



The CABLETOW

VOL. 70 NO. 3

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 1993





*SHIPPING OF TODAY MIXED WITH
NATIVE BOATS
ON THE PASIG RIVER*



CASCOS, HOUSE BOATS, ON THE PASIG RIVER

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Editorial

The Mason and His Environment

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For the past four decades, FreeMasons have tirelessly engaged themselves in nationalistic causes. In the first decade, there was the struggle for freedom from colonial oppression; then, in the second decade, the transition from a Commonwealth to a Republic. This was followed by a period of reconstruction and totalitarian rule.

As we enter the last stage of the 20th century, we continue to see our brethren involved in the restoration of democracy and in the current movement to preserve our environment. It is this pressing concern that now keeps the blue lodges of our fraternity very busy.

The importance of protecting our environment cannot be overemphasized. It is something that should not be taken lightly. Our rivers, bays, and seas are polluted and life therein is slowly being suffocated. Our air is thick with smog; our forests are depleted and can no longer provide us with their protective greenery. In brief, our environment is deteriorating and if we do not take action would eventually die.

In this issue of the Cabletow, we would like our brethren to relive the nostalgic beauty and splendor of the Pasig River at the height of its splendor—when it was a beautiful and thriving river. Pasig River is a symbol of our environment and a part of our history. If it dies, we, along with everything else in our environment, dies with it. If it lives, so will we.

In this issue, we will highlight the Masonic concern of our different blue lodges for our environment.

Let us remember, we should not only plant trees, but we should also make sure that these trees that we plant should grow strong and healthy and be useful to our environment. The cause for our environment must be sustained, not just for this decade, but for the rest of the 21st century and after.



Focus

Manila Through the Eyes of the World's Great City Planners

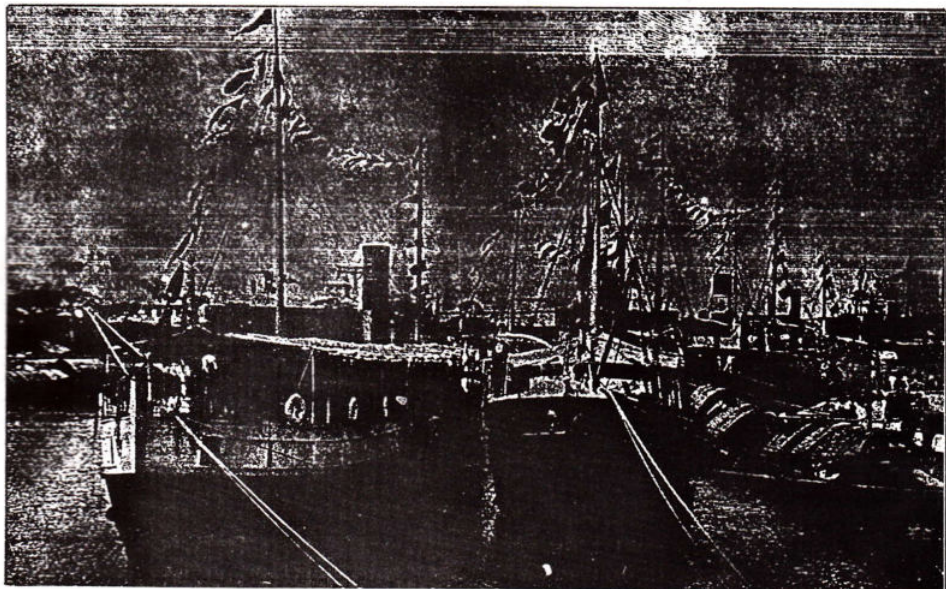
by Bro. Joel P. Palacios, Walana Lodge No. 13

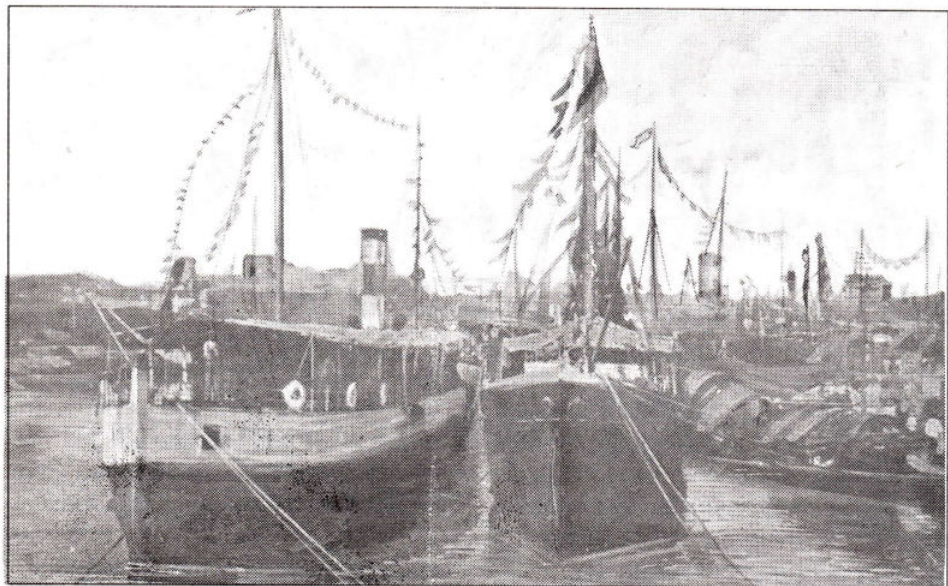
One of the world's greatest architects and city planners envisioned to turn Manila into "a unified city equal to the greatest of the western world with the unparalleled and priceless addition of a tropical setting."

Daniel Hudson Burnham, the architectural genius who introduced the art of city planning in the United States,

said, at the turn of the century, that he wanted to turn Manila into a, "Pearl of the Orient." Burnham, who was credited for the monumental beauty of Washington, personally designed such landmarks in the United States capital as the Union Station and City Post Office.

In keeping pace with the national development and in working persist-





ently and consciously toward an organic plan, Manila may really hope to become the adequate expression of the destiny of the Filipino people as well as an enduring witness to the efficient services of America in the Philippines," Burnham said in his report on 28 June 1905 to William Taft, the U.S. Secretary of War.

Burnham who was, at that time, the doyen of American architects and city planners, was sent by Taft to the Philippines "to make plans for the beautification of Manila and for laying out a capital in the mountains in the fine climate of Baguio."

After a brisk tour of 40 days in the country, Burnham culled a continuous parkway should be built from the bayfront at Luneta extending all the way to Cavite. After it was built, it was

named Dewey Boulevard in honor of the American Admiral who led the American fleet that defeated the Spanish armada in a battle in Manila Bay at the turn of the century. It is now called Roxas Boulevard.

"This boulevard. . . with roadways, tramways, bridle path, rich plantations and broad sidewalks should be available for all classes of people in all sorts of conveyances and so well shaded with palms, bamboo, and mangoes as to furnish protection from the elements at all times. Its seaward side should be planted so as to interrupt occasionally the view of the sea and, by thus, adding somewhat of a mystery, enhance the value of the stretch of ocean and sky," Burnham said.

On the Pasig River, Burnham proposed that shaded drives be built on

the banks of the river "beginning as close to town as possible and continuing up the river."

He said the narrow canals or esteros ramifying throughout Manila can be put to good use despite their stagnant water and unsanitary mud banks.

"For transportation purposes, they are of the utmost value, and in spite of the serious problems involved in properly widening, bridging, and maintaining them, they should be preserved," Burnham said.

He said esteros play an important role in the lives of people in many cities in the orient and, to develop the system some should be filled up but others should be widened and dredged to

practical depth and provided with masonry banks.

"So treated, they will offer an economical and unobjectionable means of freight handling that will greatly contribute to the prosperity of the city," Burnham said. "The estero, it should be remembered, is not only an economical vehicle for the transaction of public business; it can become, as in Venice, an element of beauty. Both beauty and convenience dictate a very liberal policy toward the development of these valuable waterways."

On the Pasig River itself, Burnham said, every effort should be made to establish an open quay along the riverbanks in the business part of town so that river steamers can make their landings.



"Large manufacturing houses can serve their own interests without inconvenience to the public by building river slips or branches of the estero system in their own grounds, as suggested for the proposed post office," Burnham maintained.

As proposed by Burnham, the Post Office building at Plaza Lawton was designed to allow the easy water transportation of mails.

He brushed aside the American practice of grouping the Hall of Justice and other courthouses with the post office which, he said, was unfitting.

Burnham's proposal spoke of his sentiments. He said in his report: "The post office is a business machine affecting public interests. Its character, consonant with its practical necessities, is commercial. The Hall of Justice, on the contrary, far from being solely a business machine, represents sentimentally and practically the highest function of civilized society. Upon the authority of law depend the lives and property of all citizens, and the buildings which constitute the visible expression of the law, its symbol of dignity and power, should be given the utmost beauty in their location, arrangement, architectural treatment, and approaches. A Hall of Justice should be treated as a thing apart, a thing majestic, venerable and sacred. It should, above all, be free from the clatter of commerce, and its architectural expression should speak the greatness of its function. The moral

effect of such a Hall of Justice, magnificent in outward form and aspect, compelling an attitude of respect, if not inspiring a feeling of awe, could be cheaply secured at large sacrifices of space and money.

Through his proposal, the courthouses, including the Supreme Court, were built several blocks away from the Post Office in what is now called Padre Faura Street.

In addition to the Pasig River, the esteros, the Post Office, and the Hall of Justice, Burnham also spoke of the beauty of the old walls of Intramuros, the railway station, the official residences, the social clubs, public baths, boat clubs, school centers, and the construction of a hotel north of Luneta Park. That hotel came to be known as the world-famous Manila Hotel.

Burnham envisioned the hotel to become a strong attraction to draw to Manila every traveller in the Orient. "With three sides fronting on parks and boulevards, and the fourth side fronting the sea, the hotel site offers every possibility for a world-famous resort," he said. **CT**

**MASONRY
IS DEMOCRATIC**

**Presidents, Royalty and
the man next door meet as
equals in the Lodgeroom.
They are all Masons.**

Reflections from the GM

The Fourth Ruffian

I chanced upon a brother one day in the course of my travel. He was a Mason I look up to, as a model father and citizen. He was well-skilled and proficient in his Masonic degrees and an active member of the

Scottish Rite. During conferral times, we were awed by his delivery and acting prowess when he emoted the personification of Constance in the 32nd degree. It was many years ago and all the while, I thought he was abroad or had already dropped his working tools.

I called him aside and asked him why he had suddenly lost interest in Masonry and stopped paying his dues. He looked me in the eye and said, "MW, Sir, I have all the love for Masonry. It was my inspiration and my way of life. But several things happened that changed me completely.

"A brother, employed with the revenue service borrowed some amount from me and everytime I asked him to pay me back, he threatened me with the investigation of my books of account. I could forgive him and consider human exception to the many good Masons of my acquaintances, but the second instance, another brother begged me to help him financially as he was in need of some amount for his wife who was ill. Having no immediate cash at that time, I borrowed from the




rural bank with my car as the collateral. Come the time for paying me back, I asked him about the settlement of his loan but he refused to pay me and even threatened my person, being an officer in the military. I chose not to pursue the matter as I saw the futility of seeking redress even in the circle of our Fraternity."

Brethren, circumstances like this cast a dark cloud over our Fraternity and place a stain on our Apron—when those obligated upon the altar violate all that they have sworn to uphold in their solemn duty to God and to a Brother Mason. Could brethren like these be the "fourth ruffian" who had escaped being meted the supreme penalty for their transgressions?

We often see the likes of this happening to a newly raised brother who

has nothing but love and admiration for the beautiful teachings of Masonry. Suddenly, he is deluded with offers from Brethren selling anything from life to educational insurance policies. Borrowing money and extracting favors from a newly raised brother are common observations. This is made easy by the trusting nature of the new Master Mason who later finds himself the unknowing victim of the modus operandi of some of our misguided brothers.

We cannot completely put an end to these activities as it has already taken root in our system. We can, however, reduce the possibility of its occurrence by making the Master of the Lodge responsible for guiding the newly raised brother, thereby protecting him from the "fourth ruffian." It will also help if all of us vow to put a stop to it. Brother Masons, do your duty! 

MASONRY IS PATRIOTIC

*Masons fought with other patriots to win,
and later to save, our precious freedom.
Masons are taught allegiance to their country,
to obey its laws and to discharge
their civic duties of preserving peace
and good order in society.*

PGM's Corner

MW Clinton F. Carlson (1956)

The Salesman

He first saw the light of Freemasonry in Cosmos Lodge No. 8 on 18 July 1928. He finally became Worshipful Master of his Lodge in 1948. In the same year, he joined the Scottish Rite Bodies in Manila. He also served as Venerable Master, Wise Master, and Master of Kadosh in the Manila Bodies. On 11 February 1956, he was elected Inspector General Honorary of the Supreme Council.



Active in the appendant and allied bodies, he was serving as Associate Patron of Mayon Chapter No. 1 and as a Royal Patron of Far East Court No. 1, Order of the Amaranth, at the time he was elected Grand Master. As a Knight Templar and a Shriner, he was, during his incumbency, Treasurer of the Masonic Hospital for Crippled Children.

Grand Master Clinton so silently inspired those around "to push plans and prosper" that, according to Past Grand Master Mauro Baradi, "...his passion for anonymity will go a long way in greatly advancing the welfare of Freemasonry in our Grand Jurisdiction.

Grand Master Clinton was born on 23 April 1903 in Rice Lake, Wisconsin, USA. From the United States Navy he transferred to the United States Army.

He arrived in Manila on 1 June 1924 with the famous 31st Infantry, US Army. Upon his discharge on 13 January 1926, he went back home and became sales manager for Milton E. Springer Company. When the firm closed, he joined the Pacific Commercial Company, where he remained until its dissolution. He then became a part of Theo H. Davies & Co., Far East Limited.

At the outbreak of WW-II, he was one of those Americans interned at the University of Santo Tomas. After liberation, he returned to the United States and married Gladys Neale on 17 January 1946.

His forte—salesmanship—brought him to places and increased the number of his friends. It enabled him, at the same time, to sell wise ideas

about the Craft. One such idea is as follows:

"If men are attracted to Freemasonry because of its ethical precepts, Masonry explicitly teaches that one Mason must not wrong another, to say the least, and points to a broader brotherhood of mankind which requires that 'you do unto others what you would have them do unto you.'" **CT**

WHAT MASONRY IS NOT

*by WB Wilfredo C. Vallejos, PM
Alfonso Leesin Memorial Lodge No. 15*

It does not solicit members.

It is not an insurance or benefit society.

It is neither a religion nor a creed, nor a religious order.

It is not a charitable organization but makes charity a duty.

It is not organized for profit.

It dictates to no man as to his beliefs, either religious or secular.

It seeks no advantages for its members through business or politics.

It is not a forum for discussion of religion, politics, or other partisan affairs.

It is not a secret society as it does not conceal its existence or purposes.

C.F. Carlson
442 F. Street, Apartment C-31
Chula Vista, CA 91910



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Chula Vista, CA 91910 -
3742

Sept 14, 1993

The Cabletow
Pyramid Masonic Temple
1440 San Marcelino, Manila 1-2801

Pyramid Masonic Temple
1440 San Marcelino
Manila, Philippines
1-2801

Att. Ramon B. Botacio Cn Mgr.
Dear Sir and Bro -

Today I received the May-June issue of the Cabletow, the first I've received in over two years, you can be assured it was received with great pleasure and appreciation, many thanks.

Also I've not heard from or about the Scottish Rite Star Eastern Freemasons' would like to know if they have closed publication or not.

From your records you will note that I had the great pleasure of serving the Grand Lodge as G.M. in the years, 1956 and 1957, two wonderful years for me

I was raised a m.m. in Cosmos Lodge No. 8 on July 18, 1928 when the lodge was on the Escalita, so celebrated my 65 years as a member of that lodge just three months ago, there again, I've had a word from or about Cosmos more than 15 or 20 years, although

I've written them, but have never had an answer. This is also true for the Scottish Rite for which I have the pleasure of wearing the purple hat of a S.G.T.G 33° I'm also getting along in years, having had my 90th Birthday last April 23rd

I know it costs money to send the Cabletow so please accept the accompanying check for \$25.00 to do with in any way you desire. It's not much, but living on a fixed income and with continually higher prices, it doesn't leave too much to spare.

I'm sending you the address wrapper as was on the Cabletow and correct address labels as it should be.

Again thanking you and can only say I keep up my masonry here by keeping busy in Hilgier's Lodge "Three Stars" Lodge # 557 and Claude H. Morrison # 747 which I enjoy doing.

With kindest regards and Best Wishes to all my Filipino Brethren
In early and fraternal
Winton F. Carlson
P. G. M.

C.F. Carlson
442 F. Street, Apartment C-31
Chula Vista, CA 91910 -
3742

Journal on the GM's U.S. Visit

Early morning of September 1, we left the Philippines to embark on our foreign trip. We were a 12-man delegation which arrived in New York Kennedy Airport in the afternoon of the same day.

September 4 saw the prompt opening of the convention. For the first time, it was held in the cavernous and elegantly furnished Grand Lodge Room, Masonic Hall of the Grand Lodge of New York. Highlighting the opening of the convention was the parade of ban-

ners of the different chapters of the Philippine Masonic Association in America and the reception of the Grand Master of Texas, MW J. D. Buddy Baccus, the Grand Master of New York, MW Gary A. Henningsen, and the Grand Master of the Philippines.

Resource Speaker for the occasion was MW J.D. Buddy Baccus, who delivered a highly informative talk on the topic of Freemasonry and religion which was very timely as it highlighted the recently concluded Southern Baptist Convention in Houston, Texas.





GM Rizal Aportadera visits Grand Master of New York in his office .



GM Aportadera at the Philippine Masonic Association of America's 9th Annual National Convention.



Grand Ball of the Philippine Masonic Association in America at the ballroom of the New York Hilton.

The Grand Master of New York delivered his keynote address which exhorted Masons to get involved and support the youth organizations, he being a former DeMolay himself.

After the opening ceremonies, we retired to the Grand Master's Office where more pleasantries and amenities followed. PGM Robert Singer, the incumbent Grand Secretary, very patiently pointed out to us the different features of the Lodge room, its unique design and historic significance.

Lunch was courtesy of New York's richest and oldest Lodge, the Kane Lodge No. 454, through its incumbent Master, Paul D. Reitz. Afternoon plenary sessions were held simultaneously by the PMAAI and the Ladies of

Filipino Masons Association, where important business matters were taken up.

The evening was filled with merriment as the Formal Banquet and Ball was held at the Grand Ballroom of the New York Hilton. To match the very opulent setting, those who attended were in their Sunday best. The ladies came in their elegantly made gowns. Excellent food and entertainment was accorded everyone. The ballroom was filled to capacity as special numbers were presented by the different chapters. This was preceded by the reception of the Grand Masters and their Ladies.

In my address, I reported to the Filipino Masons on the activities of the

Grand Lodge of the Philippines and the progress made since I assumed office, making special mention of the opening of the Cebu and Davao Units of the Masonic Charities for Crippled Children (MCCC). I appealed for unity and stressed the need for all Filipino Masons to work together as I solicited their active support for scholarships in public schools.

Sunday evening was an affair to remember as all of us embarked on a New York Harbor cruise aboard the "Spirit of New York" which was filled to capacity, adding to the intimacy and revelry of the occasion. An unexpected but spectacular fireworks display was the added attraction, courtesy of New York City. The awarding ceremonies and recognition of worthy brethren were

done by the Grand Master of New York, MW Gary Henningsen, and Grand Secretary Robert Singer, together with the President of the PMAAI, Bayani Diokno. Our delegation was called to fore and honored before the assembly of Filipino Masons, dignitaries, and their ladies.

The next day, we left for San Francisco. We were warmly received by a big delegation of Mindanao Masons of America headed by their officers at the San Francisco Airport. After comfortably depositing us in our hotel, we were treated to dinner at the Chinese Restaurant on the evening of our arrival. The next day was a welcome one for all of us as we were able to visit the Grand Lodge of California and to meet in person DGM Warren J. Blomseth. The



A visit to the Grand Lodge of California with Deputy Grand Master Warren J. Blomseth and VW Feliciano T. Salvador, DDGM.



GM Aportadera with the Mindanao Masons of America in Los Angeles.



GM Aportadera and wife Nelly with the Ladies of Filipino Masons in America.



A visit to the Masonic Homes in Fremont, California.

present Grand Master resides in Los Angeles and reports only twice during his term to the Grand Lodge of California which, we observed, is a model in efficiency inspite of the many activities going on. Credit needs to be given to its Grand Secretary Cooper and his efficient staff.

We also visited the Masonic Homes, a retirement place for senior Masons to stay during their twilight years in company with the sisters and widows of their brethren. Their stay, which may range from a number of years to as long as 20 years, is fully subsidized. We were greeted by all of the tenants in their Sunday best having known beforehand of our forthcoming visit. We had the opportunity to dine with the Mayor of Fremont who was their guest

for lunch. We left with awe and admiration for the efforts of the California Masons in providing, for their senior brethren and sisters, a place to stay and spend their remaining years rather than simply allowing them to be consigned to nursing homes.

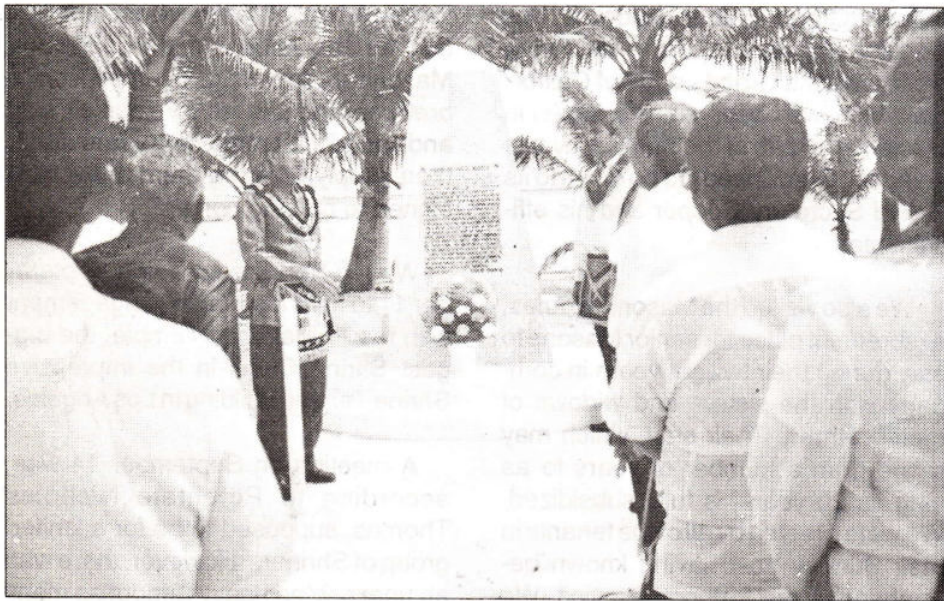
We left San Francisco on September 11 to fulfill a speaking engagement with the Al Malaikah Temple, the biggest Shrine Oasis in the impressive Shrine Temple building in Los Angeles.

A meeting on September 14 was, according to Potentate Nicholas Thomas, supposed to be for a limited group of Shriners. However, there was an unexpected heavy turnout as many Filipino Masons came to attend and add color to the occasion. Also present

in the meeting were Grand Commanders of the Knights Templar, Richard T. Cooper, SGIG, Ill. H. Douglas Lemon of the Supreme Council 33, A & ASR of Freemasonry Southern Jurisdiction, Most Illustrious Bruce D. Carmitchel, Grand Master of Cryptic Masons of California. The program consisted of dinner, prepared and served by the purveyors, followed by my keynote speech during which I discussed a previous problem presented to me by Filipino Masons in America regarding their difficulty in getting a reply to their request for reinstatement and Certificate of Good Standing from their mother lodges in the Philippines. According to them, more often than not, their letters remain unanswered and returned. The Grand Masters of New York and Cali-

fornia brought to my attention the same problem which I took note of and promised to provide speedy action. We hope that by acting on this problem we can encourage many of our Lost Sheep brothers to come back to active membership in our Philippine Lodges.

Guam was our last stop on September 16. We were given a warm welcome by the Chamorro and Filipino Masons at the airport. A series of fellowship dinners and breakfasts characterized our four-day stay. Highlighting our visit was the audience we had with the Philippine Consul, Emmanuel J. Contreras, and Governor of Guam, Joseph F. Ada, made possible by the efforts of District Deputy Grand Master, VW Celso S. Gianchand.

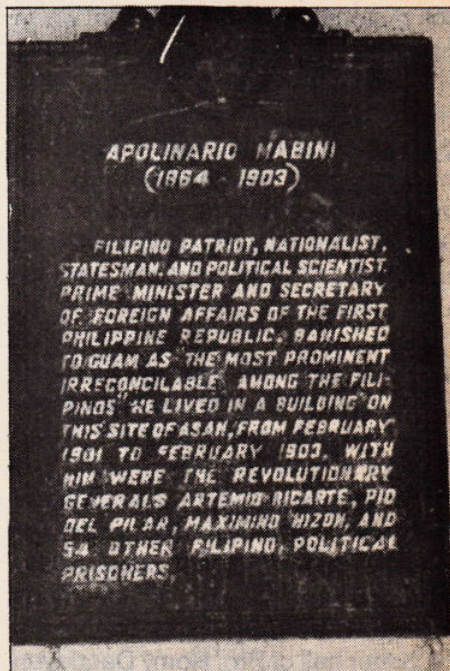


Floral offering at Mabini Shrine in Guam with VW Celso Gianchand, DDGM.



The district convention in Guam held on September 18 was the shortest convention ever held although the Masonic Education that was delivered enlightened everyone in attendance on the principles of Masonry. The great hospitality of our brethren from Guam and the Masonic Family Fellowship was particularly shown in an extraordinary picnic held the following Sunday.

The early morning of September 20 saw us flying back home to the Philippines. Mission accomplished. **CT**



The Ladies of Filipino Masons of America


by *Sis. Nelly P. Aportadera*

The moment the door of our Hilton Suite opened, the ambience of the room almost took my breath away. Then I realized it was devoid of the one thing I love most—flowers. The plan to buy a bundle did not materialize, thanks to the warm gesture of the Sisters from the Ladies of Filipino Masons of America, who presented me with a big floral bouquet. Our first night in New York was indeed a very memorable one. The welcome fellowship at the New York Grand Lodge allowed us to meet with brother Masons we have not seen for a long time.

These Sisters formed their organization three years ago and since then, it has not only grown in number but likewise in strength. They stand not behind their husbands but beside them. They are their partners and supporters in all the activities of the Lodge. A very energetic and charismatic lady heads the organization, Sis. Precy Dagdayan, the better half of Bro. Romy Dagdayan

who incidentally is the current President of the New York Chapter of the Filipino Masons Association of America, Inc. She not only works with the New York Chapter but also with the chapters of Houston, Washington, D.C., Pensacola, Florida, Chicago, and South Carolina.

During the Convention, the Sisters also had their own plenary session. A topic on Preservation of Filipino Culture in the American Society was indeed a very relevant issue, considering that the younger generation of Filipinos are exposed to the culture which is totally different from that of their mother country. Dr. Alice Nepomuceno Francisco was indeed an articulate and moving speaker.

It may be well worth considering allowing the ladies to have their own activities, similar to that mentioned above, in Masonic Conventions. It could bring out the best in them, thus, making them truly the gem of every brother Mason. 

Hiram Lodge No. 88 Inks Pact with DENR

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and Hiram Lodge No. 88 of the Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines have forged an agreement to jointly maintain and operate a wildlife and environmental preservation park and an orchid farm.

Located at Lower Cagsa Pinit, Barangay Tagumpay, Real, Quezon, the project is authorized by DENR Proclamation No. 196.

MW Gaudencio U. Fabroa, Past Master of Hiram Lodge No. 88 had

coordinated with Director Eduardo B. Principe of the DENR National Program Coordinating Office on the implementation of the program.

The move was an offshoot of a memorandum of agreement signed in April at the Camp Aguinaldo in Quezon City between the DENR headed by Secretary Angel Alcala and the Freemasons of the country represented by MW Grand Master Agustin V. Mateo, PGM.

Agrarian Reform officials led by MARO Chief Vicente Mayoralgo, Iluminado Magsombol, and Atty. Arnel Escara had conducted an ocular inspection of the proposed site.



Location project of Hiram Lodge No. 88.

Endorsed by Grand Lodge Master MWRizal D. Apotadera, the project is to be administered by Worshipful Gaudencio V. Fabroa, Past Master of Hiram Lodge No. 88. **CT**

DENR-Masonic Tree Planting Project Launched

by *WB Godofredo O. Peteza, Sr., PM*

In an ardent desire to implement the Memorandum of Agreement signed by and between the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines and the Honorable Angel C. Alcala, Secretary of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, VW Ernesto C. Tabanao, District Deputy Grand Master, Masonic District No. 13, launched the DENR-Masonic tree planting at the Bahi Reforestation area within the Bicol National Park on 21 August of this year.

Participated in by the brethren of Camarines Norte Lodge No. 107, Daet Lodge No. 247, and Isarog Lodge No. 33, the launching of the DENR-Masonic tree planting jibed with the program thrust of Most Worshipful Rizal D. Aportadera, Grand Master of Masons in this jurisdiction. Among the DENR officials present were:

- **Mr. Jose Gatos,**
Regional Technical Director,
DENR Region V, Legazpi City

- **Mr. Salvador T. Bateagan,**
Regional Director, DENR,
Cordillera Administrative Region

Masons who participated in the tree planting were as follows:

- **VW Ernesto C. Tabanao,**
DDGM (13)
- **VW Jose P. Tabios, Sr.,**
PDDGM (13)
- **WB Ernesto C. Chicombing,**
(GLI 257)
- **WB Herminio P. Obusan,**
(WM 247)
- **VW Joselito N. Tabios, Jr.,**
(GLI 107)
- **Bro. Gaudioso F. Salvador**
- **WB Gavino Plopinio PM**
- **WB Eufronio Gulapa (WM 33)**

As reported by VW Tabanao to the Most Worshipful Grand Master in his Memorandum dated 30 August, the estimated cost of P100,000.00 is needed to develop the area. He recommended such development strategies as (1) Choice of species such as raintree, narra, mahogany, and other



*Tree planting,
Iligan City Hall site
led by GM Rizal
Aportadera,
RW Pablo Ko,
DGM, RW Percival
Adiong JGW, Vw
Benjamin S. Geli
SGL, Roberto C.
Reyes AGS, Sotero
Trinidad DDGM-25,
Rommie Arbulario
DGL-25,
Christopher Chua
Tek Au JGL*

suitable endemic trees, (2) Planting design such that raintree (*Acacia*) will be planted at the baseline, and (3) Other silvicultural treatments such as thinning and pruning shall be implemented after three years to improve the quality of growing forest trees and to lessen the overcrowding of trees.

DDGM Tabanao also intimated that a time frame to develop the area shall be within 1993 to 1994 Masonic administrative year and will be protected and maintained thereafter for as long as the DENR allowed it based on mutually acceptable agreements.

Apart from the tree-planting efforts in Bicol, the officers of the Grand Lodge also figured in another tree-planting endeavor this time at the Iligan City Hall during the 1st Multi-District Convention held on the 6th and 7th of August. It was another successful display of the determination of the Grand Lodge officers to take active part in the effort to restore our environment. **CT**



*Grand master.
Tree planting, Iligan City Hall*

Free Cataract and Harelip Operation Project Launched

by Bro. Gideon Cabahug, Bukidnon Lodge No. 245



Brethren of District No. 35 and team of the committee of German doctors. At the center are past DDGM Esqillo, Incumbent DDGM David Porticos, WM Jose Olivares, Dr. A. Dejos, Dr. O. Fudalan, Jr., Dr. V. Monsanto and Dr. M. Yebron.

One laudable project that Masonic District No. 35 is pursuing this year, in cooperation with the Committee of German Doctors from Cagayan de Oro City, is a program providing free cataract and harelip operations which was successfully conducted at the Monsanto Community Hospital (MCH), Valencia, Bukidnon last August 21 to 22.

Initially launched last 8 July through the enlistment of prospective patients, the project saw the successful operation of a total of 13 cataract and 17 harelip cases.

Other sponsors of this major undertaking included the Bukidnon Medical Society, the Philippine Academy of Family Physicians, and the Monsanto Community Hospital.

In his message during the opening program, Mr. Dietmar Schug, the project manager of the Committee of German Doctors, said this was their first joint undertaking with the Masons and that they look forward to more activities of this kind in the future. Two of their specialists, Drs. Augusto Dejos and Antonio Sarita, are Masons.

This project was the first one conducted at the Southern part of Bukidnon and is one of the many activities programmed by VW David Porticos, the District Deputy Grand Master of District No. 35.

Plaques of Appreciation were given out to members of the Medical Team which included Dr. Augusto V. Dejos, Dr. Antonio Sarita, Dr. Francisco Hipona, Dr. Geronimo Clitar, Dr. Ernesto Estorba, Dr. Oscar Fudalan, Jr.—Outreach Program Coordinator, Dr. Ramon Moreno, Dr. Barbara

Wendl—Medical Coordinator, Mr. Dietman Schug—Project Manager, Mrs. Teofanes Dano Guinita, Ms. Eulogia Puyo, Mr. Franco Ychon, Ms. Daisy Imperio, Ms. Joemelina Naguio, Ms. Annabelle Dequinco, Mr. Tristan Val Pacursa, Mr. Peter Antolin, and Ms. Felicidad Beltran, who unselfishly gave their time and services for free.

Sincerest gratitude is being extended to Dr. Victor Monsanto—Medical Director of Monsanto Community Hospital—for providing, free of charge, all the hospital facilities and accommodations to the patients and for bringing them to Cagayan de Oro City for a follow-up check-up.

Special thanks are also sent to Bukidnon Lodge No. 245 as the host lodge headed by WM Wilfredo Pasquera and to all Brethren and Sisters of District No. 35. **CT**


MASONRY AND FREEDOM— HAND IN HAND

Masonry exists in virtually every free country. Masons helped found our country and write its Constitution. The sculptor who designed and built the Statue of Liberty was a Freemason and much of the funds to erect it was donated by Freemasons.

From an American Mason

Dapitan Lodge No. 21: Growing Stronger

Dapitan Lodge No. 21 had a medical and dental mission at 14th Avenue, Murphy, Quezon City last 29 August. A total of 145 fellowmen benefitted from this event.

Present at the mission were VW Romeo Musngi, DDGM 1B; VW Joselito Villarosa, Jr., Grand Lecturer (Regions 1 to 3); WM Marcelo Agustin, VW Pablo Elauria, VW Joey Obillo, WB Joel Capistrano, WB Francis Maher, WB Alberto Macaraig, Bro. Cesar Solis, Bro. Angel Mabbayad, Bro. Jojo Atienza, Bro. Rody Mabutas, and Bro. Ronnie Golingan. 



This mission was undertaken to commemorate the 77th Anniversary of Dapitan. Despite it's being one of the oldest Lodges, it has members who are full of youth, energy, and vigor to do good for mankind and fellow travelers.



Out- of -School Youths Finish Cosmetology Course



Seated (L to R) WB Godofredo O. Peteza, Sr.; Lodge Secretary, Jaime P. Raña; NMYC Provincial Officer, Bgy. Captain Lilia P. Avellana; Trainer, WB Eduardo S. Freyra; Project Director & SP Member (Training Coordinator), Bgy. Captain Jose Moya; Special Guest, WB Ernesto C. Chicombing and VW Jose T. Seeping, Jr. with the members of the graduating clas during the closing ceremonies

Twenty-six out of forty out-of-school youths and unemployed adults finished the Cosmetology Course sponsored by Camarines Norte Lodge No. 107 in cooperation with the Department of Education, Culture, and Sports Non-Formal Education Division at Camarines Norte. The closing exercises were held at the Masonic Temple last June 20.

Funded out of a P22,000-donation by VW Vicente N. Ongtengco, a philanthropic member of the Craft, the Cosmetology Class was supervised by WB Eduardo S. Freyra, former DECS NFE General Education Supervisor and now a member of the Sanggunian Panlalawigan of Camarines Norte. The course was conducted on a daily basis by Ms. Lilia P. Avellana, Barangay Captain of Magang, Daet, for 50 days

or the equivalent of 200 hours, as prescribed by the DECS Non-Formal Education Division.

Bgy. Captain Avellana, a graduate of the Realistic Institute in Manila, recommended the 26 candidates for graduation to WB Eduardo S. Freyra in simple but meaningful ceremonies. In turn, WB Freyra, the Lodge's Project Director, confirmed them as graduates in Cosmetology by virtue of the authority vested in him by DECS Division Superintendent Prescilla G. Mariano of Camarines Norte.

The following graduates successfully passed the course: Abad, Jovy F.; Aban, Amparo J.; Aban, Melanie; Arevalo, Angelita; Arevalo, Salome; Arciga, Elsie; Avancena, Lorna; Avancena, Olivia; Caramoan, Marible; Clacio, Yolanda; Corea, Rosalie; David, Marites; Diongson, Laarni; Dolor, Mila; Malangyaon, Lilibeth; Oberos, Sonia; Padua, Aileen D.; Pacardo, Merlina; Pena, Nelia; Rada, Rowena; Reyes,

Ailyn P.; Salen, Sisa; Sta. Clara, Fritzee Mae; Suterio, Isabelita; Vera, Maribel de; and Vera Estrella de.

The NFE program of Camarines Norte Lodge No. 107 was conceived at a meeting with VW Vicente N. Ongtengco held in Daet, Bicol, during which WB Eduardo S. Freyra presented a rationale for courses in Cosmetology including manicure, make-up, hair science, and skin bleaching and in practical electricity which included building wiring.

The program provides free tuition to out-of-school youths and unemployed adults in the province who are able to provide themselves with the necessary materials. Unfortunately, 14 out of the 40 enrollees dropped out for lack of these much-needed materials.

Guest speaker at the closing ceremonies was WB Freyra, NMYC Provincial Manpower Officer of the province of Daet. (1)

What is Masonry

In the home it is kindness,
 In the business it is honesty.
 In society it is courtesy, In work it is fairness.
 Toward the unfortunate it is pity.
 Toward the weak it is help.
 Toward the strong it is trust.
 Toward the penitent it is forgiveness.
 Toward the fortunate it is congratulations
 Toward God it is reverence and love.

THE MASON

Books for a Cause...

by Bro. Fernando M. Lacsamana

Baguio Lodge No. 67, F. & A.M. is sponsoring 30 public high school scholars for school year 1993-1994—20 from Baguio City National High School and 10 from Pines City National High School. These students, belonging to indigent families residing in Baguio and the Benguet province, will be given financial assistance for fare and school supplies to be released on a bimonthly basis. They will also be allowed to use the Lodge's Social Hall as their study area.

At present, students are seen using the social hall after school hours, Mondays through Saturdays, to study their lessons and make their assignments and projects. Free use of facilities and some office equipments such as typewriters and the computer are likewise available for them.

* In the course of all this, students would inquire from the Lodge whether they had books on certain subjects which they could use as references. At the start, the Lodge Secretary accommodated them by loaning out his daughters' books on an overnight basis. He also promised the students that he would solicit additional books from the other brethren who would be willing to share them.

In one Lodge meeting, the Secretary, who was also the chairman of the Education and Scholarship Committee, suggested to the brethren to open a mini-library for use by these indigent students as well as their brother DeMolays, Job's Daughters, Master Masons, and friends. Recognizing the importance of reading to the acquisition of new knowledge, everyone in the meeting agreed unanimously.

In the 7th Tri-District Convention of Masonic Districts 4, 5, and 24 held September 24 to 25 of this year at San Fernando, La Union, the Grand Master, MW Rizal D. Apotadera, in one of his Masonic intercourse with Baguio Masons, learned of this noble project and, as a token of support, promised to send some books.

On September 28, the Master of Baguio Lodge No. 67, WB Van Cornelius D. Luspo made a courtesy call on the Grand Master and, to his surprise, a jeepload of books was there in his office ready for pick up. Indeed, we are grateful for having a Grand Master that readily recognizes noble projects and acts very swiftly.

So Brethren, if you have some books lying idle, please send them to us, or better still, why not follow what we started in this part of the country. **CT**

Masons for a Better Philippines



hat began as a Conscience Committee of Malolos Lodge No. 46 for purely internal affairs of Masons in the Lodge became, in the end, the Masons for a Better Philippines (MBP).

The Committee did not aim to do earthshaking projects. It concentrated on broadening citizen community-based participation in the drive against corruption and inefficiency in the government and heightened citizen's awareness on the value of an honest, efficient, and effective government through consultation, workshops, and multisectoral conferences. The Committee concentrates only on things the government has forgotten or neglected to do, things that need follow-ups of truly concerned citizens, especially Masons. These little things, when added together, amount to a truly meaningful accomplishment.

The Conscience Committee was formed in 1989 after the Baguio Annual Communication. Its first chairman was Bro. Epifanio Reyes. It was the perception of the brethren, however, that its scope as a committee was too limited for its intended purpose. Thus, the

MBP was organized. Its membership was extended to all concerned Master Masons, not necessarily members of Malolos Lodge No. 46.

The original composition of the Committee included:

Bro. Epifanio R. Reyes, *Chairman*
 WB Moises S. Roque, *Secretary*
 VW Felix C. Florcruz, *Member*
 VW Faustino C. Garcia, *Member*
 VW Noli A.L. Madlangbayan, *Member*
 WB Rodolfo J. Aldaba, *Member*
 WB Nestor B. Calimon, *Member*
 WB Marcelino S. Garcia, *Member*
 Bro. Jesus M. Untivero, *Member*

The Committee has participated in the seminar conducted by the Ombudsman to organize Crime Prevention Units (CPU) held in Malacanang and has signified its intention to affiliate with the Ombudsman as a unit because the latter's objectives coincide with the aims and targets of the MBP.


Among the accomplishments the MBP boasts of was the development of civic awareness among the people of Malolos, getting them involved in community and government undertakings.

When the Municipality of Malolos contracted a loan with the World Bank via the Minute Program of DPWH for the renovation of the Malolos Public Market, the people were made to fully understand all the implications of such a loan. They were able to register their objections to the plan intelligently and with conviction.

The MBP also was able to open a diversion road from MacArthur Highway to the town proper of Malolos to ease the congested traffic in the main thoroughfare. This plan has been gathering dust in the District Engineer's Office because they could not identify the corresponding owners of the land through which the road would pass. The Committee was able to locate and identify the owners and positive negotiations were made. The MBP was also

able to convince the government to re-appropriate funds for the project despite the previous administration's decision to divert the funds to other more pressing projects.

Recently, due to the expertise gained from the experiences of the Committee, Bro. Epifanio Reyes was able to cause the arrest of a lawyer and three others for extortion and illegal possession of firearms by entrapment.

The MBP has now for its members all the brethren of Malolos Lodge No. 46 and has working arrangements with the Rotarians, Lions, Jaycees, and the K of C. The MBP was able to solicit their support and cooperation in the campaign for transparency and effective government. 



Members of the Conscience Committee of Malolos Lodge No. 46 alongside the highway they helped open for the community.

August 30

Bro. M.H. del Pilar Day

by VW Faustino C. Garcia, DDGM, District No. 7

Since the 30th of August 1986 and every 30 August thereafter, Masons have actively participated in the celebration of the birth anniversary of Bro. Marcelo H. del Pilar at his birthplace in Cupang, Bulacan, Bulacan.

Brethren, mainly from District No. 7 composed of Bulacan and Pampanga

have undertaken civic-military parades and wreath-laying ceremonies. Customarily, the incumbent Grand Master delivers a message during the program that serves as the highlight of the day's events.

This year's celebration of Bro. Marcelo H. del Pilar's 143rd birth anniversary was rather extraordinary. Despite its having fallen on a Monday, a substantial number of both Filipino and



MW Rizal D. Aportadera with VW Faustino C. Garcia—DDGM of District No. 7 lead masons during civic-military parade.



The Grand Master together with Filipino and American Masons of District No. 7, in front of Cupang Lodge No. 295 temple.

American brethren together with members of the M.H. del Pilar Chapter of the Order of DeMolay joined the day's festivities.

Furthermore, it marked the first time that two Grand Masters figured prominently in the program that followed the parade and wreath-laying ceremony. Incumbent Grand Master, MW Aportadera suggested, during the preparation, that former Grand Master, MW Reynaldo S. Fajardo, a renown authority on Masonic history and personalities, be asked to speak during the program.

Like a faithful soldier, WB Nestor B. Calimon, Master of Cupang Lodge No. 295 which has hosted the annual Masonic event since last year, made the necessary arrangements to include the speech of MW Fajardo.

The Masons who attended the event as well as the general public were fortunate to have been given the chance to learn from the two Grand Masters how Bro. M.H. del Pilar was able to unify the Tagalogs, Pampangueños, Ilocanos, and Visayans toward the fulfillment of a common goal. This goal remained elusive during the previous attempts to ignite a revolution against the oppressive Spanish government. The Masonic principles applied by Bro. M.H. del Pilar in the success of the Philippine Revolution in 1898 was similarly underscored in the speech of MW Fajardo.

A simple fellowship at the temporary temple of Cupang Lodge No. 295 followed the program. Significantly, the temple stood right in front of Bro. Marcelo's shrine. (CT)

Masonic District No. 9-A Sponsors Choral Concert

In keeping with the Masonic love for harmony, brother Masons from Masonic District No. 9-A of Free and Accepted Masons under the jurisdiction of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines sponsored an evening of night and music with the University of the Philippines Concert Chorus in a choral concert held 17 October at the Philamlife Theater on U.N. Avenue, Manila.

With Prof. Rey T. Paguio conducting, the UP Concert Chorus, one of the nation's multi-awarded and internationally acclaimed choral groups, dazzled the audience with a repertoire that made everyone forget the pressures and problems of the times. A most exhilarating experience indeed.

The concert won the support of the various Lodges under District No. 9-A and their corresponding masters which include:

- Silangan Lodge No. 19
- WB Bernardino L. Saplaco, Jr.
- Marikina Lodge No. 119
- WB Simeon L. Guevarra

- Quezon City Lodge No. 122
- WB Perfecto F. Lacuesta
- T.M. Kalaw Lodge No. 136
- WB Alfredo T. Gonzales
- R. Palma Lodge No. 147
- WB Rolando D. Gamalinda
- J. Sumulong Lodge No. 169
- WB Pedro R. Acierto
- Capitol City Lodge No. 174
- WB Jose B. de Jesus
- Laon-Laon Lodge No. 185
- WB Jose C. Fabre
- Andres Bonifacio Lodge No. 190
- WB Juanito R. Angeles
- Mandaluyong Lodge No. 277
- WB Vicente B. Lopez

We apologize . . .

For any confusion that may have arisen out of the inadvertent publication of the wrong birthdate of our Bro. Jose Rizal. Bro. Rizal was born June 19, 1861 and not 1893 as earlier published.

The editor

Highlights of the Tri-Discon

Delegates from Pangasinan Lodge No. 56 attended the recent Tri-Discon held last September but their Lodge was not able to garner the award for attendance as several of their members were not able to make it.

The first wave of delegates arrived at the Grand Lodge on the 24th of September while the second wave followed the next day. During the conference, MW Rizal D. Aportadera met with the Masters and Wardens of the Lodges, while Asst. Grand Secretary, VW Roberto Reyes convened the Lodge Secretaries and Treasurers for a working session in the afternoon of

24 September. Many Lodge problems were threshed out during this semi-formal session.

The Grand Master, in his formal message to the delegates on 25 September, spoke on the need to welcome quality members to the Craft. He touched lengthily on the problem of "Black Knights" in the Lodge during balloting of candidates to the Fraternity. The way Most Worshipful Aportadera and his Grand line officers are zeroing in on the main problems of the Craft has made the brethren conclude that they have indeed diagnosed the maladies and are prescribing the correct medication. **CT**

MASONRY IS CONSCIENTIOUS

A thinking man's environment in which the virtues of Brotherly Love, Relief of the distressed and search for Truth are the very tenets by which every Mason is taught his level best to live.

Bernardo Neri Memorial Lodge Puts the Year's Theme to Action

by VW Oscar O. Abuzo, PDGL, District No. 38

The Bernardo A. Neri Memorial Lodge No. 214 in Calamba, Misamis Occidental recently translated into action this year's theme—"Masonry in spirit and in deed"—through its various charitable programs.

Last April 30, the Lodge conducted a surgical mission named "Operation: Free Tuli" rendering free circumcision to indigent children and providing them with free medicines.

Held at the ground floor of the Masonic temple which was temporarily converted into a medical clinic for the occasion, the one-day mission, spearheaded by VW Ericson Jumalon, DDGM for Masonic District No. 38, who is also the incumbent Master, and WB Bienvenido Yap, Sr., treasurer of the Lodge, successfully administered to more than a hundred children.

Rodolfo Nazareno of Malindang Lodge No. 154, Chief of Calamba District Hospital, led doctors, nurses, and midwives from local hospitals and medical clinics as well as rural health units who joined the mission.

"Operation: Free Tuli" exemplified the charitable character of the Masonic fraternity and was able to generate immeasurable goodwill and a favorable impression of Masons and Masonry in this flourishing infant town. CT



VW Ericson Jumalon, DDGM (center with surgical mask) in action with two nurses assisting and two nurses in the foreground.

CSC Honors Four Brother Masons

"Outstanding public service can be likened to a diamond. It thrives in unlikely places, in highly unpredictable conditions. But once discovered, it can illuminate the darkest corner."

This is an excerpt from the anniversary supplement of the CSC awarding ceremonies for the 1993 *Lingkod Bayan* and *Dangal ng Bayan* awards held during the 93rd Anniversary of the Philippine Civil Service Commission last September at the Heroes Hall in Malacanang. Conferring the honors was President Fidel V. Ramos.

Since the 1900s, the Civil Service Commission has never ceased to be on the look out for noteworthy public servants with "exceptional



character, extraordinary abilities, and outstanding qualities worthy of honor and praise." In 1959, to finally give vent to its desire to commend these worthy government men and women, the Commission enacted Republic Act 2260, Section 27 of which provided for the establishment of the Employee Suggestions and Incentive Awards System.

With the launching of the Civil Service Honorary Awards, the conferment of honors began in 1966 with five awardees. In 1967, ten individuals were honored and, by 1968, the total number of awardees reached record high proportion with 48 awardees comprising 3 groups and 21 individuals.

Every year, the CSC confers honor

and outstanding public service awards for exemplary work performance to deserving individuals and groups from the the million-strong government workforce nationwide. The awards are classified as the Presidential or *Lingkod Bayan Award*, the CSC or the *Pagasa Award*, and the *Dangal ng Bayan Award*.

This year, another group of government workers joined the ranks of those who have been honored for their dedication to service, and the Grand Lodge is proud to announce that four of these honored individuals are brother Masons. They include the following:

• **Bro. Francisco M. Samson** of Davao Lodge No. 149
District No. 18. (Pagasa Awardee)

— *“For exemplary dedication shown in rendering service to the country the activation of the AGUS I HE project in Mindanao despite threats of kidnapping and threats from oppositors of the Project.”*

Bro. Samson was a member of the National Power Corporation’s 19-man Task Force on the AGUS I HE project.

• **Bro. Leo N. Balase** of Judge Valerio V. Rovira Lodge No. 259, District No. 25 (Pagasa Awardee)

— *“Just like Bro. Francisco Samson, Bro. Leo Balase was also a part of the 19-man task force commissioned to activate the AGUS I HE project in*

Mindanao, which saved the government much-needed resources, rendering unwavering service in the face of threats of kidnapping and ambush.”

• **Bro. Ernie D. Clarete** of Gregorio C. Calit Memorial Lodge No. 154, District No. 33 (Dangal ng Bayan Awardee)

— *“For efficient management of community programs, which include the Rice Action Program, Cooperative Credit Assistance, the Livelihood Enhancement Agricultural Development and the P10 million NALGU-funded water supply project, which is now benefitting 17 barangays and which can supply the municipality’s needs beyond the year 2000.”*

Bro. Clarete is the Municipal Mayor of Plaridel, Misamis Occidental.

• **Bro. Francisco T. Rivera** of Koronadal Lodge 209, District No. 37 (Pagasa Awardee)

— *“For uncovering cash shortages and irregularities amounting to several thousands of pesos in line with the exercise of his duties as a state auditor of the Provincial Agriculture Office in South Cotabato. His findings led to the conviction of the different officers by the Sandiganbayan.”*

Integrity, honesty and unwavering dedication are the marks of a true Mason.

Congratulations, brethren!

CT

CA Confirms Two Masons

Two distinguished members of the Craft have recently been confirmed by the Commission on Appointments and these are Bro. Angel C. Alcala of Mt. Kaladias Lodge No. 91, District No. 16 and WB Ricardo T. Gloria, PM of Kidapawan Lodge No. 170, District No. 26.



Bro. Angel C. Alcala

A noted environmentalist as evidenced by his various laudable projects and noted researches conducted at the Silliman University, Bro. Angel Alcala was appointed Secretary of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources. Bro. Alcala is a Biology graduate of Silliman University in Negros Occidental and a Masters Degree and a Doctorate Degree holder

from Stanford University in Stanford, California, USA.

WB Ricardo T. Gloria, for his part, is also a noted man of science having conducted several scientific missions to various parts of the world. He was confirmed Secretary of the Department of Science and Technology. He is a graduate of the University of the Philip-



WB Ricardo T. Gloria

ines Los Baños with an M.S. degree in Agronomy and a Doctorate in Horticulture.

These two men of science are distinguished individuals both in their respective fields and in their Masonic Lodges.

Congratulations, brother Masons!

Grand Lodge Extends Aid to Crippled Children in the Provinces

The Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines, in a move to expand its charitable work to the countryside, opened major units for its Masonic Charities for Crippled Children (MCCC) in key areas in Visayas and Mindanao last July.

Grand Master Rizal D. Aportadera said MCCC regional centers were set up in Cebu and Davao last 23 July "to spread the Masonic Charities to indigent crippled children in the provinces."


"We must help especially those children who cannot be brought to Manila because they cannot afford the high cost of transportation and other expenses," MW Aportadera explained.

The MCCC, which is one of the widely acclaimed charitable activities of Masons in the country, subsidizes the medical, surgical, and rehabilitation services to crippled children in selected hospitals. MCCC has provided assist-

ance to hundreds of crippled children since it was founded in 1924. It received the prestigious Apolinario Mabini Award from then President Corazon Aquino in 1987.

MW Aportadera announced that the patients in Mindanao can now be accepted at the Davao Medical Center in Davao City while those in the Visayas can seek treatment at the Cebu Medical Center in Cebu City.

This is the first time that MCCC operations were extended to the provinces and made possible through the Masonic Charities for Crippled Children, Inc., a charitable arm of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines.

"Fellow Masons, who are respected orthopedic surgeons, have been designated to coordinate the program in the Visayas and Mindanao," MW Aportadera said. These units provide for expert orthopedic services, free medicines, and supplies to its beneficiaries. 

VW Manuel Valencia Ko, PDDGM**A Friend and Benefactor**

Manuel Valencia Ko Memorial Lodge No. 210, F. & A.M., commemorated the birth anniversary of the late VW Manuel V. Ko, Past District Deputy Grand Master of Masonic District No. 27, in whose honor the Lodge was named after.

The Lodge, by dispensation, held its stated meeting on the 9th of August to coincide with the birthday of "Chief" Manny. During the said meeting, several brethren talked about their personal recollection and memories of the "Chief."

VW Marzo Agarao fondly remembered that "Agurang," as he was fondly called by the members of the Lodge, was very supportive of his endeavors, and was always giving him timely advise and encouragement in his business ventures. As a newly raised Mason, VW Marzo was always guided by the fatherly and brotherly advise he received from "Agurang". Whatever he is now, says VW Marzo, as a businessman and as a Mason, he credits to VW Manuel Valencia Ko.

WB Alejandro Tupas, Jr. likewise remembered "Chief" Manny as a model citizen and public official whose name was never tainted with any shade of graft and corruption, thus making him a one in a million public official. He was a philanthropist, having donated several buildings and schoolrooms during his lifetime.

Bro. Manuel Simplicio Ko, a third generation Mason and a grandson of the late VW Manuel V. Ko, lovingly recalled that his "Angkong" was a disciplinarian but a doting grandfather—his inspiration in becoming a Master Mason. Bro. Mansim remembers his "Angkong" as a man and brother whose trust was in God, who met everyone on the level and acted upon the square.

VW Jose Justiniani intimated that VW Manuel Ko was a man of many names—"Angkong" to his grandchildren, "Papa" to his children, "Chief" to his close friends, "Chairman" to the members of Amity Club, and "Agurang" to his constituents. But whatever names he may have been called, people remember him as a good father, a doting

and loving grandfather, a dedicated and honest public official, and, above all, a model Mason. To this day, VW Joe remembers that even on his sickbed, VWKo's thoughts were still on the Fraternity.

Since the day was especially dedicated to the memory of the late VW Manuel V. Ko, VW Justiniani moved that the Lodge, in order to perpetuate his memory in the Masonic World, donate its 660 shares of stocks in the Bacolod Masonic Temple Association, Inc. to the Grand Lodge of the Philippines. The motion, which was duly seconded by VW Marzo Agarao, was unanimously approved. In addition, VW Antonio K. Ko donated personal shares

to the Grand Lodge, and appointed VW Justiniani to chair the Committee to handle the said donation.

After the Lodge meeting, the members and guests composed of Masons from the different Lodges proceeded to the residence of VW Antonio Ko for a fraternal banquet and fellowship which lasted till late in the evening.

Among the guests were VW Oscar B. Quisumbing, Jr., DDGM; VW Franklin J. Demonteverde, JGL-Western Visayas; VW Gil N. Octaviano, Jr., PDDGM; WB Benito Ang, Past Master of Menciun Lodge; other District Officers; Worshipful Masters, and members of all Lodges in the District. CT

MASONRY IS FOR
THE WHOLE FAMILY

Masonic affiliated organizations
which teach similar values, include

Eastern Star and Awaranth,

which include ladies;

Jobs Daughters

for girls aged 11 to 20;

Rainbow

for girls aged 12 to 18;

and DeMolay

for boys and young men

aged 13 to 21.

MASONRY IS
RELIGIOUS

Freemasonry is not a religion
even though it is religious in
character. It does not pretend
to take the place of religion
or serve as a substitute
for the religious beliefs
of its members.

Freemasonry complements,
and draws members from,
all major religions
of the world.

Historical Notes

Masons in the Supreme Courts of Various Countries

by MW Reynold S. Fajardo, PGM

Shortly after the appointment of MW Reynato S. Puno as Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the Philippines, Grand Master Rizal D. Apotadera requested that an in-depth study be conducted to find out the other Masons, here and abroad, who became Supreme Court Justices. After a month, the research yielded close to 400 names.

We cannot guarantee the study is complete because of the limited research facilities in the Philippines. Nonetheless, the list we compiled is impressive. It includes more than 130 Masons who became Chief Justice in the Supreme Court of their state or country. Among them were five from the Philippines—Jose Abad Santos, PGM; Manuel V. Moran of Pangasinan Lodge; Jose P. Laurel (Acting Chief Justice) of Batangas Lodge; Gracio Gonzaga, who held the post during the Revolution; and, Apolinario Mabini, who was elected Chief Justice in the Aguinaldo government, but failed to assume because of his capture by the Americans.

In the United States, the list of Masons who became Chief Justice includes John Marshall, who is regarded

as the "Father of the Judiciary," Oliver Ellsworth, the third Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court; William Howard Taft, a former Civil Governor of the Philippines and President of the United States, Frederick Vinson, U.S. Chief Justice from 1946-53; and Earl Warren, who was appointed Chief Justice in 1953. Also in the list is Bro. William Cushing, the first person appointed Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court. He was later appointed Chief Justice by Bro. George Washington, but he declined. Likewise making the list is Thurgood Marshall, 33°, (Prince Hall), the first Black member of the U.S. Supreme Court.

Interestingly, too, 50 of the Supreme Court Justices were Past Grand Masters, several held the 33°, while two were Sovereign Grand Commanders of the Scottish Rite—Justice Puno and Ill. George E. Bushnell. Bro. Bushnell was Justice of the Supreme Court of Michigan from 1933 until he resigned in 1954 to accept the chieftainship of the Northern Jurisdiction upon the retirement of Ill. Melvin H. Johnson. In the Blue Lodge, he served as Master of Sojourners Lodge No. 483 of Detroit in 1925, but did not occupy important positions in the Grand Lodge. It would seem, therefore, that Justice Puno is

the only Supreme Court Justice who is both PGM and Sovereign Grand Commander.

The list of Masons who became Justices of the Supreme Court of the Philippines:

Jose Abad Santos, Chief Justice, 1932-38 and 1941-42, Bagumbayan Lodge No. 4, PGM, KCCH

George C. Butte, 1932-36, University Lodge No. 1192, Texas, 33°

Jose Gutierrez David, 1959-61, Pampanga Lodge No. 48

Ramon Diokno, 1954, Sinukuan No.16, and Nilad No.12 Lodges, Deputy Grand Master

Jose A. Espiritu, 1945, Bagumbayan Lodge No. 4

Fred C. Fisher, 1917-18

Jose Generoso, Temporarily Designated, Solidaridad Lodge No. 23

Leonard Goddard, 1934-36, Mayon Lodge No. 61

Gracio Gonzaga, Chief Justice under the Revolutionary Government, Founder of Minerva Lodge No. 217 in Cagayan

Antonio Horrilleno, 1943-45, Iloilo Lodge No. 11

John A. Hull, 1925-40, Corregidor Lodge No. 3

Delfin Jaranilla, 1945-46, Sinukuan Lodge No. 16

E. Finley Johnson, 1903-33, Southern Cross No. 6

Charles Johns, 1932-35, Baker Lodge No. 47

Alejo Labrador, PM, 1952-64, Pinatubo Lodge No. 52

Jose P. Laurel, Acting Chief Justice, 1936-42, Batangas Lodge No. 35

George A. Malcolm, 1917-36, Concord Lodge No. 3, 33°

Apolinario Mabini, Elected Chief Justice in the Aguinaldo Government, Grand Orator

Manuel V. Moran, Chief Justice, 1938-51, Pangasinan Lodge No. 56 James A. Ostrand, 1921-33, Manila Lodge No. 1

Guillermo Pablo, 1945-55, Pinatubo Lodge No. 52

Reynato S. Puno, 1933-, Hiram Lodge No. 88, PGM, Sovereign Grand Commander

Abraham Sarmiento, Hiram Lodge No. 88

Jose Lopez Vito, Temporarily Designated, 1942-44

Calixto Zaldivar, 1964-74, Iloilo-Acacia Lodge No. 11 and Bagumbayan Lodge No. 4, PGM, 33°

CT

A Tour of Duty that Led to the Creation of a Lodge

(Brief history of the creation of Maribulan Lodge 304)

by Bro. Arthur T. Sendico

Sometime in the summer of 1992, somewhere in the coastal towns of Southern Mindanao, Lt. Col. Pedro M. Curva (INF), PA, of the elite 12th Special Forces Battalion was conducting his tour of duty—his second visit to the place—when he chanced upon a brother Mason. WB Pete Curva happened to be a Master Mason, an incumbent Master of the Luzon Lodge No. 57, a dedicated military officer and a gentleman. Thereupon the usual fraternal greetings and handshakes which could only take place between brother Masons transpired. Next came the inquiries about Masonry in the place.

What took place in that part of the coastal areas between the two Masons—a resident and a sojourner—is another story. However, WB Pete Curva did not settle himself at rest after that brief fellowship with his brother Mason. He went on to consult with the brethren in General Santos City. He met with WB Lamberto C. Tan, Jr., at that time an incumbent Master of Kaduh Lodge No. 278, Bro. Ziegfred T. Sendico of Dadiangas Lodge No. 225, and a former

colleague in the military service, about the feasibility of forming a Masonic Lodge for the residents of the coastal areas.

About that time, the coastal areas and other connecting towns and municipalities were in the process of being segregated into a new province, known as the Sarangani Province.


The plan to establish a Lodge was then timely and parallel to the government's future programs. Without hesitations, the three brethren spread the news among the Masons of District 37 as well as other sojourners present in the area. The response was positive. Several brother Masons were then tapped to make up the set of officers and memberships, and they came up to a total of about 48 members and active Master Masons of different Lodges, viz: Nilad Lodge No. 12, Sinukuan Lodge No. 16, Silanganan Lodge No. 19, Maguindanao Lodge No. 40, Luzon Lodge No. 57, King Solomon Lodge No. 150, Mt. Matutum Lodge No. 156, Kidapawan Lodge No. 170, Koronadal Lodge No. 209,

Dadiangas Lodge No. 225, and Kaduh Lodge No. 278.

The name "Maribulan" was then adopted from the name of the river dominating the area that cuts the boundary of General Santos City and the south entry of Sarangani Province.

Relative problems and some issues on technicality arose but were tackled and resolved in harmony. The three tenets of Masonry were obviously felt during the organization period—the tenets of Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth.

The Lodge was given its dispensation on 3 February 1993 and was chartered on 23 April 1993 during the 77th Annual p73 Communication (ANCOM) at Davao City. Finally, on 5 June 1993, the youngest Lodge under the jurisdiction of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Philippines was constituted on 5 June 1993 by newly installed Most Worshipful Grand Master Rizal D. Aportadera.

On that fateful day, the Maribulan Lodge No. 304, which seats at the municipality of Alabel, Sarangani Province, became a reality. 

MASONRY IS UNIVERSAL

**Millions of Masons may,
at any given moment,
experience the sudden pleasure
when two men meet at home or abroad
and discover their Masonic Brotherhood,
despite possible differences in language,
religion, social heritage or
political affiliation.**

My Father and I: WB, Masons, PM

by *WB Crisostomo M. Diokno, PM*

In 1933, my father, WB Esteban Diokno, PM, became the Master of the Walana Lodge No. 13. In 1991, I ascended the Oriental Chair of this same Lodge after an interval of 56 years or for over half a century later. I consider it a great privilege and an honorable heritage to have occupied the same position of leadership and to have followed in the footsteps of my father in the long line of Worshipful Masters of this Lodge.

As we celebrate the first century of the existence of Walana Lodge No. 13, we cannot overlook the past and ponder on the leadership of those who have gone before us and who have provided the continuity and the light from the moment of the birth of our Lodge in 1892.

My first encounter with Masonry was, of course, through my father, and with him, his brother Masons and the *Cabletow*, the official organ of the Grand Lodge of the Philippines. I have often

seen my father reading the *Cabletow* and I myself, on many occasions, have browsed through it and read some of its enlightening articles pertaining to Masonry. But it was at a much later date that the seeds that had been planted in me had taken root and grown. I was particularly impressed by the manner in which my father and his Masonic brothers treated each other. I was truly impressed by the close ties of brotherhood and the helpfulness they showed each other.

I can still remember with fondness the happy associations and fellowship they had in our home on several occasions. I can still remember the names Eulogio Manlapit, Dionisio Alejandro, Gregorio Banaag, Pedro Marquinez, Orestes Hermosura, among others. The way they treated each other with respect and high regard far surpasses the demeanor I experience these days among the brethren. Their strong family ties and love for each other speaks well of their breeding as upright Masons. When they part and go their respective

ways after fellowship, I hear them part with these significant words in Spanish: "Recuerdos a la familia."

Such evidence of brotherly love and respect served to arouse in me a thirst for Masonry which in no small measure affected my life. I wanted to become a Mason myself, although I have not been invited formally by anyone, not even my father. These early influences of my father and of his brethren, I can consider to have greatly affected me in entering Masonry.

I can also remember that, in our home, like in any other family, there were occasions of misunderstanding. My father and mother sometimes had to deal with certain problems. There were times when my father would flare up and shout with a loud and deafening voice. But my mother, in her usual calm demeanor and low tone of voice would rebuke my father with these words: "*Ganyan ba ang Mason?*" (Is this how a Mason should behave?) And like the mellowing effect of a gentle breeze during a hot summer, father's passion would settle down and he would soon be soothing the hurt feelings of my mother.

Recalling incidents like this in our home, I now can discern what Masonry can do to one's character and disposition. We can probably pass on to a brother Mason who also needs to be

rebuked for some un-Masonic conduct, this simple words: "*Ganyan ba ang Mason?*"

On another occasion, when my father, assuming his role as a Past Master sought to bring across some thoughts to a son who himself was a Past Master, seemed to be telling me by way of advice: "Son, you will find in the cross-section of society and in our Fraternity much rottenness and decay of the individuals composing it. These are termites that are gnawing at the pillars of our beautiful Temple to topple it down. Beware, my son, STAND UP to protect the edifice. As a Past Master, stand up and be worthy of your Past Master's apron. Be worthy of the Past Master's Jewels awarded to you. Be proud of it and the things it represents. Respect and honor it. Live for it and live with it. Equally then, I shall be proud to have a son who is a Past Master. Never a *PASMADO*."

At this juncture, it is well for us to be reminded also of what our closing prayer tells us, "that we may each one of us practice out of the Lodge those great moral duties which are inculcated in it and, with reverence, study and obey the laws which Thou has given us in Thy Holy Word." By obeying the Biblical injunctions and practicing out of the Lodge those great Masonic virtues, we can successfully put across blatantly, what Masonry is all about. CT

My Father As I Know Him

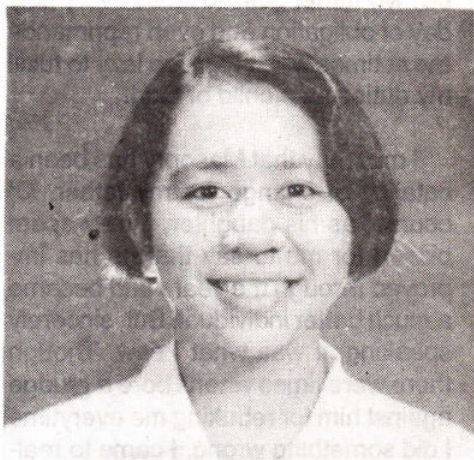
by *Madelene Joevy J. Guanzon,*
daughter of Bro. Job Guanzon



o man is an island." A popular quote which reflects reality. Man is not indeed an island. He lives with his brothers in trust, truth, and fraternal love.

Masonry is like that. No signs of envy or jealousy, it is always centered on God and in his brothers. It is never self-centered because it is always other-centered. Although, to be sure, these words do not cover the entire gamut of Masonry and its real depth, this somehow mirrored the surface of the brotherhood in which my father is loyal members.

It was six years ago in that ordinary 29th day of December, right after Innocent's Day, that my father took his first step to a world full of worthy brothers and a world which ushered him to new doors. It was quite a plain day for me following the usual everyday routine and if ever there was something out of the ordinary going on, I was oblivious to it because I was too young to care. However, it was totally different for my father because it was a special and



memorable day for him. He was ecstatic and even if I was just a nine-year-old kid then, I could feel his joy vibrating throughout our household. There were certain changes in him after that. He was more sober than usual and he gave up the clubs wherein he is a member and even went to the extent of resigning from his treasured college fraternity.

His life revolved around Masonry and God from then on, but still, of course, he never ceased to be a good husband and a good provider for me and my mother. He never once defied the church and that makes me even more rooted to what he told me, that Masons believe in the one and only Architect and Supreme Grand Master of the Universe that is GOD. Simultaneously, dismissing groundless hear-

say and false assumptions that Masons are atheists which I have discovered is not really true. How can they be? My father goes to Mass every holy day of obligation and even reprimands me at times when I am too lazy to fulfill my duties as a child of God.

I must say that Masonry has been a catalyst of change for my father. Of course, as his daughter, it may seem biased for me to say that he has improved through the years and became a much better individual. But, sincerely speaking, it was what I saw. Though there were times when I bore a grudge against him for rebuking me everytime I did something wrong, I came to realize that it is normal and it is only his duty to look after me. One thing I admire about him though, is that he meets you on the level and he treasures and seeks the truth. He is not the world's perfect Dad, that's true, but still, I feel fortunate to have him as my father.

I have absolutely nothing against his being a Mason because of certain reasons. First, it brought out the best in my father, and second, I have seen how his fellow Masons lend a hand to him in times of distress and trials. Third, Masonry led him closer to God. I take off my hat to them for that. I am proud to say that my father has been the epitome of a responsible, righteous man and I could claim that Masonry has contributed a great deal in that improvement. Finally, with utmost sincerity and gratitude, I extend my thanks to Masonry for molding my father into a better person. (17)

What Masonry Is

by WB Wilfredo C. Vallejos, PM
Alfonso Leasin Memorial Lodge
No. 15

It is a voluntary association
of men.

It is a system of moral
conduct.

It is a way of life.

It is a fraternal society.

It is religious in character.

It is a pursuit of excellence.

It seeks to make good men
better men.

It teaches morality through
symbolism.

It uses rites and ceremonies
to instruct its members.

It is based on a firm belief in
the Fatherhood of God,
the brotherhood of men,
and
the immortality of the
Soul.

The Needs of a Lodge

by *VW Cosain D. Baulo,*
Punta Sulawan Lodge No. 242

To grow, prosper, and perpetuate itself, a plant needs the patience, and the tender, loving hands of a caretaker. It needs adequate supply of water, sunlight, and basic nutrients. Deprive a plant of all these and it withers away and dies.

The same is true for a Masonic Lodge. A Lodge has certain needs which allow it to grow, prosper, perpetuate itself, and fulfill its mission of spreading the light of Masonry—the very purpose of its existence.

What are these needs?

The Worshipful Master

First, it needs the presence of a worshipful Master who will always find time for Masonry and his brother Mason not because he has to but because he cares for them.

There needs to be a Master whose ascendancy to the Oriental Chair is a

testament of his unwavering dedication to the Craft manifested by deeds—a leader who is strong enough to wield his power and authority when necessary but strong enough to know and admit that he has shortcomings and inadequacies, too. Someone who humbly solicits the good counsel of his brethren, a gifted strategist whose plans for his Lodge goes beyond his last day in office, one who is knowledgeable about the A to Z of Masonry and is extremely proficient in its rituals, a model for the brethren, a man whose way of life is indeed Masonic, such should be the Master of the Lodge.

Supportive Wardens

These wardens do not shut off their dynamo while waiting for their terms to get to the East, but match, if not surpass, the Master's every ounce of output. Despite being bench players, they have their own stockpile of beautiful plans ready to take off as they each reach the Oriental Chair.

Diligent Secretary

This is someone who knows his duties and responsibilities, his magnitude and significance, and enjoys performing them with dispatch. He is someone who understands that malignant symptoms of a sick Lodge sometimes first appears in his office.

Reliable Past Masters

A Lodge needs a battery of Past Masters whose wisdom and rich experience could serve as a gavel to smoothen rough roads which the Lodge might tread as days pass by; Past Masters who could be proud of their own respective terms of office, achievers in their own right; Worshipful Sirs who hate to rest on their laurels but are eager to move on; Past Masters who want to set back the hands of time and recapture the past, not because of greed, but the willingness to serve.

Friendly DDGM

This is one who neither dips his finger too deep into the Lodge nor adopts a hands-off policy. He is one who is willing to help, guide, and provide in a spirit of friendship and brotherly love, not just to comply with certain duties and functions within a 365-day

period. He is a compassionate, very worshipful Sir, sympathetic to the predicaments of small Lodges, offering them counsel on how to overcome these predicaments. He is one who tears down invisible barriers among feuding brethren, endeavoring to bring them closer again to each other's arms, not increasing the length and breadth of their battlefields.

Brothers who are Masons in spirit and in deed

A Lodge must serve as shelter for men who know Masonry by heart, and because of this, practice its teachings and fundamentals religiously; Masons whose loyalty and devotion is beyond any cloud of doubt; reliable and dependable brothers through thick and thin.

A Lodge needs members who are free from the virus of the mercenary-motive syndrome; Masons who are not "hailed in" to join but voluntarily knocked. A brother who serves the Craft because he loves it, not because he wants to be the Junior Warden next election.

These make up the lifeblood of a Lodge for which their regular presence assures a bright future. **CT**

Q and A**Masonic Education**

by **VW Filomeno C. Adi, PDDGM,**
Davao Lodge No. 149, District No. 18

Q: *Why is an apprentice "entered"?*

A: The word dates back to operative days. The Freemasons of the middle ages were a select group. They were the highest-class artisans of their time.

It required sound health, moral character, and high intelligence to be a good operative Freemason permitted to work on the great houses of God which Masons have erected. They were proud of their abilities and of their reputation and strict in their rules.

To become a Freemason, a young lad was required to serve a seven-year apprenticeship before he could ask to be permitted to make and submit to his superior his "Master's piece," and be admitted as a "Fellow of the Craft." Before he could serve his time, he had to prove himself. Thus, he had to serve a period of time as an Apprentice. If, at the end of that period, he showed himself possessed of the necessary qualifications of industry, character, decency, and probity, he is then "entered"

on the books of the Craft and becomes an "Entered Apprentice."

Q: *Why are Second Degree Masons called Fellowcrafts?*

A: A: Probably, prior to 1726, all Freemasons, except the "King's Master Mason," were Entered Apprentices or Fellows of the Craft, in imitation of the workers of the operative days, when Apprentices became Fellows after a seven-year period of training and the making of a "Master's Piece" to show proficiency in some part of a Master's work. We continue the old names, as preferable to such modernizations as "beginners" and "members."

Q: *What further information is contained in the Working Tools of Fellowcraft other than that found in the Second Degree Ritual, if any?*

A: There is decidedly more information—half concealed and half revealed—in the association of the level with the Senior Warden, the plumb with

the Junior Warden, and the square with the Master, particularly in the ceremony of closing a Lodge.

In a Lodge, all brethren meet on a level of equality, which is not concerned with brains, education, wealth, or position. Men are equal in a Lodge in manhood and in Masonic right and character.

"We meet upon the level," means just what it says. Masons trust each other, believe in each other, and help each other because they are, Masonically, level with each other. We "act by the plumb" in accord with Amos VII—the plumb line God said He would raise "in the midst of my people Israel." In other words, they were to be judged by their own plumb line not another's.

Masons are to judge their fellows, if at all, by their fellows' plumb lines, not their own. One brother must condemn another by his personal standards but only when a brother is false to his own standards. To "part upon the square" signifies that, while a square points in different directions and men "part" to go his separate way, this is a known way, not a devious way, a wrong way, or a bad way. It is a "square" way. The Mason who goes his own way goes the square way and is never alone even if out of sight of his own Lodge and of his brethren.

The square is the fundamental tool of the Operative Mason. Without its use, no building would stand. It is also the fundamental tool of the Speculative

Mason, for without square thoughts and actions, no spiritual building can stand.

Q: *Is the Masonic story of Hiram Abif true?*

A: If by true is meant "factual," the answer is no.

If by "true" is meant "containing a great truth," then the answer is yes. It is as true as the story of Santa Claus which tells a truth to children in words they can understand.

The Legend of Hiram, as told in the Master Mason degree, is one of the oldest legends in the world, but Freemasonry's legend is peculiarly its own. The three who encountered Hiram at the gates of the temple are themselves symbols of error, evil, and sin; and the story, as a whole, is of the ultimate weakness of such forces against the power of the Great Architect.

The word "Abif" is translated as both "his father" and "my father" with "father" being used in this sense as a patriarch, a teacher, and a source of wisdom, and not as the factual father of a family. "Hiram, my father" is thus a title of honor and respect.

Q: *What constitutes "lawful Masonic information?"*

A: Each of us, as a Mason, agrees not to reveal any of the "Secrets" of any Degree except after a trial or examination, or after "lawful Masonic


information." If I have sat in a Masonic Lodge with a man, that is information which is lawful and Masonic as to the man's being a Mason. Also, if a man that I know to be a Mason will vouch for another man as a Mason, that, too, will be "lawful Masonic information."

Q: *When is the proper time to come to the sign of Fidelity?*

A: The "Sign of Fidelity" or placing the right hand over the left breast (heart) with the elbow at a 90 degree angle, is appropriate as follows:

1. Only when clothed as Master Mason.
2. Whenever addressing or being addressed by an officer of a higher rank.
3. When the Chaplain recites a prayer, invocation, or benediction.
4. When the Senior Warden attends at the Altar to display, change, or close the "Great Light."
5. On the entrance of a Color Guard, during the "Pledge of Allegiance and the singing of the National Anthem," and until the Flag is either posted or removed from the room. (At this time, it is also known as the Civilian Salute.)
6. During all Degree obligations.
7. On the entrance or retirement of the Grand Master.

Q: *How is a Lodge defined, and of whom does it consist?*

A: A Lodge may be defined as a place where Masons meet. It also refers to an assembly or body of Freemasons which is meeting together. A Lodge consists of a Master, a Senior and a Junior Warden, a Treasurer, a Secretary, a Senior and a Junior Deacon, and as many members as may be convenient, congregating and working by virtue of and in accordance with, a charter or dispensation held under the authority of this Grand Lodge. 

Our Appreciation to...

- BRO. NAPOLEON E. DOCTOR of Saranggani Lodge No. 50, District No. 18, for the shipment of the Cabletow, May-June 1993 issue to Davao City for the ANCOM.
- VW CESAR C. MENDOZA, Grand Pursuivant, for the photos of the May-June, July-August, and September-October 1993 issues.
- VW ALBERTO L. APORTADERA, PDDGM, of Datu Bago Lodge No. 197, District No. 18, and the DeMolays of Feliciano Inigo Chapter for their assistance in the distribution of the May-June 1993 during and after the ANCOM in Davao City.

A Shriner Shines

Special Award Given to Noble Rene C. Damian

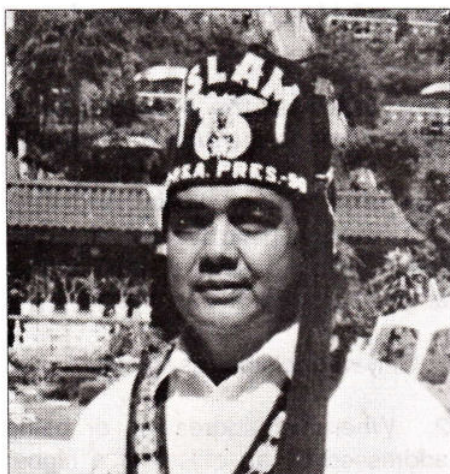
by *VW Ed Murdock (Noble)*



Rene C. Damian has amassed dozens of special achievements over the years as an Active Member of the Masonic Orders including both the York and Scottish Rite Bodies. His achievements are too many to list for they would take an entire page.

As a Shriner, he has done very well indeed. He was elected High Shereef (President) of Maginoo Shrine Oasis in 1987 and by 1990, was elected to the highest position in the Philippine Shrine Association. He has served on numerous committees and continues to work for Shrinedom throughout the country. His dedication in helping the crippled and burned children is well known among the Nobility. Not many Nobles can devote the time and effort that Noble Damian has contributed over the past several years as he is Retired from IJS Military Service.

His latest award came from Islam Temple. He is the first Filipino Shriner to receive it. The Jewel of Islam Temple Prestige Award is awarded by an accu-



mulation of honor points established by the Temple in June of 1986 and is known as the Islam Award. This coveted Jewel may be acquired only by manifesting acts which promote Shrinedom and good fellowship by active participation.

Since the Jewel of Islam Temple is a prestigious award and is the highest recognition that can be bestowed by Islam Temple, it is not easily acquired, nor indiscriminately given out. There is no doubt in the minds of those who know this hardworking Mason/Noble that he will continue to collect awards for his contributions to both Masonry and Shrinedom. Congratulations, Noble Rene! **CT**

Masonic Information

The Masonic Hospital for Crippled Children

The idea of organizing and maintaining a hospital for crippled children in the Philippines was raised by MW Frederic H. Stevens, PGM, during one of the Scottish Rite luncheons held at the Escolta. Several Masons agreed with the idea and on 29 July 1924, they met and put up a corporation for the purpose of building, equipping, and maintaining in the City of Manila a Masonic Hospital for Crippled Children. Membership in the corporation was limited to regular Master Masons, their wives, daughters, sisters, mothers, widows, and Lodges, organizations or associations composed of Masons. Among the incorporators were Bros. Wenceslao Trinidad, Rafael Alunan, Manuel Camus, Vicente Carmona, Frederic H. Stevens, Teodoro M. Kalaw, F.E. Hedrick, General James McRae, Fred A. Holmes, and E.A. Perkins.

Many considered the project rather ambitious believing it would require immense funding. Failure was freely predicted at the start, but a vigorous membership campaign proved very

fruitful. By 30 June 1925, the corporation had 824 members, and the following year the figure jumped to 1,301. Thousands of pesos were collected.

In a meeting of the Board of Directors held on 28 July 1925, Bros. E.A. Perkins, Joseph Schmidt and Wiley Larkin were authorized to enter into a contract with Mary Johnston Memorial Hospital for the care and relief of crippled children. This contract was approved on 25 August 1925. Repairs and alterations of a ward in the hospital were then undertaken and on 27 September 1925, the ward was formally dedicated and opened for the reception of patients. On that day, the wife of the Grand Master presented the first patient for admission. In the next nine months, 32 other children were accepted for treatment.

The Masonic Hospital for Crippled Children has proven to be one of the most enduring projects of the Masons and is being maintained up to the present under its new name, "Masonic Charities for Crippled Children, Inc." Thousands of unfortunate crippled

children who, at birth, seemed to be doomed to a life of helplessness and despair, have been restored to health at the hospital and given a new lease on life. The Masonic Charities for Crippled Children remains to this day as the showcase of Masonic humanitarian endeavors.

Crippled children eligible for treatment and rehabilitation at the hospital must:

1. Be from two to five years of age.
2. Be suffering from orthopedically crippling diseases like post-polio; in-born diseases like clubfoot, crooked back (scoliosis), bone tumors, old fractures with deformities.
3. Be recommended by a Brother Mason.
4. Have a medical certificate from a local physician attesting to their physical condition. **CT**



(Before) This 12-year-old boy from Virac, Catanduanes was admitted to our ward at Mary Johnston Hospital with an inborn deformity of both feet (congenital clubfoot bilateral). He could not wear shoes, could not walk well, and often stumbles when he walks. He often became the butt of jokes of his classmates and playmates. He was admitted to the hospital for a series of corrective surgeries.



(After) He was operated on twice followed by a series of wedging and casting to correct the deformity. After this, he was measured with a pair of orthopedic shoes and leg braces. With physiotherapy, he was trained to walk. The picture above shows how he is now—looking definitely better, walking better, and feeling happier with himself.

The Essence of Masonic Visits to Senior Members

by *MW Rizal D. Aportadera*
Grand Master



book may be forgotten, a word misunderstood, but to feel the grasp of a friendly hand is the pledge of brotherhood."

This phrase aptly expresses the experience one goes through when he shakes the hands and hugs a brother long left to the solitude and despair of the infirmities brought on by his declining years.

A brother with a vision no longer keen enough to allow him to see his way to the Lodge or read the monitor and Cabletow; a hearing no longer acute but dulled by the years making it a burden to relate and converse with a brother; knees so stiff and painfully arthritic, giving evidence of his age and making him a virtual prisoner in his abode. These are our forgotten brethren who, in the twilight of their years, lie waiting for their time, virtually confined in their homes, anticipating the final summons from above.

In their youthful years, they were like many of us—oozing with enthusiasm

and eagerness as we participate in Lodge activities as officers, lecturers, or degree participants. Some of us may remain complacently watching from the sidelines, observing the transactions of his Lodge. Others may be part of the silent majority who never fail to attend the summons of their Lodge. Still others adhere to the principles of a true Mason by becoming a model husband, father, son, brother, or citizen of the community.

As the Lodge renews its leadership every year and new members enter the Fraternity, the passage of time brings changes to these senior members making them unable to attend their obligations with equal zeal. The frequency of their attendance begins to wane and their habitual absences become a common occurrence.

It is precisely in this aging condition that we found our brethren during our visit to the senior members of Magat Lodge No. 68 and Nueva Vizcaya Lodge No. 144 and other Lodges in the different Masonic districts. Their visions have dimmed and their hearing has dulled

yet their grip is strong. Although no one can fully understand the reason for the tears they shed upon hearing the familiar words and grasping the firm hands of of their brethren, yet in that emotionally charged moment, everyone shared a sense of oneness with them in their longing to be united once again with the active members of their Lodge.

There are brethren in your own Lodge who, like these senior members we visited, need fraternal visits by the highest District Officer or by its Lodge officers. Go over your membership scroll and schedule a time within which

to see them. Renew and strengthen your cabletow with them.

You may not realize, brethren, the importance of a visit to the senior members of your Lodge, but, years from now, when you yourself join the ranks of these senior brothers, then you will understand the profound significance of these fraternal visits. So, while you still can, visit your senior brethren. Do it at every opportunity you find. When the wheel of fortune turns, and your time is up, you will find yourself happily reciprocated for the kindness you had once shown. **CT**

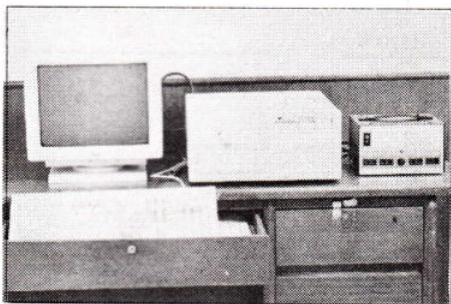


VW Guillermo E. Bonzolan, age 92. Oldest Senior Mason of Masonic District No. 3. Former Representative of Lone District of N.V. Past Master of Magat Lodge No. 68. Charter Master and First Elected Master of N.V., Lodge No. 144.

The Length of the Cabletow...



When the 1993-1994 Editorial Staff assumed management, the editorial office only had a Royal 400 typewriter as its working equipment.



Recently, the Grand Lodge purchased a 386SX computer for use by the editorial staff in the layouting and mailing needs of the Cabletow.

In addition, the Mindanao Masons Association of America donated a laser printer to the Grand Lodge during the U.S. visit of Grand Master Rizal D. Aportadera. WB Van D. Luspo also donated a converter.

With its present equipment, the Cabletow is able to efficiently handle its mailing list and the final encoding of articles. It cannot yet, however, go into computer layouting as the current computer system still needs to be upgraded from a 386SX to a 386DX in order to accommodate the Pagemaker software which the production and editorial staff are currently using in preparing the camera-ready pages of the Cabletow.

In the current setup, the Cabletow is directly under the Grand Lodge which handles the funds collected from subscriptions. Cabletow, Inc. had long ceased to be operational.

The current Editorial and Circulation Staff, however, remains committed to meeting its deadlines and to insuring that each and every brethren is able to secure his copy of every issue of the Cabletow. **CT**

Did you know...

*by WB Fransisco SJ Dionida,
Muog Lodge No. 89*

1. That after WW-II, Muog Lodge No. 89 was the first Masonic Lodge that held a Masonic meeting in the entire archipelago authorized by MW Michael Goldenberg on 7 April 1945?
2. That, ever since, Muog Lodge No. 89 had been frequented by American Masons stationed in the Philippines holding their meetings at the Masonic hall?
3. That during the first three years after the liberation of the Philippines, Muog Lodge No. 89 held three or four meetings a week or 14 times a month to confer degrees to three or four candidates at a time?
4. That Rizal Square and Compass Club of the U.S. Army and the Seabees Club of the U.S. Navy held their meetings and even established their headquarters in Muog Lodge No. 89's Masonic hall?
5. That Worshipful Brother Eusebio Laquindanum and Brother Tomas Borja were responsible for saving the Muog Lodge No. 89 building from Japanese soldiers by using it as a schoolhouse?
6. That Muog Lodge No. 89 was also active in different undertakings in Paranaque such as the granting of donations/contributions to distressed brothers, books and prizes to schools, helping members of the DeMolay, the Boy Scouts of the Philippines, the Philippine National Red Cross, the Philippine Tuberculosis Society, the Masonic Hospital for Crippled Children, and other civic movements?
7. That Jewel Lodge No. 374 of San Francisco, U.S.A. is the only lodge in the world that opens its Masonic activities at midnight?
8. That members of the Jewel Lodge No. 374 are mostly musicians, theater men, and newspapermen whose only convenient hour is in the middle of the night and this allows their meetings not to overlap with any of their Grand Lodge activities.



**THE LAYING OF THE
CORNERSTONE OF
THE CAPITOL,
September 18,
1793**

This masterpiece is an original oil painting by the noted contemporary artist John Melius, 32°. It was commissioned by the Supreme Council, 33°, to celebrate, first, the 1993 bicentennial of the laying of the cornerstone of the United States Capitol by President George Washington and, second, to mark the 1993 Session of The Supreme Council (Mother Council of the World), 33°.

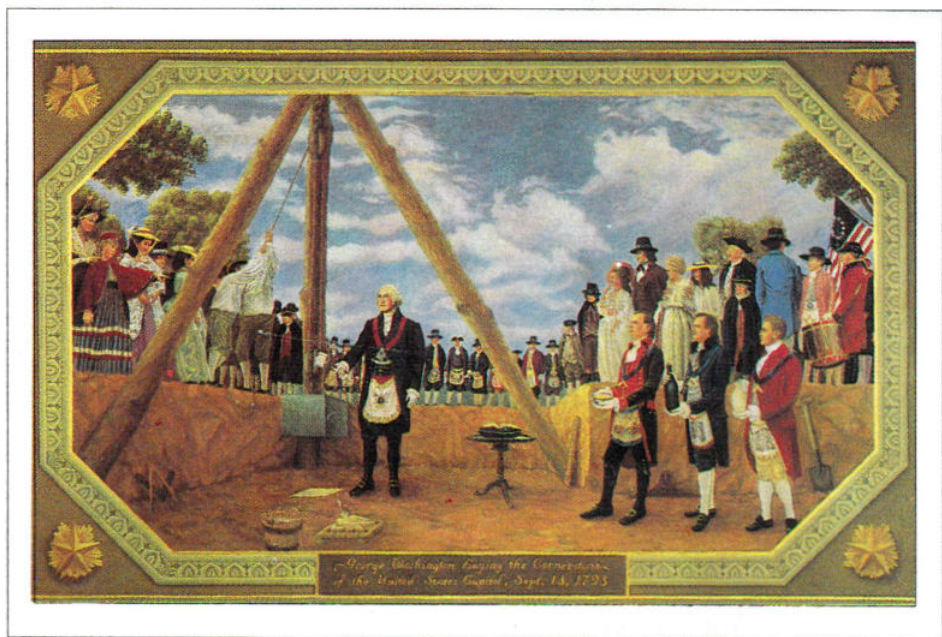
Brother Melius painstakingly researched his painting in cooperation with both Masonic authorities and scholars of early American history. Thus, it can claim to be the most historically accurate and carefully detailed painting of this significant event. Clearly, it is a picture worthy of being hung with pride in every Blue Lodge, Scottish Rite Temple, and every other Masonic building or home in America.

The original painting, measuring 4 feet, 9 inches by 7 feet, 6 inches, will remain in the permanent collection of the House of the Temple in Washington, DC, international headquarters of the Scottish Rite, S.J.

The art prints of the painting are a limited collector's edition signed and numbered by the artist and printed on fine, acid-free paper. Brother Melius has written an accompanying essay detailing his extensive research for the painting.

Distribution of this bicentennial print is a fundraiser, and all proceeds will be used to support the Scottish Rite's network of nearly 100 Childhood Language Disorders Centers.

Requests can be sent to: The Supreme Council, 33°, 1733 16th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20009-3199. Checks at \$100.00 per print may be payable to: The Scottish Rite Foundation, SJ, USA..



**The Laying of the Cornerstone of the Capitol,
September 18, 1793.**

The CABLETOW
Plaridel Masonic Temple
1440 San Marcelino, Manila D-2801

