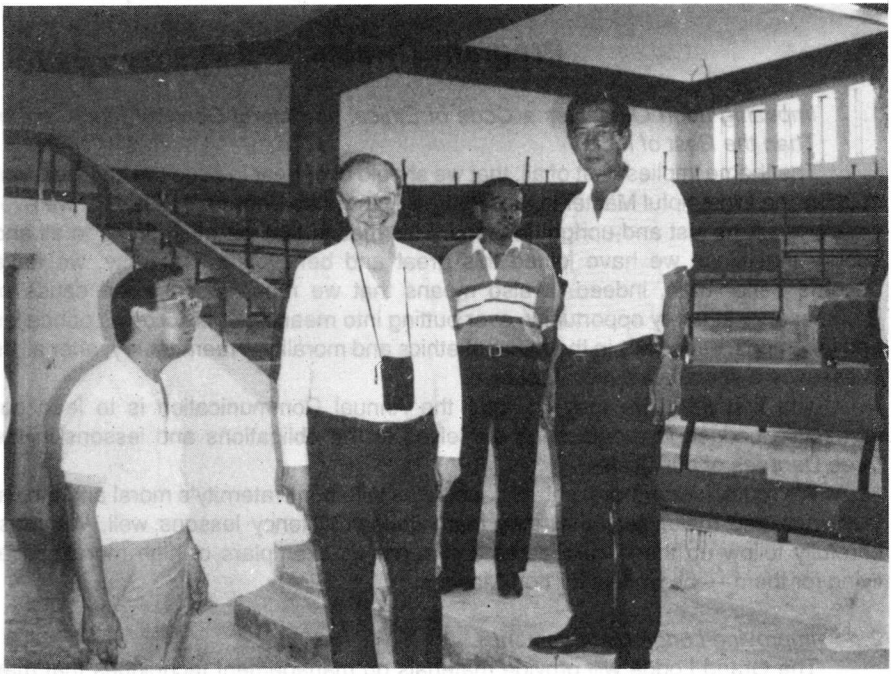
Mt. Makiling Lodge No. 72 way of welcoming GM Choa



Sis. Lily with GM John L. Choa



Grand Lodge of the Philippines open house. GM John L. Choa acting as "tour guide"



A dream come true.....Almost

GRAND MASTER'S PROGRAM THRUST, 1990 -1991

Brief Situation Analysis

We want to believe that Freemasonry is the greatest fraternal organization in the world partly because it has stood the test of time. But the stark and awesome truth — a bitter pill we are forced to swallow — is that our Fraternity is losing members and it seems that it is also losing its prestige and public image. This truth we have to seriously address ourselves to if we want our beloved Fraternity to endure — and to prevail!

Theme for the Year

The continued survival of Freemasonry, as well as the scope of its influence on other men than Masons, depends largely on what we Masons think, say and do in our daily lives. It is time, therefore, that we got our priorities in order. It is time that we made Freemasonry as our ideology and commitment. To make Freemasonry as our ideology, we have to make an honest-to-goodness study of what our Craft was, is and can be. To make Freemasonry as our commitment, we have to be aware of and accept our responsibility to contribute to the attainment of our Fraternity's real purpose, *viz.*, the speculative use of operative Mason's tools. That is why we have adopted "FREEMASONRY: OUR WAY OF LIFE" as our theme for this Masonic year.

Program Thrusts

1. *Imposing upon Ourselves a Code of Ethical and Moral Conduct Much Higher Than the Rest of Men*

The theme implies, first of all, that we should ever bear in mind the charge given to us by the Worshipful Master in the Entered Apprentice Degree, that is, that we ever walk and act as just and upright Masons. This means that we must prove to all and sundry that since we have joined this great and benevolent Fraternity, we have become better men, indeed. It also means that we must espouse the cause of Freemasonry at every opportunity, ever putting into meaningful practice its principles and teachings, especially in the realm of ethics and morality. Freemasonry, after all, is in essence a speculative moral science.

The first thing we may do after the Annual Communication is to lead our respective Lodges in rededicating ourselves to the obligations and lessons in the three Degrees of our Craft.

We must, furthermore, imbue candidates with our Fraternity's moral and ethical teachings and make sure that they learn their proficiency lessons well. We must carefully follow up these candidates and serve as exemplars of high moral/ethical living for them — as well as for non-Masons.

2. *Improving Lodge Management*

The Grand Lodge will provide materials on management techniques that may be of use to each Blue Lodge, which in turn is required to discuss the materials and determine how its management may be improved. The members of each Lodge

should review appropriate sections of the Grand Lodge Constitution and Masonic Law Book, the by-laws of their Lodge, and other sources of information prior to discussions.

Suggested improvements in Lodge Management should be put in writing and sent to the Grand Lodge; the DDGM and the GLI should be furnished with copies of such suggestions.

Proper Lodge Management shall be our focus during the month of MAY.

3. *Honoring Mason Heroes*

We shall continue the practice of honoring our Mason heroes. On June 12, for instance, each Lodge or District should participate in the celebration of Independence Day in cooperation with local government officials. We should also celebrate important days in the lives of our Mason heroes, such as June 19 (the birthday of Bro. Jose Rizal), as a manifestation of our pride that many of the leaders of the libertarian movement in this country were Masons.

The month of JUNE is especially to be spent for honoring Masonic heroes.

Each Lodge or District should again inform the Grand Lodge in writing about how it celebrated Independence Day and other days honoring Mason heroes; the DDGM and the GLI should also be given copies of such reports.

4. *Visiting Long-Lost Brethren As Well As Those Who Are Sick or Bedridden*

We will continue the "Lost Sheep" program initiated by MW Ray Beltran. Yes, we must continue reaching out to our long-lost brethren as well as visit those who are sick or bedridden. The Sunshine Committee of each Lodge is considered one of the most important committees in our Fraternity. Let us make it work hard.

Let us devote the month of JULY as Sunshine Month. Each Blue Lodge is required to send a written report on its activities relative to this matter and furnish copies of the same to the DDGM and the GLI.

5. *Honoring Past Masters, Senior Masons, Charter Members*

It is a continuing policy of the Grand Lodge to urge the Blue Lodges to set aside a date for honoring their respective Past Masters, Senior Masons and Charter members. Again each Blue Lodge is enjoined to submit a written report of its activity in honor of its Past Masters and others as well as to provide DDGM and the GLI with copies thereof.

AUGUST shall be the month for honoring Past Masters and other deserving Masons.

6. *Enhancing Family Togetherness*

Each Blue Lodge is urged to arrange a whole-day family outing in the month of SEPTEMBER. The outing should include a program of activities that will enhance the togetherness of the families of Masons. The Lodge should inform the Grand Lodge in writing about such an activity and send copies to the DDGM and the DLI.

6. *Undertaking Charity and Community Projects*

Although our Fraternity is not a civic club, nevertheless we have to put our tenet of Relief into meaningful action. We have to interact with the members of or respective communities in order to show that Freemasonry is a caring Fraternity indeed.

In order that our charity and community projects will have impact, let us set aside OCTOBER as "Community Service Month" throughout the whole jurisdiction. This is not to say, of course, that the Lodge should no longer undertake charity and community projects in the other months. Definitely, we should increase such projects (scholarship, medical-dental mission, health education, etc.).

Again the Blue Lodges should submit written reports of their charity and community projects to the Grand Lodge and send copies thereof to the DDGM and GLI.

8. *Sponsoring Lodges of Remembrance, Sports & Physical Fitness Activities*

In NOVEMBER let us remember our brethren who have dropped forever their working tools. Each Blue Lodge shall have a Lodge of Remembrance for this purpose. In addition, the brethren are encouraged to visit the tombs/sepulchres of our deceased brethren on November 1. The widows and orphans will appreciate such a gesture.

In line with the dictum "Health is Wealth", each Lodge or District is enjoined to arrange sports and physical fitness activities, such as bowling, golf, tennis, table tennis, darts, billiards, chess, basketball, volleyball, etc., for its members and their families — or perhaps sponsor such activities for the out-of-school youth or for the youth in general.

The brethren are also encouraged to sponsor sports activities with other fraternal or civic organizations with the end in view of improving our relationships with them.

Let us also set aside the month of NOVEMBER for these activities.

The Blue Lodges shall report in writing such activities and give copies thereof to the DDGM and the GLI.

9. *Having a Six-in-One Affair in December*

All members of the Craft are urged to come to Manila on December 19, 1990 to attend a six-in-one affair. It is so called because on that day we shall:

1) call a Special Communication to celebrate the 78th Anniversary of our Grand Lodge;
2) bless and dedicate our new Grand Lodge Temple;
3) honor all the Past Grand Masters;
4) present and award the Ten Outstanding Masons;
5) hold the finals of the oratorical contest among our youth; and
6) launch our Masonic Year Book, approximately 700 pages (covering the period 1912-1990).

It should be noted that the second highlight of the six-in-one affair or Special Ancom in December is the blessing and dedication of our new Grand Lodge Temple. This is the 12th year it has been under construction. It is raging to be finished. Last year when I was president of the Temple Builders Club, we were able to net more than five million pesos (P5-M). This year we will undertake another fund-raising project which hopefully will enable us to complete our new Grand Lodge Temple — finally!

The different Lodges and Districts shall be asked to contribute their share to the Masonic Year Book which, as said earlier, will cover the period 1912-1990 and which shall contain valuable Masonic articles and the histories of the different Lodges District.

Each Blue Lodge shall subscribe to a two-page advertisement: one page for a picture of the elected lights and a group picture of the whole Lodge, with names of the members; the other page is for the history of the Lodge.

This year book shall be distributed to all Grand Lodges in the world and sold to the public.

The brethren are advised to submit their advertisements for the Masonic Year Book together with the payments thereof on or before NOVEMBER 30, 1990.

It should also be noted that the ten Outstanding Masons will be honored on December 19 instead of during the Ancom in Bacolod City. So, send in your nominees as early as possible.

It should be noted, furthermore, that the fifth feature of the Special Ancom in December is the finals of the oratorical contest. The contest shall be among the children of Masons and members of Masonic Youth Appendant Organizations. The topic shall be Drug Addiction.

The different Lodges are advised to hold their eliminations in the oratorical contest two or three months ahead. The winners shall compete in the District Semi-Final Oratorical Contest. The winners on the District level shall compete in the finals on December 19. Each District, then, shall submit the name of the District Oratorical Champion to the Grand Lodge on or before November 30.

Let us all contribute to the resounding success of the Special Ancom or Six-in-One Affair in December. Let us make it really an affair to remember.

Again the Blue Lodges are required to send the Grand Lodge a written report on their activities in connection with the Special Ancom or Six-in-One Affair in December, as well as furnish copies to the DDGM and the GLI.

10. *Stressing Spiritual Consciousness*

It is but proper that we Masons stress the religious aspect of our lives. We are called upon to be active in our respective churches of persuasion, particularly in the month of JANUARY.

During that month each Lodge, additionally, is required to invite to its stated meeting a resource speaker on a spiritual topic. Such an activity will uplift our souls and contribute to the unity of our spirit!

A written report on the activity is required; copies of the report should be furnished to the DDGM and the GLI.

11. *Renewing Family Ties*

FEBRUARY being a month of the heart, let us during this month remind ourselves to be not only loving fathers but also faithful husbands.

Those of us who are married should renew our vow of fidelity to our lifetime partners.

Moreover, the Lodge/District shall sponsor a Ladies Night, wherein the brethren publicly acknowledge their wives' efforts and manifest their love and appreciation for them.

A written report on such an activity is again required.

12. *Focusing on the Youth and Appendant Organizations*

Each Lodge is encouraged to organize and support Masonic youth organizations in the locality (DeMolay, Rainbow for Girls, Job Daughters).

The Grand Lodge is going to launch a slogan and poster contest among the members of these Masonic youth organizations in MARCH 1991. The contest shall also be on Drug Addiction. Cash prizes shall be awarded to members of our Masonic youth organizations whose entries will have been adjudged as winners by the Board of Judges.

We shall also sponsor seminars in coordination with government agencies like the Dangerous Drugs Board, Narcom and other appropriate agencies in order to enhance awareness of the public of the evils of such a menace to society.

The different Lodges, furthermore, are enjoined to hold fellowships with other appendant organizations, such as the Eastern Star, the Amaranth, and the Shriners. Let us coordinate our efforts with them in bringing the harmful effects of drug addiction to the country's notice.

13. *Looking Forward to the Next Ancom*

April 1991 will be the 75th Annual Communication of our Grand Lodge Let us prepare well for the celebration of the Diamond Jubilee of the Ancom. Let us attend it in full force, prepared to actively participate in all important matters to be taken up.

The Grand Master's Cup is the most prestigious award given to a Lodge for outstanding performance in one Masonic Year.

We shall introduce an innovation by giving awards to the First Runner-up, Second Runner-up, and Third Runner-up.

For the Lodges vying for the Grand Master's Cup, a written report supported with pictures should be submitted to the Grand Lodge on or before March 30, 1991.

The Grand Lodge will likewise give awards to: Most Outstanding DDGM, Most Outstanding DGL, Most Outstanding District Secretary, Most Outstanding Worshipful Master, Most Outstanding GLI, and Most Outstanding Master Mason.

To encourage the brethren to put up quality publications, we shall also give awards to the District and the Lodge adjudged to have the best newsletters. Details about this Journalism Award shall be published in *The Cabletow.*

The brethren are urged to submit as early as possible their reservations for the Commemorative Car Plate re. Diamond Jubilee/75th Annual Communication celebration.

See you in Bacolod!

14. *Deepening Our Masonic Understanding*

Truly, one of Freemasonry's most pressing needs at this time is for more Masonic light, more Masonic teaching. After all, as Kant puts it, "Man is only what education makes of him." It is imperative that we continuously deepen our Masonic understanding; for the more we know about our Order, the deeper will be our bonds to it and the more we will be actively and devotedly involved in Masonic endeavors.

In line with our continuing Masonic Education thrust, the Senior Grand Lecturer (SGL) has been tasked to prepare a module with 12 lessons on Freemasonry. These lessons shall be taken in the stated meetings of the Lodge for the entire year.

A senior member of the Lodge should be appointed to give a lecture on a specific topic in the module for 15-20 minutes; and the lecture is to be followed by an open forum.

15. *Conducting Lodge of Instruction*

The improvement of one's knowledge in Masonry goes hand in hand with his knowledge of and skill in the basic Masonic rituals. In this light, the SGL has also been tasked to prepare 12 basic lessons on the exact execution of the rituals, including the proper way of opening and closing Blue Lodge meetings, proper handling of implements, floor works, etc.

Each Blue Lodge must organize a team that will conduct the Lodge of Instruction with the 12 lessons prepared by the SGL as guide.

16. *Admitting Quality Members Only*

The Blue Lodges should conduct more vigorous examination of prospective members of our Fraternity in accordance with the Constitution, Regulations and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge of the Philippines. They should make sure that only those who possess the best qualifications are admitted. They should put stress on each candidate's internal rather than his external qualifications. Let us make sure that we accept candidates who are not only physically and mentally fit but also morally and spiritually sound.

Concluding Remarks

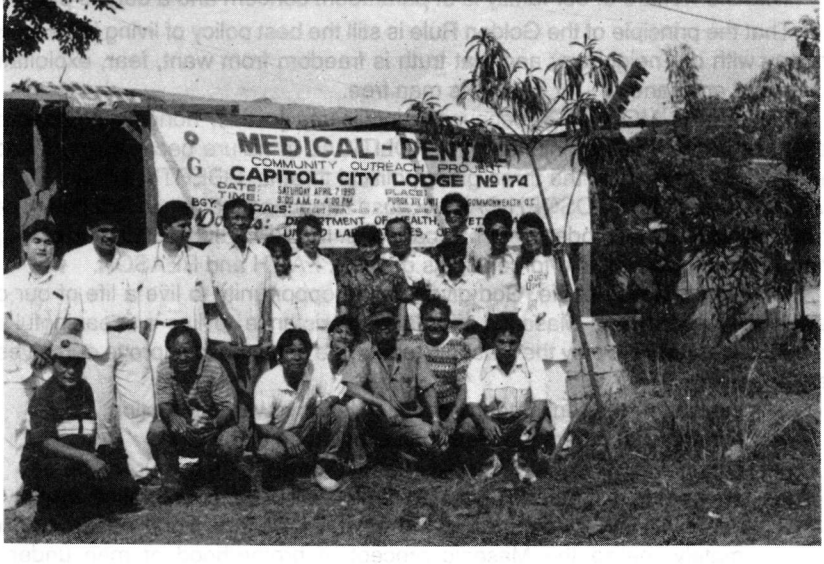
I am sure that you will give me and the other Grand Lodge Officers your all-out support for the 16-point program outlined above. Let us truly make Freemasonry as our way of life, thinking, speaking and acting as veritable Masons worthy of emulation and respect within our families and in our communities. If and when we have accomplished this hard mission, then our Fraternity will regain its prestige and public image, it will attract more members of quality, it will not only endure, but it will prevail.

Motto, we will have none this year. But I want you to always bear this EXHORTATION in mind:

"REFLECT MASONRY IN ALL YOUR DEEDS AND ACTIONS."
Let us SERVE AND SACRIFICE FOR our beloved Fraternity.

JOHN L. CHOA
Grand Master
1990-1991





FREE MEDICAL PROJECT

The Officers and members of Capitol City Lodge No. 174 of Free and accepted Masons of the Philippines led by worshipful Roy M. Chu recently conducted a free medical and dental project at Purok XIV, Unit II of Bgy Commonwealth, Quezon City. This was done in cooperation with the doctors of Quezon City General Hospital and drug donors namely, the Department and Ciba Geigy. About 300 patients benefited from this project.

GRAND ORATION

MASONRY FOR PUBLIC CONSUMPTION

By VW Alberto C. Reyes

I stand before you as a Grand Orator, not to give a Grand Oration as mandated by the nature of the Grand Annual Communication of our Grand Lodge, for there is nothing grand and sublime about my talk, but to express my views and sentiments about Masonry for public consumption. My exposition, therefore, centers on Masonry as can be shared with the public.

One good thing about a public Masonic function is that we unselfishly allow and invite non-Masons to have an insight into what we believe and do, and what we profess to be true and virtuous and worthy of emulation. We want our non-Mason friends, and even those abhorrent and anathema to our Ancient Craft, to know:

That the teachings of Masonry are God-centered;

That the Volume of Sacred Laws (the *Bible* to the Christians, the *Koran* to the Mohammedans or Moslems, the *Pentateuch* to the Hebrews, or the *Sanskirt* to the Buddhists) is the rule and guide of the faith we profess and the religion we practice;

That the welfare of our family is of paramount concern and a duty to perform;

That the principle of the Golden Rule is still the best policy of living in peace and harmony with our neighbors; and that truth is freedom from want, fear, exploitation, abuses and arrogance — for truth sets man free.

Masonry is MORALITY because it inculcates justice, honesty, temperance, charity and forgiveness of injuries. It is POLITICAL in nature because the motto of Freemasonry sums up in the three great political thruths: LIBERTY, EQUALITY and FRATERNITY. It is PHILOSOPHICAL because it teaches that all philosophies, categorized as ancient and modern, are basically one. It is RELIGIOUS in that true religion consists in two powerful and forceful gifts of GOD: FAITH and REASON.

Masonry is a way of life. God gives us the opportunity to live a life of our own freewill and accord, and Masonry affords us assistance to live a meaningful and purposeful life. As we live by the Masonic tenets, we continue to improve ourselves on every aspect by:

- seeking further enlightenment which leads toward perfection;
- sharing with others the blessings showed on us by God;
- cherishing our cultural heritage handed down to us by our forebears;
- supporting and defending the sovereign will of our country, that we may coexist with other countries in the establishment of world peace, and ultimately realize the Masonic precept of brotherhood of men under the Fatherhood of God.

These are complementary components that make Masonry a dynamic factor in making ourselves a Temple, fit-abiding place for the Grand Architect of the Universe.

Masonry is not a short-term course which can be accomplished within three months in the Blue Lodge. Masonry is a continuing education — the more we learn, the more we seek further and get involved in its way of life. We realize the impressive

results — the fruits of our incessant labors — on the basis of what we study and understand and live by the lessons taught and the principles and symbolisms inculcated in the Symbolic Degrees. For it does not profit us to know only our duty — for this philosophy will only make our lives stagnant — but only to do it deserves our Fraternity's warm approbation. The veracity of this statement is complemented by the eminent writer and scholar, Thomas Carlyle, when he stressed his view: "Our main business in life is not to see what lies dimly at a distance, but to do what lies clearly at hand."

As Ill. Bro. Albert Pike, 33° Past Sovereign Grand Commander of The Supreme Council for the Southern Jurisdiction, U.S.A., pointed out: "Duty is with us always, inflexible as Fate, ... exacting as Necessity, ... imperative as Destiny." Duty has as its foundation some form of action. Clearly, it is not enough to know and understand; a Mason must consciously and conscientiously act with decisiveness — not faltering nor wavering, but with firmness and determination.

I believe Masonic involvement should not only be confined within the walls of a Masonic Lodge. It will be a miserable waste if the teachings of Freemasonry will benefit only those within the Craft. If we can project the image of Masonry to a distressed worthy brother Mason, or to his widow and orphan, would it not be a challenging opportunity to share God's blessings with a non-Mason deserving of our attention who is in such a destitute condition? If Masonry is Biblically founded, and this is infallibly true, then the Biblical injunction of "loving our enemies", "blessing those who curse and persecute us", will be more meaningful and relevant in our Masonic life if we let them partake of the fruits of Masonry.

"No man hath a greater love for another than this, that he lay down his life for his fellow." *This* is Biblical and *this* is a Masonic principle. A Mason's concern is for all. No Mason is an island unto himself.

What can we expect from the officers of Masonic Lodges? What will and can they do for the involvement and advancement of their members?

- — conduct regular and special meetings?
- — appoint various committees and require them to submit reports and recommendations for implemention?
- — visit the sick or extend the generosity of the Lodge to a worthy brother who is in distress or destitute condition?
- — conduct continuing Masonic education?
- — perform Masonic funeral rites or memorial services as the need arises?
- — screen applications for membership and conduct investigations?
- — hold elections and installations of officers?

These are normal functions of a Masonic Lodge — standard operating procedures — without which Masonic identity is doubtful. But Masonry far extends beyond thee normal Masonic chores. If, according to Ill. Bro. Henry C. Clausen, 33° Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of California, and Immediate Past Sovereign Grand Commander of The Supreme Council for the Southern Jurisiction, U.S.A., Freemasonry makes a man seek that which is most worthy in the world, exalts the dignity of every person, the human side of his daily activities and the maximum service to humanity, and aids in mankind's search in God's Universe for identity and for destiny, then Masonry has achieved its ultimate goal, that is, mankind's moral, spiritual and intellectual development.

For Masonry may be likened to addiction. Once its teachings merge and blend effectively with our way of life, than it has been truly instrumental in transforming us into better Masons, responsible family men and worthy citizens. In line with this thinking, I quote from the teachings of Ill. Bro. Pike" "The truths of Masonry, like the

truths of religion, are no more of value than the truths of science, except for the fruits they produce in our daily lives. Nay, to know any truth is even a calamity if it is not made to produce the fruits of good deeds and charitable thoughts, and the unselfish sacrifices of heroism and philanthropy."

If, after accepting a responsibility and having been clothed with its dignity and prerogatives, we do not live worthily of the honors bestowed on us, and faithfully and zealously discharge our duties and responsibilities which our office exacts, we are but recreant Masons — Masons in name only — whom indolence, if not ignominy, humiliates and dishonors.

Our Brother General Douglas MacArthur was explicit in stating there is a moral code of Freemasonry that:

- embraces the highest moral laws and will bear the test of any system of ethics or philosophy ever promulgated for the uplifted man;
- its requirements are the things that are right, and its restraints are from the things that are wrong;
- inculcates doctrines of patriotism and brotherly love, enjoys sentiments of exalted benevolence, encourages all that is good, kind and charitable, reprobates all that is cruel and oppressive — that, on the whole, its observance will uplift everyone under its influence;
- to do good to others, to forgive enemies, to love neighbors, to restrain passions, to honor parents, to respect authority, to return good for evil, not to cause anger, not to bear false witness, not to lie, not to steal — these are the essential elements of the moral law found in Freemasonry.

"Ye are the light of the world," said He who wore the crown of thorns and died upon the Cross unto His disciples. "A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick and it giveth light until all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in Heaven."

Needless to say, Freemasonry needs the active involvement of every Mason who is earnestly trying to practice the honored, time-tested principles of the Fraternity in his daily life and, particularly, in his relation with his fellowmen. And the world, in turn, needs, more than ever before, the example of such men — men who are committed and dedicated to these moral precepts and to the preservation of human dignity. Never has there been a greater or more urgent need for men who are striving to practice true brotherhood, and nowhere will you find a greater opportunity to increase your capacity for enlightened service than in Freemasonry.

I close with these gems of Masonic wisdom expressed by a Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania:

"Freemasonry is having a faith to live by;
Freemasonry is being a self to live with;
Freemasonry is having worthy causes to live for;
Freemasonry is never-ending pursuit of excellence."

Thank you and good day.

Never regret yesterday. Life is in your and you make your tomorrow.

POINT AFTER

Samuel P. Fernandez



ANCOM '90 SIDELIGHTS

VW Andrew O. Nocon's bid in Baguio to hold the Ancom '90 at Los Baños was a daring stance. Holding the 74th Annual Communication (Ancom) of the Grand Lodge of the Philippines was not the game for the neophytes, the bravados, the adventurous, and the reckless. What with the two thousand people convening and converging in one place, all prominent citizens of our country and abroad. This called for herculean energy to carry the burden of making the Ancom an experience memorable despite limited amenities that the cities can well provide.

Certainly, members of Makiling Lodge No. 72 of the Masonic District No. 11 had big hearts to resolve that their vision can go higher than the 1,100 meter height of the mountain from where they derived the name of their Lodge. One year of preparation took its toll on the members. As of press time, WB Benito L. Lit, PM, was still in the hospital. Two others suffered exhaustion and fatigue they were not able to witness the Grand Master's installation.

Ancom '90 Committee chose "Pangangalaga sa Kalikasan: Adhikaing Mason", a very timely theme. The citizens of the world's degrading our environment is so alarming that if we are not careful as stewards and husbandmen of Planet Earth we are inviting our own Armageddon. Before the Four Apocalypse fulfill their destructive mission it is our bounden duty to take heed of the gentle moaning of Mother Nature..

April 25, 1990 - Wednesday

At 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon, Past Masters registered for the Grand Guild of Past Masters' 6th Annual Convention. It was evident that the enthusiasm of the 150 delegates was masonically contaminating. PGM Rosendo C. Herrera described the Convention as a "happy and orderly interaction." The warm weather did not dampen the spirit of the fellowship.

With the 244 Lodges under 44 Masonic Districts, 150 delegates is certainly not an encouraging number. If figures speak for themselves our delivery system of our services perhaps needs some review.

WB Thoburn B. Telan observed that the Grand Guild existed for the last six years and yet quite a number of our Past Masters are not aware of what is in store for them as members of the Guild on the grassroot level.

Improving our Guild's masonic clout is in order. Psychologically speaking, Past Masters who are making Masonry as a way of life certainly would just be

happy to participate actively in the Guild's program if given a definite direction and vision.

No doubt the Guild was conceived by PGM Reynato S. Puno to infuse life to those who would like to continue serving the Fraternity on another aspect of service. Past Masters are not Sentinels assigned without the door to reminisce their masonic past.

May I add to the wisdom of the leaders of the Guild that we can design a fitting Certification of Resolutions of Respect for those who had gone before us so the family of the deceased Brother will be aware that even in death we remember his family. Resolutions of Respect patents are given to brethren who have laid down their working tools in many Grand Lodges in the U.S. and Europe.

The Grand Guild of Past Masters' Convention was honored by the attendance of an array of distinguished local and foreign dignitaries: MW Theodore Way GL of China and Sis. Shirley, Bro. John Glendening, District GL of Middle East, under Grand Lodge of Scotland, Bro. Roy Spencer and Sis. Judi - British Municipal Council Past Grand Junior Deacon GL of Hongkong, PGM Raymundo N. Beltran, PGM Reynato S. Puno, GM Nabong, Hon. Macario Ramos, GM DeMolay, PGM Teddy Baldonado and Sis. Tess, RW John L. Choa, RW Jose R. Guerrero, Sis. Ching, PGMs Nelson Tung, George JB Liu, Ian Lin, MW Tommy Weng of the GL of China.

April 26, 1990 - Thursday

Compliments of Andrew O. Nocon, I was billeted at the SEARCA HALL near Baker Hall were the Ancom was held.

WB Bonifacio T. Mercado saw to it that I would be settled near the action. Thanks to Makiling Lodge No. 72 for their foresight.

The laying of the cornerstone for the Heroes Park and the unveiling and wreath-laying of WB Froilan T. Madrinan on the life-size monument of Dr. Jose P. Rizal were impressive. This marked the 100-year celebration of Rizal's membership in the Solidaridad Lodge under the Gran Oriente Español.

The keynote speaker, Sen. Joseph Estrada, was rather dramatic that some brethren were rather taken aback with his nationalistic tirades but nothing of his harangue ever dealt on environmental management.

The Senator opened his keynote speech thus: "... when you think for the Filipino interest, you cannot go wrong. When you decide in favor of the greater majority of Filipinos, there'll be no room for mistakes."

Really? Come on.

In the afternoon came the ritual of roll call of the Grand Lodge Officers, and Past Grand Officers and Blue Lodges followed by a welcome address of the Grand Master and the Grand Oration of VW Alberto C. Reyes which could be better enjoyed by non-Masons but again had nothing to do with the Ancom '90 theme.

The day ended with the Grand Bodies Night where Allied and Appendant Bodies Officers and members participated and gave their respective numbers under the chairmanship of GM Macario Ramos of the DeMolay, Philippines.

The affair would have added color and pageantry had all the Appendant and Allied Bodies come with their uniforms and banners. Perhaps in the next Ancom all Allied and Appendant Bodies can showcase to Masons as well as non-Masons the splendor and kaleidoscopic ceremonial garb of their group and add to the occasion information about their organization.

After the program came the awarding of ten (10) Outstanding Master Masons, Ancom '90 raffle winners, and Most Outstanding Five-Year Development Plans of Blue Lodges.

It was a long but fruitful and fulfilling night. Kudos to GM Mac.

April 27, 1990 - Friday

The day was greeted with a walkathon before going into the serious business of reading and approving the minutes of the 73rd Grand Annual Communication. For those who missed out attending the Ancom certainly denied themselves of the exciting dramatic and sometimes emotional debates that added heat to the very warm atmosphere of the Ancom session hall. The victims of the debate were three Edicts that were consigned into the dustbin of history. VW Fernando Pascua ably sustained his cold logic with stoic stance undeterred by GM Nabong's stout defense.

Take a bow, Nanding.

Hear Ye! Hear Ye! That should be our attitude as members of the Grand Lodge — vanguards all! Ancom is not for wimps and windbags afflicted with travel itch. It is a gathering of leaders with masonic concern for their constituents.

The afternoon was characterized by instant approval of the reports like making coffee. The instant decisions were alarmingly fast creating an impression that the brethren were more interested in electing the Grand Lodge Officers than the tedious task of legislating.

In this age of Glasnost and Perestroika, the effect of Edict after Edict on election conduct has at last given us one candidate for GM, one for DGM, one for SGW, one for Grand Secretary, and one for Grand Treasurer with five nominated candidates for Junior Grand Warden by the PGMs. We had a very disciplined election. Election!

I will not make an editorial comment on this very sensitive area of concern but reading once more the Uniform Code of By-Laws pertaining to the election of our Officers in the Blue Lodge, which provides that it be read three times a year, makes us wonder why is the requirement of the sanctity of election enforced for Blue Lodges only???

On the 100th year Anniversary of Rizal's being a Mason our GM, (to whom our Executive Editor appendages the title "A Man with the Midas Touch") had his historic inauguration at the Baker's Hall of the University of the Philippines (Los Baños).

Thus ended the 74th Annual Communication with the promise that we will have another encounter of another kind in Bacolod, come Ancom '91.

We came down the mountain wiser. If there were lessons to learn it was

that while it was wonderful to fellowship and renew acquaintances certainly Ancom is never a picnic. It is work, work, and more work.

-oOo-

What happened to the Ancom '90 theme?

Except for the ritual and ceremonial tree planting it is all gone with the wind.

-oOo-

Sorry, Mother Earth. Maybe next time.

The Brief Story of Man's Life

Ruth D. Fernandez, Ph.D., Ed.D.

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth
And God saw that it was good
God put man in the garden and said,
"Till it and KEEP IT"
Man occupied the earth and multiplied
And man enjoyed the earthly good.

On the second day, man said
Strip the virgin forests of trees for human settlements
Let us make *kaingin* for more farm production
Let us use inorganic fertilizers and pesticides
Urban and rural communities sprouted and agricultural crops bloomed
And man felt his accomplishments were good.

On the third day, man said
Let us utilize logs for industrial complexes
Produce land, air and sea transport for commercial activities
Let us export our natural resources for added capital
Electric-power plants mushroomed and technology flourished
And man said things were materially good.

On the fourth day man said,
Acquire more sophisticated machineries for progress
But man's neighbors envied his fortune and resources
So man sought his other neighbors' assistance
Man's allies gladly installed nuclear plants
And man felt it was safely good.

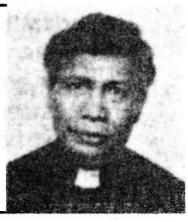
On the fifth day man said,
All our forests are denuded, we have extinct marine life
Our waterdams are dry and waterways clogged
We have frequent brownouts and nothing to drink
We cannot even produce sufficient food
Man continued his wanton toils but prayed for things to be good.

On the sixth day man asked
Why is it intensely hot and why the smog?
Why do we have flush floods and acid rain?
Why the high incidence of cancer and respiratory diseases?
Why is everything wrong in our planet earth?
Man questioned God why things were ghastly good.

On the seventh day man perished
No living creature was found in his planet
No plants or rivers were visible to cool his heated earth
The garden God created was a pitiable wasteland
God said to man's carcass
What good should you have done?

HARVEST

By J. Flor R. Nicolas (eF.R.eN)



A SENIOR WARDEN'S POEM

The poem given below, from *The Maine Mason,* Vol. 17, No. 3 (Winter 1990), reinforces the Grand Lodge's theme this Masonic Year — "Masonry: A Way of Life."

Positive "Yes" and Negative "No"

- Bro. John K. Caldwel
  Senior Warden, Deering Lodge No. 183
  Portland

Have we as Masons done all that we can
To support our lodge or our fellow man?
How can we as Masons ever hope to achieve,
If we don't practice those things that we strongly believe?
Those negative thoughts that seem to abound
Should not be planted in our Masonic Ground.
So that our positive thoughts and good deeds will be heard,
Let's all keep planting and spreading the word.
So let's all help to get rid of the negative thought,
And practice those teachings that we all have been taught.
So Positive "Yes," and Negative "No,"
Let's all spread the word and help Masonry grow.

-oOo-

ARE WE INVOLVING OUR LADIES?

I remember that after having been raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason, I was given a Master Mason's diploma and my wife a patent. How appreciative she was!

Yet along the way like many of my brethren, I have failed to get her deeply involved in Masonic activities. This year, then, I'll see to it that she will get involved.

Says an article reprinted in *The Canadian Freemason* (October 1989): "Increasingly, lodges will need to make their ladies feel that they are an important part of our Masonic structure. Yes, more than ever before we need their support and their loyalty. Social activities promoting this attitude should not only be encouraged by all lodges, but also should be continually updated..."

The same article gives the views of a Mason's widow honored by the ladies of the brethren of the Lodge. The widow said:

> During the year I know my husband spoke a great deal about the importance of sharing Masonic values. For him, it is a way of life, and a

vital adjunct to his spiritual beliefs. I realize more and more how very important this has been to my family and myself. The most important things start in the home, and I know that the quality of life we have enjoyed is due in great part to the fact that my husband is a member of this Craft... I remember well those early days, busy with young children... I would be less than honest if I didn't admit to more than few twinges of resentment at that time.

For me, the years passed very quickly. Later, I had time to evaluate our life, and in retrospect found something very interesting: because my husband is a Freemason we have enjoyed a more excellent quality of life... his practice of Masonic values started at home, and for this reason he has been a loving husband and father, a true brother and friend to many. So to all wives I would say, encourage your husband in his lodge activities, for in the long run you and your family will be the winners. He is doing it for you, and your life will be enriched by the precepts he learns there.

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OUTSTANDING EXAMPLE OF THE TRUE MASONIC SPIRIT AT WORK

A Past Master of Saigon Lodge No. 188 wrote "not only to commend you (editor-in-chief) and your staff on the fine job with *The Cabletow,* but to share with you and perhaps others in our jurisdiction of a charitable act that is a display of Masonry in action."

The Past Master is WB Lawrence (Larry) E. Morgan. Although he has not visited Manila since the 1973 Annual Communication, he has been making regular visits to three Lodges that are active in Saudi Arabia under the jurisdiction of the American Canadian Grand Lodge, A.F. & A.M., within the Grand Lodges of Germany, namely: Arabian 882, Nejma 897, and Milo 938.

According to WB Larry, early in 1989 the Senior Warden of Arabian 882 discovered that a Filipino co-worker, Ricky Sambrano, was found terminally ill with cancer but the employer's policy and insurance did not provide for the care of Mr. Sambrano or his family. Thus, the Senior Warden brought the unfortunate condition of Mr. Sambrano to the attention of brethren attending a called communication of Arabian 882. Forthwith Masonry sprang into action. The brethren readily contributed $500 and donated it to Ricky Sambrano's welfare *even though he was not a Mason!*

Upon receipt of Arabian 882's donation, Ricky was discharged from employment for medical reasons and repatriated to the Philippines, where he died shortly later.

Milo Lodge, meanwhile, got wind of Mr. Sambrano's misfortune and Arabian Lodge's benefaction. It also donated an unsolicited amount of $500 to Mr. Sambrano's family and forwarded the check to Arabian 882 for action.

On behalf of Arabian 882 and Milo 938, WB Larry Morgan acted as liaison with our Grand Lodge's office to request that they ensure the donation's safe delivery. Without hesitation, RW Bro. Alejandrino A. Eusebio, accompanied by VW Bro. Rene Damian and Bro. Takur Sharma of Noli Me Tangere No. 148 (now No. 42), called on Mrs. Nenita Sambrano in Valenzuela, Bulacan. She was not at home but later called on RW Bro. Eusebio in his office to accept the badly needed assistance.

RW Bro. Eusebio assisted the widow in processing the cashier's check through the bank.

Stated WB Caleb L. Johnson, W.M. of Arabian 882, in *Trestle Board Communicator:* "On behalf of the Sambrano family, Arabian Lodge Number 882 personally thanks all the brethren from Milo Lodge Number 938 who contributed to this worthy cause as well as the Grand Lodge of the Philippines for the time and effort made by their Grand Secretary to ensure the contribution was safely delivered."

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"MIRROR, MIRROR, ON THE WALL"

WB Larry Morgan also enclosed a copy of *The Nejma Traveler* (October-November 1989), which credits an article "Mirror, Mirror, on the wall" as sourced from *The Cabletow.* We are flattered.

But, honestly, this columnist was just quoting RW Bro. Norman J. Senn, editor of the *Grand Lodge of Alberta Bulletin.* It is he who deserves the credit.

By the way... our Saigon Lodge brethren and others who know WB Larry Morgan may want to get in touch with him. His address is:

c/o ARAMCO Box 5570
Dhahran 31311
Saudi Arabia

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THE YEAR OF THE CHILD

"Wherever possible, our charitable gestures will be directed towards the relief of sick or distressed children. What more noble cause can be undertaken than to improve the quality of life of needy children. When writing our check for Lodge dues this year, please remember to include something for the children. When travelling, keep your eyes and ears open for charitable opportunities. Help us to help those who cannot help themselves."

That statement of WB Bob Boswell, W.M. of Nejma Lodge No. 897, may as well be the appeal of our new Grand Master, MW John L. Choa, in behalf of the Masonic Charities for Crippled Children.

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CAN WE DO SIMILARLY?

The Grand Lodge of England is open to the public everyday, except Sundays and public holidays. Everyday the public visit the Grand Lodge of England Library & Museum, which has a permanent exhibit on the history of English Freemasonry.

The Philippine Lodge of Research, which was recently constituted, may as well adopt that practice.

The Fall 1989 issue of the *Trowel,* magazine of the Grand Lodge of Masons in Massachusetts, USA, underscores the role of the Grand Lodge Library as source of learning for the past 175 years. The Masons in that jurisdiction frequent the library of their Grand Lodge, not to play chess therein, but to know more about, so that they can do more for, their Fraternity. Surely, we can do that, too!

Moreover, when reading official Masonic publications sent to us by foreign jurisdictions, one invariably gets the impression that the Blue Lodges in those jurisdictions fully support their respective Grand Lodge magazines or newsletters by regularly

reporting their newsworthy activities to the said publications. Why, our Blue Lodges can certainly do a similar thing in regard to their Grand Lodge's official publication, *The Cabletow.*

We therefore expect the District and Blue Lodge correspondents to *The Cabletow* to do their job.

Books about Freemasons and Freemasonry are donated by Lodges of foreign jurisdictions to public libraries, thereby making the public know more and understand more the Masonic fraternity. Let's do similarly!

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NEEDED: MORE MASONIC LIGHT

Truly, as enunciated in the editorial of *Haboneh Hahofshi,* Vol. 52, No. 1, of the Grand Lodge of Israel, one of Freemasonry's most pressing needs at this time is for more Masonic Light, more Masonic teaching. After all, as Kant puts it, "Man is only what education makes of him." A statement written in 1881, unfortunately, still applies today: "Masons, as a rule, do not read Masonic literature."

If we do not cherish Masonic literature, who will?

It is a must, therefore, that we continuously deepen our Masonic understanding because the more we know about our order, the deeper will be our bonds to it and the more we will be actively and devotedly involved in Masonic endeavors.

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HOW TO HAVE A SUCCESSFUL LODGE EVENING

If we want to have a successful Lodge evening, admonishes RW Bro. Leon Zeldis, Past Grand District Superintendent of the Grand Lodge of Israel, observe the following:

1. Bring to the Lodge good humor, graciousness towards our brother's foibles, and genuine desire to learn and to teach.
2. Avoid arguments between brethren during the work; bad lodge manners, such as banter, shouting, and giving unrequested advice; and careless ritual work.
3. Observe punctuality, proper dress and pleasant atmosphere.
4. Memorize ritual through repetition, reinforcement, and rehearsal. Repetition — learning bit by bit, one sentence at a time, and repeating it until we can say it in our sleep, hypnotized, or watching our favorite tv serial. Reinforcement — saying it aloud, taping it and playing it back on our car radio. Rehearsal — getting it all together over over the ritual in groups, perhaps two or three officers at a time, then having one final go-through with all the officers together. In this connection, one Brother should be appointed to act as The King's Prompter, whose task is to whisper the lines to anybody who forgets his part.

Concludes RW Bro. Zeldis: "Coming to the Lodge should be fun! Let's all do our best to make it so."

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WHY THE IONIC PILLAR IS PRESENTED TO THE W.M.

What a good man and good Mason WB Martin J. Goodman, PM of Silver Jubilee Lodge No. 5535 in London, England, is! He is now confined to the wheelchair; yet he is very active in two Lodges.

In the *Newsletter of Lodge of the Holy Land 50,* WB Goodman informs us that in some constitutions the three principal officers of the Lodge, on being installed, are presented with their respective pillars: the W.M. with the Ionic, the S.W. with the Doric, and the J.W. with the Corinthian. These pillars, as you may already know, symbolize Wisdom, Strength and Beauty, respectively.

Explains WB Goodman: "King Solomon was famed for his wisdom, above all other qualities. With his wisdom he brought happiness and harmony to his kingdom. The W.M.'s chair is known as the throne of King Solomon, since the Master is expected to rule his Lodge with wisdom, maintaining peace, love and harmony. Hence, our founding fathers chose the Ionic Pillar as representative of the Wisdom embodied in the Worshipful Master."

We pray that all Worshipful Masters in this jurisdiction give justice to the Ionic Pillar's symbolism.

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PSA OFFICERS INSTALLED

The officers of the Philippine Shrine Association (PSA) were recently installed at the Ambassador Hotel, Mabini St., Ermita, Manila.

Installed were" Rene C. Damian, president' Roy Worstell, vice president; Teodulo"Joe" D. Yap, treasurer; Francis M. Lovero, secretary; Cesar Mendoza, auditor; Benny Joco, chaplain; Rene R. Cruz, p.r.o.; and Teddy Espiritu, marshal.

MW Bro. Rudyardo V. Bunda, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines and former president of the PSA, was installing officer; master of ceremonies was RW Bro. Alejandrino, immediate past Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge.

The PSA is composed of: Maginoo Shrine Oasis, head by Romeo S. Musngi; Saigon Shrine Oasis, by Rene R. Cruz; Mabuhay Shrine Oasis, by Benny Joco; Mt. Arayat Shrine Oasis, by Gerald Miiller; Caite Shrine Oasis, by Teddy Espiritu; Bamboo Shrine Oasis, by Lucas Ty; Cordillera Shrine Oasis, by Dick Villena, Jr.; and Makati Shrine Oasis, by Enrique Locsin.

Conspicuously present during the affair were Nobles Juan C. Nabong, John L. Choa, and Jose R. Guerrero, immediate PGM, incumbent GM, and incumbent DGM of the Grand Lodge, respectively.

"Let us continue our quest for a Philippine Shrine Temple," the newly installed PSA president said even as he appealed for unity among the different Oases.

The different Oases under the PSA helped approximately 200 crippled/ burned children, as well as severa' harelip cases, in the past year.

NEWS UPDATES • NEWS UPDATES • NEWS

GRAND GUILD OF PAST MASTERS CONVENTION— "A HAPPY AND ORDERLY INTERACTION"

Very evident was the enthusiasm of the delegates to the Grand Guild of Past Masters Convention held April 25, 1990 at Los Baños, Laguna. The warm weather did not dampen the spirit of the 150 Past Masters who attended the post-convention fellowship, which was highlighted by heartful native dances performed by the officers and members of Makiling Lodge No. 72 and their ladies.

The occasion was graced by an array of distinguished local and foreign dignitaries like the following:

MW Theodore Way of the Grand Lodge of China and Sis. Shirley; Bro. John Glendening, District Grand Lodge of the Middle East, under the G.L. of Scotland; Bro. Roy Spencer, British Municipal Council/Past Grand Junior Deacon, G.L. of Hongkong, and his lady, Sis. Judi; MW Nelson Tung; MW George JB Liu; MW Ian Lin, PGM, and Sis. Tess; GM Macario Ramos of DeMolay; RW (now MW) John L. Choa; and RW Joe Guerrero.

Sis. Ching, wife to Grand Guild President MW Rosendo C. Herrera, was there to receive the delegates.

Said MW Herrera: "Undoubtedly, the Past Masters, the pillars of Masonry, have realized their dream to bind themselves as one, to strengthen their role in the fraternity, and to safeguard the dignity of the Craft."

CONFEDERATION OF GRAND MASTERS OF MASONS IN ASIA-PACIFIC ELECTS OFFICERS

Elected officers during the annual conference of the Confederation of Grand Masters of Masons in Asia-Pacific held at the Champagne Saloon of the Manila Hotel, April 24,1990, were: MW Rosendo C. Herrera, PGM (Philippines), President; MW Ian Lin, PGM (China), Vice President; MW Reynato S. Puno, PGM (Philippines), Secretary; and MW Chester L. Ditto, PGM (Japan), Treasurer.

The Confederation hopes to: (1) enhance Freemasonry in Asia-Pacific by fostering, promoting and strengthening the understanding and cooperation among the Grand Masters, Past Grand Masters and their respective jurisdictions and elsewhere throughout the world; (2) discover, research, study, develop and implement ways, means and methods of unifying and solidifying the Masonic Brotherhood in Asia-Pacific; (3) establish centers of Masonic learning and Lodges of research for the instruction and enlightenment of the Masonic Brotherhood in Asia-Pacific; and (4) produce and publish magazines, papers, books and other publications to disseminate Masonic news, information, teachings and articles of significance to the Masonic Brotherhood in Asia-Pacific.

To pursue the above objectives the Confederation decided to undertake a book project, which will feature a detailed history of each Grand Lodge in Asia-Pacific. MW Reynold S. Fajardo, PGM, was chosen overall chairman of the project.

Tentatively, the next annual conference will be held in Tokyo, March 14,1991.

Said the President-elect of the Confederation: "I am certain that with this kind of determination on our part, we shall be able to, slowly but surely, realize the objectives of the confederation. I trust that our other brothers in the Asia-Pacific region will soon join hands with us in making this part of the world truly united, Masonically.

TEMPLE BUILDERS CLUB ELECTS NEW OFFICERS

MW Rosendo C. Herrera, incumbent Grand Secretary and Grand Past Masters Guild of the Philippines President, was elected president of the Temple Builders Club. He succeeded MW Raymundo N. Beltran, PGM.

Bro. Bonifacio Tong was elected vice president; Bro. Mariano Sih, treasurer; VW Henry Koa, 1-C DGL, secretary; Bro. William "Bill" Webb, chaplain; RW Jose Guerrero, DGM, p.r.o.; and VW Alfred Li, 1-B DDGM, business manager.

MW John L. Choa, 1988-89 TBC president and incumbent Grand Master, attended the meeting, one feature of which was a sumptuous dinner.

The Grand Master's proposal that the TBC trust funds be made available for use by the Grand Lodge for the completion of the new Grand Lodge Temple this year was unanimously approved by the members present.

GM GETS BUSY IN MAY

While the Blue Lodges focused on Lodge Management, the new Grand Master, MW John L. Choa, concentrated on the management of the Grand Lodge during the first month of his term.

On May 8 he met with the Masonic Charities for Crippled Children (MCCC) Board, and the following day he had an organizational meeting at Bungalow Restaurant near the Plaridel Masonic Temple.

On May 10 he had a meeting with the Building Commission.

He attended the meeting of the Board for General Purposes in the afternoon of May 15. On May 19 he and his party departed for Lupao, Nueva Ecija for the ground breaking of the Lodge site for Molave Lodge No. 261.

On May 24 he attended the meeting of the Temple Builders Club at the new Grand Lodge Temple Bldg.

On May 25 he met with Manila Bodies at the Scottish Rite Temple on Taft Avenue. On May 26, together with his party, he left for Talugtug, Nueva Ecija for the ground breaking of the Lodge site for Mt. Amurung Lodge No. 264.

On May 27 he motored to Bataan and Zambales to attend the meeting of District No. 8 Council. Then on May 30 he was at Ambassador Hotel, where Bamboo Shrine held its meeting.

JUNE, TOO, IS A BUSY ONE FOR MW BRO. JOHN

On the 5th he visits his mother Lodge, Manila-Mt. Labanon Lodge No. 1 and on the 6th he pays Mencius Lodge No. 93 a visit.

On the 7th he meets with the Technical Committee and flies to Tawi-Tawi on the 9th for the constitution and institution of Bud Bongao Lodge.

On the 11th he meets with the MCCC Board. He leads the Grand Lodge in joining the celebration of Independence Day at Kawit, Cavite on the 12th.

On the 13th he meets with ACACIA Mutual Aid Society. On the 14th he attends the meetings of the Technical Committee, the Board for General Purposes, and the Temple and Building Committee.

On the 16th he flies south once more for the institution and installation of Catanduanes Island Lodge.

June 19 being Rizal Day, MW John goes to Calamba, Laguna.

On the 21st he again meets with the Technical Committee.

From June 22 to July 1 he makes his visitation of Lodges/Districts overseas.

LAYING OF LODGE TEMPLE CORNERSTONE

On May 19, 1990 MW Bro. John L. Choa, accompanied by Grand Lodge officers such as VW Benito Ty, VW Lucas Ty, VW Jorge Roque and VW Danny Angeles, laid the cornerstone for the Temple of Molave Lodge No. 261 at Lupao, Nueva Ecija. VW Bro. Isagani E. Velarde and other District Officers as well as the officers and members of the host Lodge participated in the solemn affair.

"I am confident that with everyone cooperating the Temple thus envisioned will in due time rise in this site," the Grand Master stated. He reminded the brethren in regard to the uniform construction of a Temple.

The lunch and fellowship at the residence of the DGGM was capped by the receipt and acknowledgment of donations and pledges.

On May 26 the Grand Master and his party motored to Talugtug, Nueva Ecija for the laying of the cornerstone of the Temple of Mt. Amurong Lodge No. 264. The Lodge site is on a hill near the Catholic church.

WB Hon. Jose Dizon, Mayor of the Municipality of Guimba, Nueva Ecija, hosted the luncheon.

After the luncheon the Grand Master proposed to the brethren that he shall issue an edict to have Nueva Ecija divided again into two districts.

"But this time", he pointed out, "the division is temporary. The permanency and other matters related thereto shall be discussed at the joint district convention on November 3, 1990."

OUTSTANDING MASTER MASONS
1989-1990

- Reynato S. Puno (Judiciary)
  * Chairman, 12th Division, Court of Appeals

- Oscar E. Florendo (Military) — Posthumous
  * AFP Commanding General - Civil Relations

- Antonio G. Dumlao (Education)
  * Higher Education Director for many years (MECS/DECS)

- Honorio De Leon Carreon (Medicine)
  * Dedicated his services to the Mary Johnston Hospital for Crippled Children

- Jose L. Lipa (Sports)
  * Many times official coach of the National Basketball Team

- Francisco V. Aniag (Legislature)
  * Energetic congressman of Bulacan

- Domingo T. Chua (Foreign Services)
  * Representative to the Grand Lodge of China for many years

- Ramon P. Binamira (Public Services)
  * Former Director, Department of Tourism

- Raymundo Yu, Jr. (Business)
  * 1st and highest-ranking Asian Official of the Merriel Lynch Int'l Bank

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***Outstanding District Deputy Grand Master
- PETER LIM LOSUY, Masonic District No. 17

***Outstanding Worshipful Masters
- Benito T. Ty #1
- Jimmy C. Ting #184

***Outstanding Lodge
- Manila-Mt. Lebanon Lodge No. 1

***Outstanding District
- Masonic District No. 9-A

LIST OF GRAND LODGE OFFICERS

Grand Master	John L. Choa
Deputy Grand Master	Jose R. Guerrero
Senior Grand Warden	Agustin Mateo
Junior Grand Warden	Rizal Aportadera
Grand Treasurer	Rudyardo V. Bunda, PGM
Grand Secretary	Rosendo Herrera, PGM
Asst. Grand Treasurer	Cristino Lim
Asst. Grand Secretary	Bienvenido Ongkiko
Grand Orator	Cesar Francisco
Grand Chaplain	Fernando Manas
Grand Marshal	Jorge Roque
Grand Standard Bearer	Benito Ty
Grand Sword Bearer	Samuel P. Fernandez
Grand Bible Bearer	Henry Locsin
Senior Grand Lecturer	Danilo Angeles
Junior Grand Lecturers	
Luzon	Ernesto Malapaya
Visayas	Antonio Ko
Mindanao	Benjamin Geli
Overseas	Dennis Provencher
Senior Grand Deacon	Napoleon Soriano
Junior Grand Deacon	Rene Damian
Senior Grand Steward	Rufino Yao
Junior Grand Steward	Cirilo Alfonso
Grand Pursuivant	Lucas ty
Grand Organist	Raymundo Yu, Jr.
Grand Tyler	German Esguerra, Jr.

BOARD FOR GENERAL PURPOSES

President	Raymond E. Wilmarth, PGM
Member	Damaso C. Tria, PGM
Member	Jolly R. Bugarin, PGM
Member	Rosendo C. Herrera, PGM
Member	Reynato S. Puno, PGM
Member	Reynold S. Fajardo, PGM
Member	Raymundo N. Beltran, PGM
Secretary	Jose R. Guerrero

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS

District No.	
1-A	- ROBERT PE LIAO
1-B	- ALFRED LI
1-C	- RAMON GO
2.	- LEON A. BANEZ, JR.
3.	- EDILBERTO CARRABACAN

4.	-	ERNESTO S. CUA
5.	-	FEDERICO I. PARAGAS
6-A	-	ILDEFONSO CRUZ
6-B	-	ISAGANI VELARDE
7.	-	RENE F. HENSON
8.	-	SERAFIN Q. ROMAN
9-A	-	ROGELIO P. TALASTAS
9-B	-	RAUL LAMAN
10.	-	REGALADO MANIMTIM
11.	-	RODOLFO SORIANO
12.	-	RICARDO T. TAN
13.	-	EUGENE ONG
14.	-	TOMMY QUE
15.	-	JOSE M. ASTURIAS
16.	-	PABLO KO
17.	-	PETER LIMLOSUY
18.	-	ROMEO A. YU
19.	-	PEDRO CHUA
20.	-	DOUGLAS NAKAMURA
21.	-	JOHN B. DAVIS
22.	-	JAMES B. KING
23.	-	LEONARDO CHUA
24.	-	GEORGE CHUA CHAM
25.	-	HENRY CO DY
26.	-	CHUA YU SING
27.	-	CARLITOS MAGNO
28.	-	JAIME CONCEPCION
29.	-	AMADO GO
30.	-	GEORGE F. KRAUSE
31.	-	ANDONI T. DUMLAO
32.	-	EDGARDO LOPEZ
33.	-	NELSON L. TE
34.	-	WILLIAM BOZEL, JR.
35.	-	JESUS K.V. CELLONA
36.	-	ELLIZER SEVILLE
37.	-	JOVEN CHUA
38.	-	BECKER YOUNG
39.	-	EMMANUEL DAGUMAN
40.	-	PHILIP L. GERENIA, SR.

DISTRICT GRAND LECTURERS

1-A	-	MARIANO T. LICAUCO
1-B	-	EDUARDO Y. LACHICA'
1-C	-	HENRY KOA
2.	-	JOHN B. DUCLAN, SR.
3.	-	ROMUALDO BEDIONES
4.	-	JOSEFINO CACHOLA

5.	-	JOSE B. HUBILLA, JR.
6-A	-	TEODORO MENDOZA
6-B	-	ANDRES S. GARCIA
7.	-	RICHARD DEE TAN, SR.
8.	-	CESAR S. ZUNIGA
9-A	-	PROTACIO L. DEPAKAKIBO
9-B	-	GERARDO A. LUSTRE
10.	-	EDGARDO REYES/ALFONSO DUALAN
11.	-	LEANDRO BALQUIEDRA
12.	-	LEONARDO I. BUENDIA
13.	-	SANTIAGO TURINGAN
14.	-	MODESTO RICO/ROBERT CHING
15.	-	SALVADOR SANTIAGO, JR.
16.	-	LEONARDO LIM/ADRIANO MONTES
17.	-	ALFREDO MENDOZA
18.	-	EDUARDO A. GALLARDO
19.	-	RODOLFO C. MAADIL
20.	-	LESLIE MORENO
21.	-	DONALD R. KARR
22.	-	ROBERT A. BERRY
23.	-	FELIPE SALVADOR
24.	-	JOSE SANTOS
25.	-	SOTERO TRINIDAD
26.	-	PIO ELEVAZO
27.	-	MARZO B. AGARAO
28.	-	ALFREDO P. BIHIS
29.	-	FRANCISCO C. SUMAT
30.	-	ANTHONY S. VASCONCELLOS
31.	-	RONALD T. ANG
32.	-	EDGAR V. GRAPA
33.	-	RUFINO SERIL
34.	-	AMADO ARNAIZ
35.	-	LEODEGARIO M. ESCOILLO
36.	-	FRANCISCO RAVANILLA
37.	-	NESTOR C. PANLAQUE
38.	-	OSCAR O. ABUZO
39.	-	ABRAHAM V. NAZARENO
40.	-	FLORESTO B. FLORENDO

It is not where you serve but how you serve!

GRAND LODGE COMMITTEES

COMMITTEE ON BUDGET

RW Jose R. Guerrero, DGM	— Chairman
MW Rudyardo V. Bunda, PGM, GT	— Vice Chairman
MW Rosendo C. Herrera, PGM, GS	— Member
RW Agustin V. Mateo, SGW	— Member
VW Lucas T. Ty	— Member
WB Celestino Yokingco	— Member
WB Generoso B. Opina	— Member

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

WB Roberto P. Ocampo	— Chairman
WB Bayani Ibarrola	— Vice Chairman
VW Norberto San Mateo	— Member
VW Leandro B. Balquedra	— Member
WB Geronimo Martin	— Member
WB Mario Vicente	— Member
Bro. Reynato S. Macalalag	— Member
Bro. Bartolome Q. Quintana	— Member

COMMITTEE ON ACCOUNTS

VW Lucas T. Ty	— Chairman
WB William Webb	— Vice Chairman
VW Eliezer Rodriguez	— Member
WB Mariano Sih	— Member
WB Andres Tan	— Member
VW German Esguerra	— Member

COMMITTEE ON JURISPRUDENCE

MW Raymundo N. Beltran, PGM	— Chairman
VW Cesar D. Francisco	— Vice Chairman
VW Jesus F. Guerrero	— Member
VW Amante Alconcel	— Member
VW Francisco Ibay	— Member
VW Rodrigo Y. Arandia	— Member
WB Nathanael M. Grospe	— Member
WB Tomas O. del Castillo	— Member

WB Teodoro Bay	— Member
WB Jesus Elbinias	— Member

COMMITTEE ON REVISION OF THE CONSTITUTION

MW Reynato S. Puno, PGM	— Chairman
MW Raymundo N. Beltran, PGM	— Vice Chairman
VW Jesus F. Guerrero	— Member
VW Cesar D. Francisco	— Member
VW Fernando V. Pascua, Jr.	— Member
VW Rodolfo Beltran	— Member
VW Ernesto Uy	— Member
WB Abelardo L. Aportadera	— Member

COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION OF LODGES

RW Jose R. Guerrero, DGM	— Chairman
RW Agustin V. Mateo, SGW	— Vice Chairman
RW Rizal D. Aportadera, JGW	— Member
VW Danilo D. Angeles	— Member
VW Mabini Hernandez	— Member
VW Benito T. Ty	— Member
VW Henry Koa	— Member
VW Ernesto Uy	— Member
WB William Webb	— Member
WB Rogelio Fuentes	— Member
VW Bienvenido G. Ongkiko	— Member

COMMITTEE ON GRIEVANCES

MW William H. Quasha, PGM	— Chairman
MW Raymond E. Wilmarth, PGM	— Vice Chairman
MW Reynato S. Puno, PGM	— Member
MW Jolly R. Bugarin, PGM	— Member
MW Reynold S. Fajardo, PGM	— Member
VW Jesus F. Guerrero	— Member

COMMITTEE ON CORRESPONDENCE

MW Rosendo C. Herrera, PGM, GS	— Chairman
MW Rudyardo V. Bunda, PGM, GT	— Vice Chairman
RW Jose R. Guerrero, DGM	— Member
VW Eliezer Rodriguez	— Member
VW Manuel O. Obligacion	— Member
WB Generoso B. Opina	— Member
WB Rey Banaag	— Member
WB Richard S. Hart	— Member

COMMITTEE ON RETURNS

RW Jose R. Guerrero, DGM	— Chairman
RW Agustin V. Mateo, SGW	— Vice Chairman
RW Rizal D. Aportadera, JGW	— Member
VW Agerico V. Amagna, Jr.	— Member
VW Bienvenido G. Ongkiko	— Member

COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS

VW Agerico V. Amagna, Jr.	— Chairman
VW Antonio Ko	— Vice Chairman
VW Franklin Demonteverde	— Member
VW Peter Lim Lo Suy	— Member
VW Benito T. Ty	— Member
VW Joven Chua	— Member
VW Becker Young	— Member
VW Ernesto Uy	— Member
VW Alfred Li	Member
VW Ramon Go	— Member

COMMITTEE ON WORKS

VW Danilo D. Angeles	— Chairman
VW Eduardo P. Gonzales, Jr.	— Vice Chairman
VW Fernando V. Pascua, Jr.	— Member
RW Alejandrino A. Eusebio	— Member
VW Jose R. Justiniani	— Member
VW Ernesto Uy	— Member
VW Amante Alconcel	— Member
VW Ernesto Malapaya	— Member
VW Jorge Roque	— Member

COMMITTEE ON BY-LAWS

MW Reynato S. Puno, PGM	— Chairman
MW Jolly R. Bugarin, PGM	— Vice Chairman
VW Jesus F. Guerrero	— Member
VW Fernando Manas, Jr.	— Member
VW Amante Alconsel	— Member
WB Sergio Bugnot	— Member
WB Nathanael M. Grospe	— Member
WB Dolorsindo Paner	— Member
WB Jesus Elbinias	— Member

COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AFFAIRS

MW Raymundo N. Beltran, PGM	— Chairman
VW Jesus F. Guerrero	— Vice Chairman
VW Fernando Manas, Jr.	— Member

VW Rodolfo Beltran — Member
VW Rodrigo Y. Arandia — Member
VW Francisco Ibay — Member
WB Abelardo Aportadera — Member
WB Nathanael M. Grospe — Member
WB Sergio Bugnot — Member
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WB Macario C. Ofilada, Jr. — Member
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WB Jose C. Tandoc	— Project Engineer

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MW Reynato S. Puno, PGM	— Vice Chairman
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WB Benjamin R. Villanueva	— Member
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WB Nonito Guerrero	— Member
Bro. Fermin C. Rivas	— Member
VW Fernando V. Pascua, Jr.	— Member

If there is any great secret of success in life it lies in the ability to put yourself in the other person's place and to see things from his point of view as well as your own.

JURISPRUDENCE

Opinion No. 1
Series of 1989

OPINION

The July/August, 1989 issue of **The Cabletow** published among others Circular No. 6, Series of 1989 — Nabong Jr., which referred to matters approved during the 73rd ANCOM. However, "D. Resolutions Approved:" failed to include approval of the second part of Resolution No. 88.3.

During the plenary session of the 73rd ANCOM in Baguio City, the Committee on Resolutions presented,

> "Resolution No. 88-3 to consider as withdrawn masonic charges filed with the Blue Lodge and/or the Grand Lodge and which have not been acted upon or given due course after three (3) years from the date of filing when the complainant has not taken any positive action within the same period of three (3) years."
>
> The recommendations of the Committee on Resolutions follow:
>
> "We favorably recommend the second part of the resolution, i.e., consider the case withdrawn if complainant fails to prosecute after three (3) years. Three years of inaction means lack of interest.
>
> We do not recommend the first part of the resolution, i.e., consider the case withdrawn if the charge is unacted upon by the blue lodge or the Grand Lodge after three (3) years. Here, the lack of action is not due to the lack of interest of the complainant."

These recommendations were unanimously approved by the brethren present during the plenary session.

Fraternally submitted:

MW RAYMUNDO N. BELTRAN, PGM
Chairman

Members:
VW MABINI G. HERNANDEZ
VW FERNANDO V. PASCUA, JR.
VW RODRIGO Y. ARANDIA
WB NATHANAEL M. GROSPE
VW RAUL A. LAMAN
WB TOMAS O. DEL CASTILLO
WB DOLORSINDO PANER

Opinion No. 2
Series of 1989

OPINION

I. Question: Can an officer of a Lodge particularly the three (3) Lights be charged for unmasonic conduct if found reading a *typewritten decoded monitor* during the opening and closing ceremonies of our meetings and also during degree works?

Answer: What is prohibited and violative of a Master Mason's obligation is to 'write, indite, print, cut, curve, etc. etc. etc. Reading the Monitor from that which is typewritten and decoded is an INDIRECT violation of our Obligation. An officer of a Lodge who reads his lines from a typewritten decoded Monitor ACQUIESCES to the commission of a violation of our Obligation. As such, the three lights (from the question) if charges are substantiated are guilty of unmasonic conduct.

II Question: Will the Charter of a Lodge be arrested if their officers are found guilty of the above stated offense?

Answer: It depends. First, why arrest the Charter of the Lodge its officers are the one who should suffer the consequences for their unmasonic conduct? Second, why should the other brethren be penalized when they have not committed any infraction. With the arrest of a Lodge's Charter, all members including those who have not committed any violation ultimately suffer.

However, if all brethren of the Lodge countenanced the commission of the above offense, the Lodge's Charter should be arrested. Barring this condition only those who violated the Obligation should be penalized.

III Question: What will be the penalty?

Answer: To our mind the penalty will depend on all attendant circumstances which shall be considered after due investigation, with due process.

IV Question: What are the evidences necessary to convict such officers?

Answer:
1. The typewritten decoded Monitor.
2. Testimonies of brethren who witnessed the infraction.

To go deeper on the above questions, many unpleasant facts will be brought into the open. 1) Why were brethren who were not proficient, among others, elected? 2) Why were the three Lights who were not proficient installed? 3) Were certification of proficiency presented during their installation? Someone, somewhere is telling a lie. Before the installation and after their election the Lights should have undergone an examination in the opening and closing of a Lodge and on portions of the lectures. 4) If known by the Lodge Inspector, what has he done to correct the infractions? 5) How about the other brethren, what have they done? What action has the Lodge taken?

Fraternally submitted:

MW RAYMUNDO N. BELTRAN, PGM
Chairman

Members:
MW MABINI G. HERNANDEZ
VW FERNANDO V. PASCUA, JR.
VW RODRIGO Y. ARANDIA
WB NATHANAEL M. GROSPE
VW RAUL A. LAMAN
WB TOMAS O. DEL CASTILLO
WB DOLORSINDO PANER

Re: Power of the Senior Warden to create a committee when presiding as Worshipful Master

Opinion No. 3
Series of 1989

x— — — — — — — — — x

OPINION

Facts: During the stated meeting of Lake Lanao Lodge No. 227 on December 2, 1989, the Senior Warden presided over the Lodge in the absence of the Worshipful Master. During said meeting a letter of objection against a newly initiated candidate was read, and the Presiding Officer (Senior Warden) created a committee to find the veracity of the objection.

Issue: Is it within the power of the Senior Warden, when acting as Worshipful Master, to create a committee to find out the veracity on a letter of objection to a newly initiated candidate?

Position: Article XII, Section 2 of our Ordinances provides: "In the absence of the Master, the Senior Warden shall assume his powers and duties. x x x"
Article XI, Section 1, The Master shall have the power:

(a) x x
(b) x x x
(c) x x x
(d) x x x x
(e) x x x x x
(f) x x x x x x
(g) To perform all acts which by ancient usage are proper and incident to his office and not in contravention with the Constitution, By-Laws, Edicts, Ordinances, or General Regulations of the Grand Lodge or By-Laws of his Lodge."

The above provisions of our Ordinances give power to the Senior Warden to act as Worshipful Master in the absence of the latter. As such Presiding Officer, the Senior Warden may, when circumstances require, create a committee and give instructions as to its functions. Creation of a committee to meet the contingency presented when the Senior Warden was acting as Master of his Lodge, is within his power as the then Presiding Officer.

Fraternally submitted:

MW RAYMUNDO N. BELTRAN, PGM
Chairman

Members:
VW MABINI G. HERNANDEZ
VW FERNANDO V. PASCUA, JR.
VW RODRIGO Y. ARANDIA
WB NATHANAEL M. GROSPE
VW RAUL A. LAMAN
WB TOMAS O. DEL CASTILLO
WB DOLORSINDO PANER

WB Raul Laman wrote a dissenting opinion which is attached herewith.

DISSENTING OPINION

IS THE SENIOR WARDEN CLOTHED WITH AUTHORITY TO CREATE COMMITTEES WHEN HE WAS ONLY PRESIDING FOR AND IN THE ABSENCE OF THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER?

OPINION

The Masonic Law Book provides the following:

ARTICLE XII
THE WARDENS

Sec. 1. The Wardens shall ASSIST the Master in his duties.They discharge those duties which ancient usage has assigned their respective stations.

Sec. 2. In the absence of the Master, the Senior Warden shall assume his powers and duties.

(underscoring ours)

It is clear from the above that the Senior Warden assume all the power and duties of the Master in his absence and therefore is authorized to create a committee.

However, the above provisions of the Masonic Law Book Revised 1984 is contradictory to the THE "OLD REGULATIONS" in 1721 which is a compilation of ancient customs and usages of the Craft prepared by Payne, the second Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of England, to wit;

ART. 11. The Master of a particular Lodge has the right and authority of congregating the members of his Lodge into a Chapter at pleasure, upon any emergency or occurence, as well as to appoint the time and place of their usual forming; and in case of sickness, death or necessary absence of the Master, the Senior Warden shall act as Master pro tempore, if no brother is present who has been Master of the Lodge before; for in that case, the absent Master's authority reverts to the last Master than present, though he cannot act until the said Senior Warden has once congregated the Lodge, or in his absence the Junior Warden.

(underscoring ours)

It is very clear that the Senior Warden in the Old Regulations cannot absolutely assume the power and duties of the Master since the Master's authority reverts back

to immediate past Master of the same Lodge specifically when there is a member or who has been a Master of the Lodge.

Since the Old Regulations forms part of the Ancient Landmarks which must never be altered nor deviated and therefore must prevail upon any innovations or subsequent laws of the Fraternity, the query, therefore, of Bro. Jesus M. Mama, Sr. must be answered in the negative.

The philosophy that Master's authority can never be delegated is the fact that the Worshipful Master's authority is attached to him personally when he is installed as evidence by the installing rites. A Senior Warden is not an installed Master, and therefore is not clothed with the Master's authority. Even the Senior Warden who is a Past Master can not assume the powes and duties of the Master in his absence but reverts back to the most immediate Past Master of the Lodge unless he is the most junior Past Master present or applying the principle of the last shall be the first

RECOMMENDATION:

1. It is highly recommended to the Committee on Jurisprudence to amend Article XII Sec. 2, by submitting a resolution applying the Old Regulations.
2. The Committee on Jurisprudence shall be consulted for any edicts Grand Master's may issue during his term to determine if the same does not countenance the Ancient Landmarks and that all edicts issued shall be confirmed by the Grand Lodge during Annual Communications.

WB RAUL A. LAMAN
Member

IN RE: Meaning of Majority Vote and Effect on the right to vote of a Member in arrears

Opinion No. 4
Series of 1990

OPINION

Various correspondence concerning the conduct of the Annual Election of Officers of High Twelve Lodge No. 82, F.&A.M. were referred to this Committee for opinion.

The material facts summarized from the various correspondence received by the Committee are, as follows:

On December 9, 1989 the Lodge with 39 Members in attendance, held its election of officers. For the position of Worshipful Master the results showed 20 votes garnered by Bro. Andrew Duerme and 19 votes garnered by Bro. Emiliano Sia. With these results, Bro. Duerme was declared elected.

It appears that on December 16, 1989 Bro. Sia requested the Lodge Secretary for a list of the 39 members present during the election of officers and certified to be in good standing by the Lodge Secretary during the Lodge elections held on December 9, 1989.

The list requested by Bro. Sia was furnished him on December 29, 1989 and receipt of the list was duly acknowledged by Bro. Sia in another letter to the Lodge Secretary dated January 19, 1990 with the additional request to be furnished with the official receipt numbers and date of issue, presumably of the dues paid for that year by the 39 members then present were not all qualified or eligible to cast their ballots.

On January 18, 1990 Bro. Sia wrote the Grand Master to declare the December 9th election of officers by the Lodge to be null and void on the ground that the 39 Members then present were not all qualified or eligible to cast their ballots.

On January 22, 1990 Bro. Sia wrote another letter to the Grand Master praying that the election of officers of High Twelve Lodge No. 82 held on December 9, 1989 be declared null and void, and to restrain the Lodge from installing the elected officers scheduled on February 10, 1990 on the following grounds:

a) The number of votes garnered by Bro. Duerme was not a majority vote;
b) Not all the 39 Members then present were qualified to vote or to be voted upon.

It appears that the various correspondence of Bro. Sia were referred to the Very Worshipful DDGM of District No. I-C by the Grand Master for comments.

In his Memo to the Grand Master dated February 19, 1990 the Very Worshipful DDGM of District No. 1-C quoting the provisions of Par. (r) Section 4, (B-Definitions), Article XIX of the Masonic Law Book gave his opinion on the meaning of "majority" as follows:

> "If we apply by sheer mathematical computation the provision of par. (r), Sec. 4 (B) of Art. XIX, *supra* a majority of 39 of the members present will amount to 19.5 and, therefore, it will appear that to validly and legally elect an officer a majority of 20.5 votes must be obtained which is 1/2 plus one (1) of 39. This application of the pertinent provision of the law cited, however, is manifestly absurd in this particular situation because a fraction of .5 cannot be considered as a valid vote or any vote at all as the same specific provision of our masonic law clearly provides that "a fraction shall not be considered in determining a majority." If, therefore, a fraction shall not be considered in determining a majority, then, clearly the majority of 39 must be fixed at twenty (20) votes."

On the matter of the status of the 39 Members present during the lodge election of December 9, 1989 the Very Worshipful DDGM had this to say:

x x x

> "On the second issue and insinuations raised by Bro. Sia to the effect that some of the 39 brethren present were not in good standing and, therefore, could not validly and legally exercise their right to vote and to be voted upon, suffice it to say that not one (1) of the 39 Members present was suspended for non-payment of dues, fees, and other assessments payable to the Grand Lodge, nor disenfranchised, nor convicted of any charge for unmasonic conduct. This was the advise and information given by WB Benjamin Padilla, PM, Secretary of the Lodge."

x x x

> "Even if we concede for the sake of argument that some of the 39 brethren were not current in the payment of their annual dues and other assessments yet, *if none of them has been suspended for non-payment of the same nor disenfranchised, nor convicted of any charge for unmasonic conduct, such members can still validly and legally exercise their right to vote and to be voted into office." (underlining supplied).*

Being in disagreement with the position of the Very Worshipful DDGM of District 1-C whose Memo of February 19, 1990 was duly furnished him, Bro. Sia again wrote to the Grand Master on February 26, 1990 expressing his disagreement.

On the same date, February 26, 1990 Bro. Sia also wrote directly to the Chairman of the Committee on Jurisprudence expressing substantially the same sentiments contained in his previous letters.

On March 01, 1990 the Grand Master referred the above stated various correspondence to his Committee for opinion.

With regard to the definition of the term "majority" as defined in par. (r) Sec. 4, Art. XIX (B-Definitions) of our Ordinances we sustain the view of the Very Worshipful DDGM of Masonic District No. 1-C.

When the number of the Members present in a Lodge is an *even* number, the determination of what constitutes a majority is easy enough. There is, however, some confusion with regard to the determination of what constitutes a "majority" when the number of members present in a Lodge is an *uneven* number.

To clarify once and for all the meaning of "majority" as used in the Masonic Law Book, and lay to rest any further doubt as to the proper interpretation of the definition of the term "majority", we hold that in every situation where the total number of the Members present in the Lodge is an *uneven* number, the majority is the *highest possible tie vote plus 1.*

To illustrate: with 39 Members present, the highest possible *tie* vote is 19. A majority vote necessary to election, or decision requiring a majority vote, will be 20. In another example, if the total number of members present is 11, the "majority" vote is determined by taking the highest possible *tie* vote which is 5, and adding one (1) vote to 5, which will result in the majority vote of 6. In these two (2) examples, 20 votes and 6 votes, respectively, are majority votes, being *more than* 1/2 of the Members present.

With regard to the status of the 39 Members who were present during the annual election of officers of the Lodge, the question of whether or not some Members were in arrears is a question of fact and is a matter that this Committee feels should be best left to the determination of the Lodge concerned.

Nevertheless, with regard to the question of whether a Member who is in arrears can exercise the right to vote during the annual election of officers, Bro. Sia relies for his position on the provisions of Sec. 2, Art. IX, (Part III), Uniform Code of By-Laws for Subordinate Lodges. On the other hand, the Very Worshipful DDGM of District 1-C cites the provision of Par. (p), Sec. 4, Art. XIX, (B-Definitions) Part II — Ordinances for his position that inasmuch as it has not been shown that any of the 39 Members were suspended for non-payment of dues and other assessments, such members can validly and legally exercise their right to vote and to be voted upon into the office.

We disagree with the position taken by the Very Worshipful DDGM of Masonic District 1-C on this matter.

The seemingly conflicting provisions of Par. (p) (Definition of "Good Standing"), Sec. 4, Art. XIX of the Ordinances and the provisions of Sec. 2, Art. IX, of the Uniform Code of By-Laws for Subordinate Lodges is more apparent than real.

It is a rule of statutory construction that provisions of the same statute relating to the same subject should be reconciled, if possible, and be given effect. This rule rests upon the presumption that "When the legislature enacts a provision it has before it all the other provisions relating to the same subject matter which it enacts at that time, whether in the same statute or in a separate act. And experience indicates that a legislature does not deliberately enact inconsistent provisions when it is cognizant of them both, without expressly recognizing the inconsistency." (II Sutherland, 3d p. 544, quoted in "Statutes of their Construction", p. 211 by Luis J. Gonzaga).

In other words, the Committee on the Revision of the Constitution that drafted the present Masonic Law Book and subsequently presented the draft to the 1988 Annual Communication which unanimously approved the draft, is presumed to have found no conflict between the two (2) provisions just cited, and indeed we hold there is none.

The provisions of Sec. 2, Art. IX of the Uniform Code of By-Laws for Subordinate Lodges clearly disallows any Member who is in arrears in the payment of dues, to vote or be eligible to be voted upon for any office.

In the language of Par. (p) (Definition of "Good Standing"), Sec. 4, Art. XIX — Ordinances, a Member in arrears is "disenfranchised" |by Sec. 2, Art. IX of the Uniform Code of By-Laws to vote in the Annual Election of Officers, but it is only for the purpose of exercising the right to vote at the Annual Election of Officers that such a member in arrears may be considered to be not in "Good Standing." In so far as all other Masonic activities of the Lodge is concerned, we hold that said member who is in arrears is still in Good Standing and may legally participate in all other activities of the lodge, *except* to vote or be voted upon in the annual election of officers.

Under Sec. 1, Art. IX of the Uniform Code of By-Laws for Subordinate Lodges, dues of each member are *payable quarterly in advance.* Inasmuch as the annual election of officers of lodges is invariably held in December of each year (which is the last month of the quarter of the year) it is obvious that any member who has not completed payment of his dues at the time of the annual election is considered in arrears, and, as mentioned before, is not eligible to vote or be voted upon during the annual election of officers.

MW RAYMUNDO N. BELTRAN, PGM
Chairman

Members:
VW MABINI G. HERNANDEZ
VW FERNANDO V. PASCUA, JR.
VW RODRIGO Y. ARANDIA
WB NATHANAEL M. GROSPE
VW RAUL A. LAMAN
WB TOMAS O. DEL CASTILLO
WB DOLORSINDO PANER

IN RE: Residence of Petitioner

Opinion No. 5
Series of 1989

OPINION

The Secretary of Meridian Lodge No. 268 of Balanga, Bataan requests our opinion on whether or not a "certain candidate who is a resident of Balanga, Bataan, but working in Saudi Arabia" fulfills the residence requirement for petitioners.

This issue concerns the interpretation of the term "resident"\ found in Sec. 2, Article VI (A) of our Ordinances which provides, among other things, as follows:

> *Section 2,* A petitioner for the degrees must have been a *resident* within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge for *at least twelve (12) months immediately before petitioning and within the jurisdiction of the lodge for at least six (6) months.* (Underlining supplied).

We hold that "resident" here means actual residence, or a place of abode requiring only bodily presence as an inhabitant of a place.

While *"domicile"* and *"residence"* are usually in the same place and are frequently used as if they had the same meaning, they are not identical terms, for a person may have two places of residence but only one domicile. "Residence" means living in a particular locality but "domicile" means living in that locality with intent to make it a fixed and permanent home, and allows absences for an indefinite period if the intent to return (animus revertendi) remains.

From the fact that Section 2, Art. VI (A) of our Ordinances provides for only minimum periods of residence it follows that what is meant is actual "residence" rather than "domicile." The reasons for this requirement are not difficult to fathom. Firstly, the qualifications and fitness of the petitioner can be judged best by the brethren in the jurisdiction where he actually resides. Secondly, a member cannot discharge the duty of attending meetings of the lodge unless he actually resides within its jurisdiction.

If the lodge petitioner subject of this inquiry is presently living in Saudi Arabia under contract but intends to return to Balanga, Bataan after the expiry of his contract, there is no doubt that his *domicile* is Balanga, Bataan although he is a resident of the locality he stays in at Saudi Arabia for purposes of applying the provisions of Section 2, Art. VI (A) quoted before.

Fraternally submitted:

MW RAYMUNDO N. BELTRAN, PGM
Chairman

Members:
VW MABINI G. HERNANDEZ
VW FERNANDO V. PASCUA, JR.
VW RODRIGO Y. ARANDIA
WB NATHANAEL M. GROSPE
VW RAUL A. LAMAN
WB TOMAS O. DEL CASTILLO
WB DOLORSINDO PANER

IN RE: When to Install Lodge Officers

Opinion No. 6
Series of 1989

OPINION

The DDGM of Masonic District No. 14 requests for the correct interpretation of Sec. 2, Article X of our Ordinances providing when to install officers of subordinate lodges, as follows:

> "Sec. 2. They (Master, Wardens, Treasurer and Secretary) shall be installed *on or before the February stated meeting* (of the lodge) x x x." (Underlining supplied).

Among the duties of a subordinate lodge to Grand Lodge is *"To install its officers on or before the stated meeting in February."* (Par. C, Section 2, Article III, Ordinances).

Considering the provisions of our Masonic Law Book quoted above, we hold that the reference here to the February stated meeting of the lodge is to set a time limit based on a specific date, i.e. the February stated meeting of the lodge in accordance with its By-Laws, beyond which the Lodge cannot legally install its officers. The Lodge

therefore may install its officers on any day (except Sunday) within the period commencing on the day immediately following the election of officers (stated meeting) in December and ending on the date of the February stated meeting which is the last day of the period for installation of officers of subordinate lodges.

Fraternally submitted:

MW RAYMUNDO N. BELTRAN, PGM
Chairman

Members:
VW MABINI G. HERNANDEZ
VW FERNANDO V. PASCUA, JR.
VW RODRIGO Y. ARANDIA
WB NATHANAEL M. GROSPE
VW RAUL A. LAMAN
WB TOMAS O. DEL CASTILLO
WB DOLORSINDO PANER

RE: Physical qualification of a petitioner for degrees.

Opinion No. 7
Series of 1989

OPINION

The Petition of Mr. Normal E. Atkinson was returned by the Assistant Grand Secretary on the ground that: "it appearing that Mr. Atkinson is already incapacitated." The basis of the rejection is the Answer of the petitioner to item No. 6 (c) of the Petition, where he stated: "Lack of ability to walk long distances following vehicle accident in 1981."

The Constitution provides:

> "Sec. 1. A petitioner for degrees of Masonry must be a man at least twenty-one (21) years old at the time for the signing of the application, freeborn, a believer in God and future existence, of good moral character, literate and *physically able to conform substantially* to the several degrees required of him and has made adequate provision for himself and for his family in case of death." (Art. VI, underlining supplied)

Mere inability to walk long distances will not necessarily hamper the ability of the petitioner to "conform substantially" with the physical requirements of the conferral of the degrees.

Fraternally submitted:

MW RAYMUNDO N. BELTRAN, PGM
Chairman

Members:
VW MABINI G. HERNANDEZ
VW FERNANDO V. PASCUA, JR.
VW RODRIGO Y. ARANDIA
WB NATHANAEL M. GROSPE
VW RAUL A. LAMAN
WB TOMAS O. DEL CASTILLO
WB DOLORSINDO PANER



MASONIC CHARITIES FOR CRIPPLED CHILDREN

Presentation of wheel chair, courtesy of MW Noble Rosendo C. Herrera, PGM through the Bamboo Shrine Oasis to Ernino Catu an out—patient of the Masonic Ward who was born with out legs. (L - R) VW Noble Robert Liao, Na'ib Shereef VW Noble Lucas T. Ty, Hight Shereef; WB Noble William Webb, Ambassador of Afifi Temple, VW Noble Romeo Malimban (The AFIFI Temple will hold the Shrine Ceremonial this October).

EDICTS

EDICT NO.108

TO: DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS
GRAND MASTER'S DISTRICT LECTURERS
MASTERS AND WARDENS

RECONSECRATION AND REDEDICATION TO THE OBLIGATIONS, IDEALS, AND TENETS OF MASONRY

There is a time when members-brethren of a Lodge reach a point when they must needs to reconsecrate and rededicate themselves to the Obligations they took at the Altar of Masonry and to the ideas, tenets, and mission of the Craft in their lives, in their Lodge, in the community, in the nation for the values of patriotism and nationalism, and in the world as members of a universal fraternal Craft endeavoring to build and hasten the building of a New King Solomon's Temple erected with brotherly love, charity, justice, peace, freedom, tolerance, and humane spirit.

This masonic ceremony of revitalization of masonic lofty spirit is indeed significant and cadenced with all seriousness and starblazed with joy and wonder for once again the Brethren will repeat those Obligations at the Altar before the VSL and renew their vow to conform to and abide by the tenets and teachings of the Ancient and Accepted Craft.

There is, for this purpose, for this event, a masonic ritual and ceremony devised by our Senior Grand Lecturer, VW Eduardo P. Gonzales, Jr., which is most apt and fitting. It is the work of an experienced, capable, and thoughtful ritualist. I know VW Ed Gonzales as I was his Junior Grand Lecturer for three years when he was my Senior Grand Lecturer. His present work is a most important addition to masonic ritual, research, and literature.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JUAN C. NABONG JR., Grand Master of Masons in the Jurisdiction of the Philippines, by virtue of the power in me vested by the Constitution, HEREBY DECREE that, heretofore, in ceremonies of reconsecration and rededication, the ritual and ceremony designed and prepared by VW Eduardo P. Gonzales, Jr., Senior Grand Lecturer, entitled "Reconsecration and Rededication to the Obligations, Ideals, and Tenets of Masonry" shall be adopted, used, and conducted, in private form. Hiram Lodge No. 88 will be the first to use the ritual.

This Edict shall be read in Open Lodge at the Stated Meeting next following its receipt, this action spread in the minutes.

WITNESS MY HAND AND LTHE GREAT SEAL OF THE GRAND LODGE affixed hereto, this 14th day of March, 1990 A.D., 1990 A.L., in the City of Manila, Philippines.

JUAN C. NABONG JR.
Grand Master

EDICT NO.109
THE PHILIPPINE LODGE OF RESEARCH

The dream of forming a Lodge of Research for the Philippine Masonic Jurisdiction has been a see-saw season of resurging intensity at one time and moments of hiatus of apathy and timidity. A few of the Brethren however pursued the noble craft of keeping aflame the Light of Wisdon, Truth, and Enlightenment good for the Fraternity and its Brethren. There is no dearth of masonic researchers, historians, or writers in this Grand Jurisdiction! The vault of research still remains greatly unopened.

Several of our Brethren, men of devotion and dedication to the written craft seek to rekindle once again the flame and joy and the love of masonic research and study.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JUAN C. NABONG JR., Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers in me vested by the Constitution, DO HEREBY DECREE AS IT IS HEREBY DECREED,the constitution of a Lodge of Research in this Jurisdiction to be hereinafter known and referred to as "THE PHILIPPINE LODGE OF RESEARCH" composed of these Brethren:

MW REYNATO S. PUNO, PGM
MW REYNOLD S. FAJARDO, PGM
VW ABELARDO P. MOJICA, PM
VW VICENTE N. ONGTENCO, PDDGM
VW VICENTE HAO CHIN, JR.
VW FERNANDO V. PASCUA, JR., PDDGM
VW DANILO D. ANGELES, PDDGM
VW SAMUEL P. FERNANDEZ, PGC
VW SAMUEL K. MORGIA, PDGL
VW JULIANO N. CHIU, GMDL
VW JESUS M. ELBINIAS, PM
VW EUFEMIO N.DELA CRUZ
VW FLOR R. NICOLAS
VW FELIFRANCO R. LUTO
VW GEORGE K. CLARK, JR.

The Lodge shall formulate its own Constitution and By-Laws.

The Lodge membership shall be limited to twenty (20) regular members. Correspondent members from Philippine or foreign Brethren may be admitted.

It shall conduct in one Masonic Year, two (2) regular meetings, one of which shall be the Annual Meeting. Special Meetings may be called by the Master.

It shall have the power to raise funds by donations, grants, bequests, subsidies, devises, and funds from dues and fees. In its plans and programs shall be included the establishment of a printing plant which shall, together with its office, be housed at the New Plaridel Masonic Temple.

This Edict, effective immediately, shall be read in open lodge at the Stated Meeting next following its receipt and shall be recorded in the minutes.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE GREAT SEAL OF THE GRAND LODGE this 29th day of March,1990. in the City of Manila, Philippines.

JUAN C. NABONG JR.
Grand Master

ATTEST:

ALEJANDRINO A. EUSEBIO
Grand Master

EDICT NO. 109-A
FIRST OFFICERS
THE PHILIPPINE LODGE OF RESEARCH

In connection with the Constitution of The Philippine Lodge of Research in Edict No. 109. I hereby designate the first Officers of the Lodge, as follows:

MASTER	—	MW REYNOLD S. FAJARDO,PGM
SENIOR WARDEN	—	VW ABELARDO P. MOJICA, PM
JUNIOR WARDEN	—	VW VICENTE HAO CHIN, JR.
TREASURER	—	RW VICENTE N. ONGTENGCO, PDDGM
SECRETARY	—	VW FERNANDO V. PASCUA, JR., PDDGM

This Edict, effective immediately, shall be read in open lodge at the Stated Meeting next following its receipt and shall be recorded in the minutes.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND WITH THE GREAT SEAL OF THE GRAND LODGE affixed herein this 10th day of April, 1990 in the City of Manila, Philippines.

JUAN C. NABONG JR.
Grand Master

ATTEST:

ALEJANDRINO A. EUSEBIO
Grand Secretary

EDICT NO. 110

The reactivation of Keystone Lodge No. 100, F. & A. M. in the City of Manila is a most welcome masonic event.

This Lodge, however, shall serve this Grand Jurisdiction as a Lodge of Instruction: to exemplify and perform the lst, 2nd, and 3rd Degrees of Masonry; funeral service; lodge of remembrance or sorrow; and such other masonic ceremonies and ritual.

Keystone Lodge No. 100 within itself is hereby authorized to form a team to perform its functions and role and to sport, style and wear a similar attire as that of Grand Lodge paraphernalia to effectively show the team members are exemplars of Grand Lodge. They shall wear the Grand Lodge paraphernalia only when performing as a team or as a Lodge of Instruction.

As I have fraternally conveyed the warmest regards and most cordial wishes to the newly-activated Julio Ocampo Memorial Lodge No. 146, F. & A.M. in Iriga City, I now congratulate and welcome Keystone Lodge No.100, F. & A. M. to the Family of Brethren in this Grand Jurisdiction, and by virtue of the powers in me vested by the

Constitution and law as Grand Master, I hereby decree the reactivation of Keystone Lodge No. 100, F & A. M. for the above-mentioned role, functions, and objectives in the interest of the Craft.

This Edict shall be read in Open Lodge at the Staed Meeting next following its receipts, this action spread in the minutes.

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE GREAT SEAL OF THE GRAND LODGE affixed herto, this 3rd day of April, 1990 in the City of Manila, Philippines.

JUAN C. NABONG JR.
Grand Master

EDICT NO. 111
COMMISSION ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations which basically acts as the agency of the Grand Lodge to consider, evaluate, and make recommendations to the Grand Master on requests for recognition of foreign Grand Lodges must at times needs to devote a more thorough and in-depth consideration and evaluation of compliance to the requirements and standards for recognition of a requesting Grand Lodge.

In some cases, however, a shorter period may well be enough.Nonetheless, a measure to forestall the eventuality of one Committee on Foreign Relations considering or starting to consider and evaluate a request for formal recognition during a masonic year, and not completing the study and recommendation, will summon the next Committee to begin study of the request all over again. Thoroughness and depth of evaluation are often lost or scattered to uncertainties.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JUAN C. NABONG JR., Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers in me vested by the Constitution, DO HEREBY DECREE, AS IT IS HEREBY DECREED, that the Chairman and Members of the Committee on Foreign Relations, now to be known as COMMISSION ON FOREIGN RELATIONS AND RECOGNITON, shall hold office and serve for a period of at least three (3) years unless by resignation, serious inability, or prolonged absence they leave the Commission or vacate their office or position. Nothing herein shall, nevertheless, impair or diminish the authority and power of the Grand Master to appoint or designate or remove in conformity with law and ancient custom and usage.

This Edict, effective immediately, shall be read in open lodge at the State Meeting next following its receipt and shall be recorded in the minutes.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE GREAT SEAL OF THE GRAND LODGE this 5th day of April, 1990, in the City of Manila, Philippines.

JUAN C. NABONG JR.
Grand Master

ATTEST;

ALEJANDRINO A. EUSEBIO
Grand Secretary

EDICT NO. 112
REESTABLISHING THE VITAL ISSUES COMMITTEE INTO THE VITAL ISSUES COMMISSION AND CREATING THE NATIONAL COUNCIL TO PRESERVE AND STRENGTHEN DEMOCRACY

The Vital Issues Committee (VIC), tasked with identifying significant national or local (not on politics or in religion), which has met and deliberated for several months, and presented its position or stand in the arena of national important issues in the interest of Craft tenets, principles, and obligations need a continuing status as an effective body in the Grand Lodge. Moreover, the formation of the Vital Issues Committee has a led to the creation of the National Council to Preserve and strengthen Democracy, composed of seniors or elders of the Fraternity and the community which shall hereafter be the policy body to formulate Freemasonry's position or stand on vital issues but the single voice to present and bring it to the Craft and the nation or locality shall be the voice of the Grand Master. Toward this end the Vital Issues Commission shall assist the National Council in the latter's role, serving also as Secretariat and research and study agency,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JUAN C. NABONG JR., Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers in me vested by the Constitution, do hereby DECREE the reestablishment of the Vital Issues Committee (VIC) into a Commission, to be hereinafter known and referred to as the VITAL ISSUES COMMISSION (VIC) whose members shall serve office for a period of at least five (5) years, the Chairman to hold his position for at least three (3) years, unless by resignation, serious inability, or prolonged absence, they leave the Commission or he vacates the position.

The Chairman and members of the NATIONAL COUNCIL TO PRESERVE AND STRENGTHEN DEMOCRACY which is hereby decreed created shall serve or leave office or vacate position in similar manner.

In both above cases, however, there shall be no impairment or diminution of the authority and power of the Grand Master to appoint or designate or remove conformably to law and ancient custom and usage.

This Edict, effective immediately, shall be read in open lodge at the Stated Meeting next following its receipt and shall be recorded in the minutes.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE GREAT SEAL OF THE GRAND LODGE this 6th day of April, 1990, in the City of Manila, Philippines.

JUAN C. NABONG JR.
Grand Master

ATTEST;

ALEJANDRINO A. EUSEBIO
Grand Secretary

EDICT NO. 113
CREATING MASONIC DISTRICT NO. 23-A

In the light of the Craft's welfare, I hereby create a new Masonic District, 23-A to be composed of:

Cagayan Valley Lodge No. 133

(Santiago, Isabela);

Saranay Lodge No.193 (Cabarroguis, Quirino); and,

Rufino Roque Memorial Lodge, U.D. (Cordon, Isabela).

I most fraternally call on the Brethren to lend the fraternal hand to this newest District in this Grand Jurisdiction.

DONE in the City of Manila, Philippines, this 10th day of April, 1990 with the Great Seal of the Grand Lodge affixed to the instrument.

JUAN C. NABONG JR.
Grand Master

ATTEST:

ALEJANDRINO A. EUSEBIO
Grand Secretary

EDICT NO. 116
HAPPY, FREE SERAPHIMS

The Great Seal of the Grand Lodge previously depicted supporters who were hoodwinked seraphims with one wing up and one wing down and standing facing each other (Part I, Chapter I, Art.I, Sec.3, Constitution, Rev. 1984).

The seraphims are now facing us the viewers, happy, free, with face, flowing hair, and breasts towards us. The Grand Lodge of California, our Mother Grand Lodge, has similar happy, free seraphims, too.

The motto is: "IN THE LORD GOD IS ALL OUR TRUST" "IN THE LORD" is very Christian while "IN THE LORD GOD" embraces all religions which have a belief in a Supremen Being, a basic standard set by the United Grand Lodge of England.

The rest of the present seal is maintained, only designed creatively and vibrantly by WB Froilan T. Madrianan, Jr., Rafael Palma Lodge No.147, a Paete artist who has delivered a Professional Lecture at the University of the Philippines, a U.P. Fine Arts Professor of note and reknown.

Upon the powers vested in me by the Constitution, I JUAN C. NABONG JR., Grand Master of Masons in the Jurisdiction of the Philippines, Guam Okinawa, Japan, South Korea, and the Marshal Islands, DO HEREBY DECREE AS IT IS HEREBY DECREED AND OR DAINED, that henceforth the Great Seal of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of F. & A. M. of the Philippines shall be change and depicted in accordance with the foregoing and I hereby designate VW Fernando V. Pascua, Jr., PDDGM, who has written a research paper, "The Seal of the Grand Lodge of the Philippines" (The Cabletow, May-June 1986, pp 11-24) to describe in heraldric terms the changes and new depictions in coordination with WB madrinan, Jr.

This Edict shall be read in open lodge at the Stated Meeting next following ite receipt and this action recorded in the minutes.

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE GREAT SEAL OF THE GRAND LODGE OF

THE PHILIPPINES this 10th day of April, 1990 A.D., 5990 A.L., in the City of Manila, Philippines.

JUAN C. NABONG JR.
Grand Master

ATTEST:

ALEJANDRINO A. EUSEBIO
Grand Secretary

EDICT NO. 117
TOWARDS THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PHILIPPINE MASONIC HOME AND THE INSTITUTION OF MEDICAL RESEARCH

There is no Masonic Home in the Philippines Jurisdiction. There is lack or a dearth of medical research by Masons who are doctors, scientists, or researchers.

I hereby create a Commission to Study the Establishment of a Philippines Masonic Home and the Institution of Medical Research, to be composed of the following Brethren Doctors:

I hereby create a Commission to Study the Establishment of a Philippines Masonic Home and the Institution of Medical Research, to be composed of the following Brethren Doctors:

VW Bro. Jesus K.V. Cellona	Chairman
VW Bro. Rizal L. Aportadera	Vice-Chairman
Bro. Manuel T. Rivera.....	Member
VW Bro. Felix J Vicuna	Member
VW Bro. Gil N. Octaviano Jr.....	Member
Bro. Ramon F. Abarquez.....	Member

The Commission shall study and assess, plan and program, and render report and recommendation to the Grand Master. The Commission shall study the establishment of masonic home for the aged, elderly, or senior Masons, their widows, orphans, wives, handicapped, infirm, and children, and consider rendering social, educational, recreational, healthful, spiritual, and such other assistance for health care, home, rest or retirement.

As to medical reseach, the field is still broad and Philippine Masons can contribute to the alleviation and betterment of the human condition and of human life.

It is such a modest, first step we are taking. But as the saying goes, the journey of a thousand miles start with a first step.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the Grand Lodge of the Philippines this 10th day of April, 1990, in the City of Manila, Philippines.

JUAN C. NABONG JR.
Grand Master

ATTEST:

ALEJANDRINO A. EUSEBIO
Grand Secretary

EDICT NO. 118
GRAND MASTER'S YOUTH CORE GROUP

Give the boys and the girls a break to assist Grand Lodge in some of its projects, was the impelling cause in the creation of a Core Group composed of DeMolays, Rainbows and Jobies, led by Senior DeMolay RONNIE P. AGUIRRE,Grand Master's Special Assistant on Youth, which handled the groundwork and coordination of the "WALK FOR A CAUSE," the Valentines's, "Lift a Hand for Streetchildren," and the fellowship and program of coordination of all Square and Compass Clubs and other Masonic-related Clubs last April 9. 1990 at the Plaridel Tree House near the New Plaridel being constructed.

District Deputy Grand Masters and Worshipful Masters can create their youth core groups for projects most suited to the young peoples talents and capabilities but not detracting from those programmed respectively and separately by the International Order of DeMolaya, International Order of Rainbow for Girls, and the International Order of Job's Daughters.

IN VIEW WHEREOF, I JUAN C. NABONG JR., Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers in me vested by the Constitutuion, DO HEREBY DECREEE the institutionalization of the Grand Master's Youth Core Group and furthermore, henceforth, all Masonic Districts and Lodges shall create and include in their list of special committees task forces or special teams a DISTRICT YOUTH CORE GROUP or LODGE YOUTH CORE GROUP, to undertake, handle and coordinate worthy projects requiring the talents, qualifications, and energies of the youth which group shall be directly responsible and accountable to the respective District Deputy Grand Masters and Worshipful Masters in the performance of their role and functions.

This Edict shall be read in open Lodge at the Stated Meeting next following its receipt, this action spread in the minutes.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE GREAT SEAL OF THE GRAND LODGE affixed hereto, this 10th day of April, 1990 A.D. 1990 A.L., in the City of Manila, Philippines.

JUAN C. NABONG JR.
Grand Master

ATTEST:

ALEJANDRINO A. EUSEBIO
Grand Secretary

EDICT NO. 119
THE CHAPLAIN'S ROLE

On the occasion of the installation of a Symbolic Lodge's Chaplain, the Installing Officer says to him;

> " I.O. - Reverend and Worshipful Brother: That Holy Book (M.C. presents it) which is the Chart and text book of your sacred calling, is also the great Light in Masonry, and forever sheds its benignant rays upon every lawful assemblage of Free and Accepted Masons. Teach us from its lifegiving precepts; invoke upon our labors the blessing of that (uncovers) Divine Being whose infinite goodness it so fully reveals and unfolds to us, and warn us by its lessons of wisdom and truth; and you will have faithfully performed your sacred functions and fulfilled your important trust. It is

your duty to perform those solemn services which we should constantly render to our (removes hat) Great Creator, and which when offered by one whose holy profession is to 'allure to brighter worlds and lead the way,' may, by elevating our thoughts, strengthening our virtues, and purifying our minds, prepare us for admission into the society of the blessed in the realms of Life and Light eternal. It is fitting that an emblem of the sacred volume should be the jewel of your office, and with it you will now be invested. (M.C. invests him with jewel.)"

Masonic District No. 8 (Bataan-Zambales, led by VW Serafin O. Roman, DDGM and VW Cesar S. Zuniga, GMDL) in its Lodges includes as a part of its Stated Meetings, a brief discourse by the Chaplain revolving on the Volume of the Sacred Law. This practice is worthy of being folowed by Lodges in this Grand Jurisdiction.

I, THEREFORE, JUAN C. NABONG JR., Grand Master, Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers in me vested by the Constitution, DO HEREBY DECREE AND ORDAIN the inclusion in every Stated Meeting of a Symbolic Lodge in this Jurisdiction a discourse or presentation or lecture by the Lodge's Chaplain revolving or treating of the VSL or parts or passages of the Sacred Volume. He shall stand before the Altar when delivering his piece.

This Edict shall be read in open lodge at the Stated Meeting next following its receipt, and this action recorded in the minutes.

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE GREAT SEAL OF THE GRAND LODGE this 10th day of April, 1990, in the City of Manila, Philippines.

JUAN C. NABONG JR.
Grand Master

ATTEST:

ALEJANDRINO A. EUSEBIO
Grand Secretary

EDICT NO. 120

The closing of the Lodge on the level, lacks a unifying power, it is lukewarm and does not leave an impact, or inspiring cadences and the Brethren go out of the Lodge room not deeply moulded and welded in unity, peace, harmony, and brotherly affectio9n.

I, THEREFORE, JUAN C. NABONG JR., Grand Master of Masons in the Jurisdiction of the Philippines, Guam, Japan, Okinawa, South Korea, and the Marshall Islands, by virtue of the powers in me vested by the Constitution, HEREBY DECREE AND ORDAN, in the promotion and propagation of the Craft "into one sacred band, or society of friends and brothers", that on closing the Lodge on the level the monitorial ritual shall be as follows:

(Al cm dn on # lvl ar off otsde pavmt)
Vm - Br Sw @ Brthrn, hw shd Ms mt.
SW @ ALL - (SW tks jl and ALL say in unison) On # LV, W!
WM - (Tks Jl) TOGETHER, BRETHREN!
ALL IN UNISON — AT PT UPN # SQ!

WM - S ma w ev m, ac @ prt, m brn. (Rmvs ht w lft hnd @ plc rght hnd ov brst)

'BENEDICTION'

This Edict shall be read in open lodge at the Stated Meeting next following its receipt, and this action recorded in the minutes.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND THE GREAT SEAL OF THE GRAND LODGE Affixed hereto, this 10th day of April, 1990 A.D. 1990 A.L., in the City of Manila, Philippines

JUAN C. NABONG JR.
Grand Master

ATTEST:

ALEJANDRINO A. EUSEBIO
Grand Secretary

Edict No. 121
ORIENTATION PROGRAM OF THE CANDIDATE (PETITIONER)

WHEREAS, the quality of membership is the basis and backbone of every subordinate lodge;

WHEREAS, in a quality membership program there is much for the candidate to discover and learn about the Craft than what is revealed in its ritual;

WHEREAS, the more the candidate learns about the history of Freemasonry, its philosophy and its symbolism, his vision will broaden, and he will become more vitally alive and his whole philosophy of life will become richer;

WHEREAS, to assist the candidate and to make the orientation understandable and meaningful, the following pamphlets which are available at our Masonic Supply Center may be used:

1. The Candidate Pamphlet
2. Entered Apprentice
3. Fellow Craft Pamphlet
4. Master Mason Pamphlet
5. Lodge System of Masonic Education

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOHN L. CHOA, Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of F. & A.M. of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers in me vested by the Constitution, do hereby promulgate and decree as mandatory requirement for lodges to conduct orientation lectures to the candidate before he can be initiated, passed and raised to the sublime degree.

This Edict shall be read in Open Lodge at the stated meeting next following its receipt and shall be recorded in the minutes.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Grand Lodge at the City of

Manila, this 4th day of May, 1990.

JOHN L. CHOA
Grand Master

ATTEST:

ROSENDO C. HERRERA, PGM
Grand Secretary

Edict No. 122
CONTINUING MASONIC EDUCATION PROGRAM

WHEREAS, it has always been the objective of the Grand Lodge to carry on and pursue a continuing Masonic Education Program to attain the goal of giving each member a deeper understanding of the real nature and workings of Freemasonry in conformity with the objectives of Edict No. 86 and Edict No. 92;

WHEREAS, recent developments have demonstrated the need to provide ample time for study and reflection of the teachings of Freemasonry in all Lodges;

WHEREAS, it is the aim of the Grand Lodge to provide a module with twelve (12) lessons on Freemasonry and these lessons shall be taken in the stated meetings of the lodge for the entire year;

WHEREAS, the improvement of one's knowledge in Masonry goes hand in hand with his knowledge of and skill in the basic masonic rituals;

WHEREAS, one of the pressing needs of Freemasonry is a deeper mMsonic understanding and more Masonic teachings; twelve (12) basic lessons have been prepared on the exact execution of the rituals, including the proper way of opening and closing Blue Lodge meetings, proper handling of implements, floor works, etc.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOHN L. CHOA, Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of F. & A.M. of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers in me vested by the Constitution, do hereby decree that at every stated meeting, it shall be obligatory for Lodges to include in their regular order of business a specific topic in the module for 15-30 minutes, with the Lecturer or a senior member of the Lodge appointed to conduct the lecture followed by an open forum and each Blue Lodge must also organize a team that will conduct a 15-30 minutes Lodge of Instruction with the twelve (12) basic lessons as guide.

This Edict shall be read in Open Lodge at the stated meeting next following its receipt and shall be recorded in the minutes.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Grand Lodge at the City of Manila, this 7th day of May, 1990.

JOHN L. CHOA
Grand Master

ATTEST:

ROSENDO C. HERRERA, PGM
Grand Secretary

Edict 123
STANDARD BUILDING PLAN FOR PROVINCIAL LODGES

WHEREAS, the brethren under the jurisdiction of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines have been yearning to have a standard building plan for all masonic lodges in the provinces that will conform to the requirements of a masonic lodge building which they can afford;

WHEREAS, the Building Committee has approved building plans in four schemes for provincial masonic lodges as drawn by the Grand Lodge Architect;

WHEREAS, these are functional plans so designed to make our provincial lodges distinct and easily recognizable among the buildings within its vicinity;

WHEREAS, any Lodge intending to build their own Masonic Lodge building should first secure a copy of the approved standard plan from the Grand Lodge before commencing with the construction;

NOW, THEREFORE, I. JOHN L. CHOA, by virtue of the power in me vested as Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines, hereby declare that the plan be adopted as the standard building plan for provincial Lodges; and that the facade should at least be copied from this plan with emphasis on the Masonic Logo, the Square and Compasses and the two great pillars of Masonry.

Done in the City of Manila, Philippines, this 8th day of May, 1990.

JOHN L. CHOA
Grand Master

ATTEST:

ROSENDO C. HERRERA, PGM
Grand Secretary

CIRCULARS

CIRCULAR NO. 13
Series of 1990 — NABONG JR.

SUBJECT: MAKE MY DAY
"BORN WHEN MEN FIRST DREAMED OF GOD"
By Hilarion M. Henares Jr.

Now that the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines through Archbishop Leonardo Z. Legaspi, O.P., D.D., President, CBCP, has come up on March 23, 1990 with its Gudelines on Membership in Free Masonic Associations, it is refreshing and you feel proud of being a Mason and to be revived up by Mr. Henares Jr.'s column in the "Opinion" section of the *Philippine Daily Inquirer*, April 22, 1990, page 5, which is quoted in full hereunder:

"BORN WHEN MEN FIRST DREAMED OF GOD"

At the turn of the century, when the Spanish friars led by the Dominicans were the oppressors of the Filipino people, most of our heroes turned to Freemasonry as a vehicle for their fight for freedom. Most of them were excommunicated by the Church for belonging to this "secret society."

My grandfather Don Daniel Maramba was a Freemason, so was Dr. Jose Rizal, Marcelo H. del Pilar, Andres Bonifacio, Juan and Antonio Luna, Apolinario Mabini, Graciano Lopez-Jaena.

Four of our presidents were Freemasons: Emilio Aguinaldo, Manuel L. Quezon, Jose P. Laurel and Manuel A. Roxas.

The great liberators of the world were Freemasons: Giuseppe Garibaldi of Italy; Voltaire of France; Simon Bolivar of Bolivia; Jose Martin of Chile and Peru; Benito Juarez of Mexico; George Washington and Benjamin Franklin of the USA; our own Maximo and Teodoro Kalaw, Claro M. Recto, Conrado Benitez, Camilo Osias, Benigno and Servillano Aquino (Ninoy's father and grandfather).

American Masons figured in our history: William McKinley, William Howard Taft, Theodore Roosevelt, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Paul V. McNutt, and Dug-out Dog MacArthur.

Modern Freemasonry traces its roots to the guilds of masons and other builders of Gothic Cathedrals. After the Gothic period, the masonic guilds died out. A few survived and in 1717 four lodges established a Grand Lodge in England. From there it

spread all over the world, figuring prominently in the French and American Revolutions.

As early as 1326, papal bulls were issued by the Catholic Church condemning Freemasonry. In those days, church excommunication meant more than just being denied the sacraments, it meant confiscation of property, torture, imprisonment, banishment, even death.

In the wake of the Reformation, the Church launched a militant campaign against heretics, and condemned Freemasonry because it was ecumenical before its time, accepting all believers as members, be they Christian, Muslim or Jew.

The first account of Freemasonry in the Philippines was in 1756 when two Irishmen were arrested and accused of being Masons. During the British Occupation in 1762, the Manila Cathedral became a lodge where British Masons held their meetings. In 1856, the first regular lodge "La Primera Luz Filipina" was founded in Cavite by two Spanish Navy Lieutenants, but Filipinos were refused entry into the lodge.

* * *

For this reason, many Filipinos sought admittance into Masonic lodges abroad where prejudice and discrimination did not exist.

When the Scottish Rite Lodge, made up mostly of Germans, was established, it initiated the first Filipino to be made a Mason in his own country — Jacobo Zobel, great grandfather of Jaime Zobel.

As the spirit of nationalism started to spread like wildfire in the colonial world, Freemasons stood in the vanguard fo the fight for freedom, here and everywhere.

Filipino Masons organized Masonic Lodges in Japan, Korea, Saipan, Vietnam, Micronesia and Guam — and mothered two new Grand Lodges in China and Japan.

Happily with the advent of ecumenism, many Catholic leaders have begun to take a softer stance towards Freemasonry, finding nothing in it contradictory to Catholic teachings.

Among the Masons of Today are Senators Mamintal Tamano and Joey Lina; Congressmen Rodrigo Gutant, Ali Dimaporo, Francisco Aniag, Michael Mastura, Ciriaco Alfelor, Renato Dragon.

Supreme Court Justice Abraham Sarmiento, Court of Appeals Justice Reynato S. Puno, and many of our generals: Pantaleon Dumlao, Rene Cruz, Voltaire Gazmin, the late Oscar Florendo, Alex Galido, Mariano Adalem, Restituto Padilla.

And also Vice Governor Rolando Abadilla, and many of our putschists: Col. Alexander Noble, Capt. Danilo Lim, Col. Reynaldo Cabauatan, Col. Oscar Canlas.

I was born in antiquity, in the ancient days when men first dreamed of God. I have been tried throughout the ages, and found true. The crossroads of the world bear the imprint of my feet, and cathedrals of all nations mark the skill of my hands.

Upon my altars is the book of Holy Writ. My sons work and pray together, without rancor or discord. My arms receive those who seek me of theri own free will. I teach them to use my tools in the building of men, and in their own quest for perfection. I lift up the fallen and shelter the sick. I harken to the orphan's cry, the widow's tear, the pain of the old and the destitute.

I am not church, or party, or school, yet my sons bear their full share of responsibility to God, to country, to neighbors and to themselves. They are Free Men, tenacious of their liberties, rights and obligations. Always have I taught immortality, even as I raise men from darkness into light.

I AM A WAY OF LIFE. I AM FREEMASONRY.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the Grand Lodge this 20th day of Arpil, 1990, in the City of Manila, Philippines.

JUAN C. NABONG JR.
Grand Master

Attest:

ALEJANDRO A. EUSEBIO
Grand Secretary

CIRCULAR NO. 15
Series of 1990 — NABONG JR.

SUBJECT: GRAND LODGE REPRESENTATIVES

Listed hereunder are the Grand Lodge Representatives appointed by the Grand Master for Masonic Year 1989-1990.

VW Leopoldo G. dela Rosa	Grand Lodge of Italy
VW Vicente Antonio Cu	Frand Lodge of Columbia-Barranquilla
VW Benvenuto C. Alegre	Grand Lodge of Paraiba (Brazil)
WB Celestino O. Yokingco	Grand Lodge of Tennessee
VW Carlos R. de Castro	Grand Lodge of Vermont
WB Victor Tanteksian	Grand Lodge of Venezuela
Bro. Danilo A. Hernandez	Grand Lodge of Quebec
VW Juanito S. Satana	Grand Lodge of Illinois
VW Luis Y. Sandoval	Grand Lodge of New Zealand
RW Manuel O. Obligacion	Grand Lodge of Michigan
VW Paquito B. Valenzuela	Grand Lodge of Manitoba
VW Dennis E. Provencher	Grand Lodge of New Hampshire
VW Crispulo M. Fernandez, Jr.	Grand Lodge of South Carolina
VW Victor B. Bantigue	Grand Lodge of Arizona
VW Cesar T. Lucero, Jr.	Grand Lodge of New South Wales
VW Manuel T. Lee	Grand Lodge of Nevada
VW Charlito G. Cariño	Grand Lodge of Kentucky
VW Clyde Whitfield	Grand Lodge of Hawaii

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the Grand Lodge this 20th day of April, 1990, in the City of Manila, Philippines.

JUAN C. NABONG JR.
Grand Master

ATTEST:

ALEJANDRINO A. EUSEBIO
Grand Secretary

CIRCULARS

CIRCULAR NO. 1
SERIES OF 1990 - CHOA

(The Circular is a list of the elected and appointed officers of the MW Grand Lodge of F. & A.M. of the Philippines for the year 1990-1991. The list is deleted).

CIRCULAR NO. 2
SERIES OF 1990 CHOA

To: All Grand Line Officers, District Deputy Grand Masters, District Grand Lecturers, Officers and Members of Subordinate Lodges in this Jurisdiction
Subject: Schedule of District Conventions

For your information and guidance, hereunder is the schedule of District Conventions in this jurisdiction during our term:

SCHEDULES OF DISTRICT CONVENTIONS

Date	*Districts*	*Cities/Provinces*
July 7	Discon No. 27	Bacolod, Negros Occidental
14	Discon No. 28	Batangas & Mindoro
21	Joint Discon Nos. 19 & 40	Zamboanga & Pagadian
28	Joint Discon Nos. 13 & 36	Daet, Naga, Legaspi & Sorsogon
Aug. 4	Dison No. 12	Lucena
11	Discon No. 23	Isabela
18	Joint Discon Nos. 7 & 29	Bulacan, Pampanga & Tarlac
25	Discon No. 11	Laguna
Sept. 1	Discon No. 3	Nueva Vizcaya
8	Discon No. 25	Iligan
15	Discon No. 37	Dadiangas
22	Discon No. 2	Cagayan, Kalinga-Apayao
29	Tri-Discon No.s 15, 16 & 39	Leyte, Cebu & Samar
Oct. 6	Discon No. 14	Iloilo

13	Mid-Year Meeting of the Grand Master with DDGMs, DGLs and Grand Line Officers	
20	Discon No. 8	Olongapo, Bataan & Zambales
27	Annual Communication, Grand Lodge of China, Taipei	
Nov. 3	Joint Discon Nos. 6-A & 6-B	Nueva Ecija
10	Tri-Discon Nos. 17, 31 & 35	Cagayan de Oro, Agusan, Surigao
17	Joint Discon Nos. 33 & 38	Dipolog & Ozamis
24	Multi Discon Nos. 18, 32, 26, 27	Cotabato, Dadiangas, Davao, Tagum
30	Discon No. 10	Cavite
Dec. 1	Tri-Discon Nos. 24, 4 & 5	Pangasinan, Ilocos, La Union, Baguio
8	Joint Discon Nos. 9-A & 9-B	Quezon City
15	Tri-Discon Nos. 1-A, 1-B, 1-C	Manila
19	78th Anniversary (Six in one affair)	

This Circular will be read in open Lodge at the stated meeting next following its receipt and shall be recorded in the minutes.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Grand Lodge at the City of Manila, this 4th day of May 1990.

JOHN L. CHOA
Grand Master

ATTEST:

ROSENDO C. HERRERA, PGM
Grand Secretary

CIRCULAR NO. 3
SERIES OF 1990 — CHOA

To: ALL MASTERS, OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF LODGES UNDER THIS JURISDICTION
Subject: TEMPLE BUILDING FUND

In 1979, MW Jolly R. Bugarin, PGM, issued Circular No. 1 assessing every Mason the amount of P200.00 for the construction of our new Temple. Since then only about 50% of the Lodges have complied with this assessment. Some five years ago our brethren from Okinawa Lodge No. 118 presented a resolution, moving that unless a lodge has fully paid the P200.00 assessment, the same shall not be allowed to participate in the election of the Grand Lodge Officers. The said motion was unanimously approved by the brethren in attendance.

Since then every year our Brethren from Okinawa Lodge No. 118 have beenpressing for the implementation of said approved resolution. Somehow every year the implementation of said resolution had been postponed. During the1989 Baguio City Annual Communication, the same subject was raised and MW Juan C. Nabong Jr., the incoming Grand Master then made a promise that he will strictly implement said resolution. Unfortunately, the implementation was never pushed through.

Since this question has always been a perennial problem of theGrand Lodge and his become an irritant, I now appeal to all the Lodges in our jurisdiction to settle their obligation based on said resolution as early as possible and do so before the coming 1991 Annual Communication at Bacolod City.

Attached is a statement of your Lodge obligation and should you find any discrepancy, please immediately communicate with our Accounting Department for reconciliation. I would like to emphasize that we are going to implement said resolution this coming 1991 Annual Communication.

This Circular shall be read in an open Lodge at the stated meeting next following its receipt and every stated metting thereafter until the P200.00 shall have been fully paid by every member or by the lodge. This shall be recorded in the minutes.

Given under my hand andseal of the Grand Lodge of the Philippines in the City of Manila, this 14th day of May, 1990.

JOHN L. CHOA
Grand Master

ATTEST:

ROSENDO C. HERRERA, PGM
Grand Secretary

CIRCULAR NO. 4
SERIES OF 1990 — CHOA

To: All DDGMs and Worshipful Masters
Re: Cabletow Correspondents

For many years District Convention and Blue Lodge Activities have been given little space in our official Organ **The Cabletow.**

It is desired that the productive efforts and the visions concretized be reflected in our official organ with the full cooperation of District as well as Blue Lodge Correspondents.

Please submit recommended correspondents' names to the Editor-in-Chief for Press ID's.

The following are the responsibilities of the District and Blue Lodge Correspondents:

1. The District Correspondents shall:
   1.1 write feature articles on their respective DDGMs and DGLs; and
   1.2 Submit news articles and pictures covering district events and developments.
2. The Blue Lodge Correspondents shall:
   2.1 write feature articles on the Worshipful Masters, and Grand Lodge Inspects, and the activities/accomplishments of their respective Lodges; and
   2.2 submit new articles and pictures covering the developments and events in their respective Lodges.

This Circular shall be read in open Lodges at the Stated Meeting next following its receipt and that action duly recorded in the minutes.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Grand Lodge in the City of Manila this 15th day of May, 1990.

JOHN L. CHOA
Grand Master

ATTEST:

ROSENDO C. HERRERA, PGM
Grand Secretary

CIRCULAR NO. 5
SERIES OF 1990 CHOA

To: District Deputy Grand Masters, District Grand Lecturers, Worshipful Masters and Brethren of Masonic District Nos. 1-A, 1-B, 1-C, 9-A, 9-B, 10 and 11.

Subject: Independence Day Celebration And Brother Jose P. Rizal's Birth Anniversary

In previous years, the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of F. & A.M. of the Philippine actively participated in the national celebration of Independence Day and the birth anniversary of our Brother Jose P. Rizal.

This year, I would like to encourage more attendance and invite as many Brethren including those from other Masonic Districts who are interested to attend these celebrations scheduled on the following dates:

June 12, 1990	Independence Day	Kawit, Cavite
	Meeting Place	Plaridel Masonic Temple 1440 San Marcelino St., Manila
	Time of Departure	6:00 A.M.
June 19, 1990	Bro. Jose P. Rizal's Birthday	Calamba, Laguna
	Meeting Place	Plaridel Masonic Temple 1440 San Marcelino St., Manila
	Time of Departure	6:00 a.m.

This Circular shall be read in open Lodge at the stated meeting next following its receipt, such action entered in the minutes.

Given under my hand and seal of the Grand Lodge of the Philippines in the City of Manila, this 18th day of May, 1990.

JOHN L. CHOA
Grand Master

ATTEST:

ROSENDO C. HERRERA, PGM
Grand Secretary



RW Jose R. Guerrero and VW Samuel P. Fernandez visiting a Senior Mason before the blessing of Laoag Lodge No. 71 and Installation ceremonies. (L-R) WB Oscar A. Suguitan, WM; VW Ernesto E. Cua, DDGM; VW Pablo L. Edrozo, 32° PDDGM (Senior Citizen); VW Samuel P. Fernandez, IO; and RW Jose R. Guerrero GSW, Guest Speaker.

CURIOUS IKKO

CONCEPT BY: SAMUEL FERNANDEZ
ART BY: VIEL SAMANIEGO



CURIOUS IKKO

CONCEPT BY: SAMUEL FERNANDEZ
ART BY: VIEL SAMANIEGO



TO POSTMASTER: If undelivered, please return to

The CABLETOW

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE GRAND LODGE OF THE PHILIPPINES

Plaridel Masonic Temple
1440 San Marcelino, Manila D-2801

Re-entered as second class mail matter at the
Manila Post Office on June 16, 1962

IMPORTANT! Readers are requested to send address changes and corrections to us to insure prompt delivery of the THE CABLETOW.