

# The Cable Tow



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GRAND LODGE OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF THE PHILIPPINES





### TRECE MARTIRES DE BAGUMBAYAN

HERE 13 PATRIOTS WERE EXECUTED BY THE SPANISH AUTHORITIES ON JANUARY 11, 1897. TEN WERE MASONS, NAMELY: NUMERIANO ADRIANO, JOSE DIZON, DOMINGO FRANCO, EUSTACIO MANALAC, GERONIMO CRISTOBAL MEDINA, RAMON PADILLA, ANTONIO SALAZAR, MOISES SALVADOR, LUIS ENCISO VILLAREAL, AND FAUSTINO VILLARUEL. BENEDICTO NIJAGA, BRAULIO RIVERA AND FRANCISCO L. ROXAS DIED WITH THEM. ALL WERE PATRIOTS.

THE 13 PAID THE HIGHEST PRICE POSSIBLE FOR THE FREEDOM AND INDEPENDENCE OF THEIR COUNTRY. HAVING PERISHED FOR SO GREAT A CAUSE, THEY DESERVE TO LIVE ON IN THE HEARTS OF THEIR GRATEFUL COUNTRYMEN. TO THEIR MEMORY THIS MARKER IS RAISED.



THE EQUALITY OF MEN, THEIR COMMON CAPACITY TO SHARE IN THE SECRETS OF AN ORDERED CREATION WHICH MASONRY'S LEGENDARY FOUNDERS DISCOVERED IN THE WORK OF THE SUPREME ARCHITECT OF THE WORLD, AS WELL AS THE FREEDOM TO LIVE OUR LIVES AS RIGHT REASON AND GOOD LAWS DICTATE--THESE PRINCIPLES FIRED THE IMAGINATIONS OF OUR HEROES, SUSTAINED THEIR LONG STRUGGLE, AND LIFTED THEIR HEARTS EVEN AS THEY FELL.

MOST WORSHIPFUL ENRIQUE L. LOCSIN,  
CENTENNIAL GRAND MASTER

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Our front and back cover shows the Trece Martires de Bagumbayan Marker located at the Japanese Garden, Luneta.. Inside front cover are the Markers of the Trece Martires de Bagumbayan and the Message of MW Enrique L. Locsin, Centennial Grand Master. On the inside back cover are photos taken during the Unveiling Ceremony.

## FROM THE GRAND ORIENTAL CHAIR



So what is Freemasonry? Much has been written on the subject, in fact library scientists have recorded more than 40,000 volumes written on Masonry by scholars, historians, students of ancient history, by Masons and non-masons; by symphatizers as well as detractors. No other subject has received much coverage from the pen as Freemasonry. And no other order has gained the respect and admiration of the world that it has. No institution was ever raised on a better principle or solid foundation. Its principles have been the framework of government and empires while its beliefs, teachings, and beauties have been practiced since the recorded history of man. Its science, civil liberty and ideals can be traced back to antiquity.

There are numerous theologies in existence and Masonry does not attempt to judge nor rate them; beyond recognizing God as the Supreme Architect of the Universe, Masonry does not stray away from the precept. It does not speculate on theories about Him nor seek to prove who He is, nor what his ultimate purposes may be. In the marvelous works of creation which surround us, terrestrial and celestial, Masonry sees evidence of his mind and being. In man

Last February 22, 1999, I was invited to speak during the installation of officers of Jacobo Zobel y Zangroniz Memorial Lodge No. 202 for the Masonic Year 1999-2000, I decided to talk on Masonry. I thought it was just a simple matter of talking about the subject. But as I pondered on the subject, the whole truth dawned on me that unless we redirect our goals, we may find ourselves doing what every other civic clubs are doing and we may lose ourselves in the labyrinth of human idiosyncrasy and forget that we are guided by the Masonic tenets of brotherly love, relief and truth.

himself, gifted with superior powers of thought, reason and moral sense, we behold a special creation, made for some high purpose.

Indications of that purpose we find not only in the bible, which we venerate with love and awe as the great light of Masonry, but also in manifestation of it in the daily lives of men. Believing in the everlasting god and adopting the book of law as the guide of its faith and conduct. Masonry cherishes in its pure bosom no doctrine repugnant to religion or to the highest strata of society.

Instead of attempting to dominate nations, their leadership or to influence their laws, Masonry since time immemorial has endeavored only to help men find and know the truth of their own creation and the reason for their being. Bound to support the government of the country, it harbors no principle tending in the least to oppose civil authorities or to subvert law and order among men. This explains why Masonry, although much older than any nation or organization on earth has never moved upon the world stage as a powerful force in political or secular affairs.

Masonry sees the hand of the deity in all his works. In every hill and da

and stream, she is taught "to trace nature through her various windings to her most concealed recesses,... to discover the power, the wisdom and the goodness of the Great Architect of the Universe, and to view with delight the proportions which connect its vast machine." She finds lessons of wisdom and precepts of virtue in the spacious firmament on high "and all her 'garniture of stars'; she regards nature as a great Masonic temple. Nature is the broad trestleboard, on which the Grand Master draws his designs and revelations of his Holy Will which lead through nature up to nature's God."

Masonry adopts as one of her cherished principles, "on earth peace, good will toward men." Under this divine precept, she unfurls her broad mantle of charity. Her benefits and blessings are open to all men, requiring of them only the incense of virtuous deeds.

Here the people of every land and language, whatever be their customs, their peculiar pursuits, their private opinions, may meet upon the level and part upon the square. The Jew and gentile, the Mohammedan and the Christians, all join hands and extol the genius of ancient Freemasonry.

Masonry may have illumined the halls of greatness, or cheered shepherds of the mountains, she may have conversed in the groves of philosophers, or smiled in the halls of poverty, yet it is only in the simple unobtrusive character of aiding the distressed, cheering the disconsolate, and mending the broken heart, that she appears in her real beauty and living grace. This exalted virtue is opposed to every type of pro-

scription and persecution. Accordingly, Masonry has never carried on warfare against any people, nor any sect nor even against her detractors. She has never attempted to proscribe or persecute men for civil, religious, or political opinions. She has never encouraged the elements of discord, nor endeavored to excite animosities among men or societies. She has never used the language of vituperation and calumny; she has torn down no altars, lighted up no fires of persecution. On the contrary her sons were victims of persecution; they were thrown into dungeons, chained and burned on the stakes and their properties confiscated. Yet her sons remained steadfast in their respect for human rights and harbored no ill will to her detractors.

Among Masons no unfriendly divisions are to be found; there is neither distrust nor jealousy of meeting in the same house and communing at the same table. The fair escutcheon of Masonry is not disgraced by those foul stains.

Masonry is made to heal, not to irritate; to associate, not to seclude; to unite together, not to divide the great family of mankind.

Masonry through the march of time has sought to benefit men by revealing the truth of brotherhood through influencing and helping individuals. Follow it all the trials and perils of your journey through the wilderness of time, and like the fiery pillar of the ancient Israelites, it will cheer the desert of your pilgrimage and lead you to the land of promised repose.

*well done is better than well said...*

## EDITORIAL

Addressing Masons is a difficult task. More so when one is requested to deliver a message during the installation of officers of a lodge for the ensuing year. This is because the installation ceremony is itself abundant with messages for the brethren in attendance. I had the distinguished opportunity to give a message to the brethren of Kalilayan Lodge #37 on the occasion on their 86<sup>th</sup> Installation of Officers. On this occasion, I chose to focus on...

### The Role of Masons in Sustaining Philippine Nationhood

As our country closes the celebration of our centennial nationhood, we prepare to enter the Third Millennium. However, before we move ahead, we should, for a moment, look back to the past and also look at the present.

We see our forefathers who were Masons lead our countrymen in the struggle for freedom from colonial rule and in the molding of our country into a nation. Through the use of arms and the power of the mind and the pen, Masons of the past fought for independence. A number of our brothers laid down their lives so that the ideals of democracy, which were Masonically, inspired may live on.

Our brothers of the past have done their part. They have etched the imprint of Masonry in the history of our country.

Our present day Masons are excelling in their respective endeavors. We can always find an outstanding Mason in our midst. We can and have reason to be proud of what they have done and what they are (*they have come to be*). As we live the present Masonry, we can declare that we are doing our part in Nation building.

However, our labors do not end at the present. We are and we will be part of the future. This future is the Third Millennium.

From lessons learned from the past Masons; from living Masonic experi-

ences; we now have the opportunity to shape and define the Third Millennium Mason.

It is not difficult to define the role of the Third Millennium Mason. For ours is an ancient institution that has existed since time immemorial. Our precepts and landmarks have remained constant and have withstood the test of history. Our fraternity has survived attacks borne out of ignorance to discredit us.

The Third Millennium Mason would be no different than any one of us Masons of the present. He is a Mason who believes in God and life after death. He is a Mason who is charged among others to act with his neighbor upon the Square; to render him every kind office which justice or mercy may require; to relieve his distresses and to soothe his affections, and to do him as in similar cases he would that he should do unto you.

The Third Millennium Mason is also charged to practice the domestic and public virtues; letting temperance, chastity, fortitude, support, and prudence direct him, and letting justice be the guide of all his actions.

Finally, because of his general good reputation, he would not suffer any consideration to induce him to act in a manner unworthy of the reputable character, which he is sustaining; on the contrary, he would display the discretion, the virtues and the dignity, which becomes a worthy and exemplary Mason.

# FORE!

by **VWB Edgardo C. Perez, PDDGM, MD #10 (2)**

**F**ore is a golfer's shout that a ball was mishit and is headed in the direction that could possibly hit a person or group of persons. These persons must take heed of the cry by looking back, ducking, jumping or make the necessary moves to evade being hit by the misdirected ball. If the ball hits somebody, the errant golfer is still held liable for injury but the shout of "fore" is considered as a mitigating factor for any injury caused. The offended golfer, on the other hand, particularly if the injury is just minimal and not that bothersome, will just accept an apology.

This writer (an avid golfer) therefore opted to have the word "Fore" as the titlehead of this and future articles so that in the event of any "mishit," those concerned could act accordingly.

## **Positions without an Office or Functions**

In any big or medium size corporation, there is a Chief Executive or Operation Officer (CEO or COO); a Board of Directors; Vice-Presidents, managers and Division or Branch Chiefs. In the government Bureaucracy, there is a Secretary, Undersecretary, Asst. Secretaries, Bureau, Divisions and Branch Chiefs.

As presently organized, the Grand Master is the Chairman of the Board/Chief Executive Officer rolled into one with perhaps the Board for General Purposes as the Board of Directors. This is in accordance, perhaps with the Executive Legislative and Judicial powers of the Grand Master while the Grand Lodge is in recess.

Any management expert will tell us

that there is no supermanager who could perform all of these functions and be effective even if he has such an efficient staff to assist him. Perhaps such an arrangement has worked through the years and perhaps, will continue to work. But at what level of effectiveness and efficiency? 40%? 50%? 60%? Would a different organization produce more? Perhaps, this is the reason why the Grand Lodge is having so much problems right now. Unanswered letters to inquiry, unattended blue lodges problems, unsettled cases and or charges, financial membership and attendance problems, stagnation and absence of direction, irrelevant issues, absence of a development plan(s), silence on critical national and international issues and others.

Isn't it time that the Grand Master delegates his authority and multifarious roles to the three other elected primary officers of the Grand Lodge whose only duty right now is to represent the Grand Master in functions, that because of his tight schedule, he could no longer attend to and to chair or sit as member in committees?

## **Proposal**

The three other principal officers of the Grand Lodge, the Deputy Grand Master, the Senior and Junior Wardens be provided an office of their own at the Grand Lodge and be tasked to perform the following functions:

### **Deputy Grand Master**

Acts as the Chief Operating Officer or the Executive Vice President of the

Grand Lodge of the Philippines. Being such, he will be in-charge of overseeing the daily operations of the Grand Lodge of the Philippines. The appointment of the DGM will also expose him to the Office of the Grand Master and its attendant problems and thus better prepare him when he finally assumes the Grand Master's chair.

### **Senior Grand Warden**

Exercises over-all supervision and monitoring of all standing and special committees. Through the exercise of this function, all committees will be motivated to meet regularly to perform their specific mandate and thus produce results. As it is, there are so many committees that fail to perform its function to the fullest as the GM has no time to supervise or motivate them, after the chairmanship and membership are filled up.

### **Junior Grand Warden**

Be in charge of the administration of the blue lodges and shall act as the Administrator of the Grand Lodge facilities.

With the foregoing functions of the Grand Master delegated to his officers, the Grand Master will now have more time to go around the entire jurisdiction, even down to the level of the blue lodges to get a feel of the problems of the lodges and the real sentiments on some vital issues affecting the fraternity. Congruent with a 5-year development plan, which I will dwell on later, the Grand Master should be able to make adjustments in his programs/thrusts, which will eventually be pursued by his successors.

With time available, he could also expand his fraternization and visit with other Grand Lodges world wide, As it is,

visits are confined to only 2 or 3 Grand Lodges in the USA.

### **Continuing 5-Year Development Plan**

As every Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of the Philippines draw to a close with the installation of the new Grand Master, the thrust of the immediate Past Grand Master ends, and the dawn of a new thrust, usually contained in a theme/slogan begins.

Ancom after Ancom signal the same occurrences. Would any of our illustrious and well meaning Past Grand Masters truthfully claim that they have accomplished fully the task that they have set to attain at the start of their term? I sincerely doubt it. Why? Because one year is too short and is not enough to effect changes, pursue programs, get a feedback on its effectiveness and accomplishment and more importantly, to again effect or adjust programs. In short, there is no continuity, therefore, there is no direction in the thrust of the Grand Lodge in order to keep in step with the changes happening in its environment.

### **Proposal**

That starting this early, the incumbent Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Senior and Junior Grand Wardens should sit down together and discuss current problems besetting the Grand Lodge in particular and of the fraternity in general. Priorities will then be listed and an initial 5-year Developmental Plan could be drawn to achieve the desired end. The four will then enter into a covenant to pursue agreed programs/thrusts.

Based on this covenant, (incoming Junior Grand Wardens as they get elected must also enter into this cov-

enant) the Grand Lodge thrusts and its support programs is assured of continuity and highest degree of accomplishment. Every year, before the Grand Master ends his terms, a review will be conducted on the status of accomplishments and adjustment could thus be effected.

With this, the system of input-process-output feedback and new inputs is thus completed.

### **Relevance**

Is Masonry still relevant? The answer is a resounding "yes," it is relevant and will continue to be relevant as long as there is injustice in this world, as long as there are issues that divide man, as long as there is right or wrong, as long as man is man.

Why the doubt?

Our country is celebrating its freedom centennial this year. It has been 100 years since General Emilio Aguinaldo proclaimed to the world our political independence. It's been over a hundred years that our forefathers, taking inspirations from the French Revolution of 1789, with its battle Cry of liberty, fraternity and equality, notably Dr. Jose Rizal and Gat Andres Bonifacio adopted the same battle Cry that eventually led to that momentous day in June, 1898. These men and most of the notaries of the revolution were Masons. They were there in the forefront of the movement and the actual fight for freedom. One hundred years thereafter, where are the Masons? Have they abandoned the principles of the fraternity and the fight for brotherly love, relief and truth? Have the outward manifestations on these be-

liefs been transformed to just mere lip service and have they just retreated to the comfort and security of their lodges?

Perhaps and truthfully we could say that there is no more armed struggle. That there is no more need for such as we are in the midst of enjoying the fruits of democracy. But is it only in armed struggle that we could continuously manifest our belief in the tenets of our great fraternity?

There are still other struggles to be fought. So many battles to be won. We may have achieved political freedom but if we look around, most of our people are still locked in the fight against poverty, ignorance, diseases and injustice. Any or all deserve the attention of Masons of this generation. Any of the four is an imposing enemy that may never be defeated but together we could try and not be charged with abandoning a good fight.

I firmly believe that Masons of this generation, at the onset of the next centennial, could again be in the forefront of this struggle and again be very relevant. We must not bank on the glory of what our Masonic forefathers did a century ago. Let us seek our own glory and be part of a historical past that could be appreciated by generations to come.

### **Proposal**

That this matter be seriously considered by the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Senior Grand Wardens should they opt to consider this writer's proposal for them to come up with a continuing 5 year Developmental Plan for the Grand Lodge.

*Working together does not only bring out the best in all of us;  
it brings out the best in each of us...*

# DR. JOSE P. RIZAL (CALAMBA) LODGE #270: A CAPSULE HISTORY

The story of the lodge at Calamba began with her parent lodge at Los Baños – *Makiling Lodge # 72*. Before the last world war, *Makiling Lodge* had its venue in Calamba, birthplace of the country's premier Mason, Dr. Jose Rizal. Thereafter, the seat was transferred to nearby Los Baños, because at that time almost all the *Makiling* brethren were residents of that town.

It was in the early 80's when a number of brethren from District No. 11, led by the late DDGM VW Robin Alcantara, launched a spirited drive to set up a separate lodge in the town of Rizal's birth. It was in 1982 when the dispensation for *Dr. Jose P. Rizal (Calamba) Lodge* in Calamba was granted through the then Grand Master, MW Rudyardo V. Bunda, who authorized WB Emilio C. Capulong, Jr. to organize and strengthen the lodge prior to its official constitution.

Thus commenced the formal restoration of the Masonic emblem at Calamba. The progress was slow and tentative; at times, the efforts seemed to flag and fail. But the confidence and generous hearts of the few pioneering brethren held on. Stated meetings were held, first in the main building of the Jose Rizal Memorial School, and later at the house of WB Benito Lit.

Finally, on June 19, 1984, *Dr. Jose Rizal Lodge No. 270* was officially constituted, with the Grand Lodge officers, led by MW Reynato S. Puno, officiating at the solemn occasion.

For the two years that the lodge was under dispensation (1982-1983) and for the first two years following its official constitution (1984-1985), WB Emilio C.

Capulong, Jr. served as Master. For the Masonic Year 1986, WB Sesinando Rizal, Jr. took the oriental chair. He was followed by WB Benito Lit in 1987; by WB Gregorio Villanueva in 1988; by WB Generoso Opiña in 1989; by WB Calvin Estudillo in 1990.

The year 1990 was particularly significant year in the story of the Lodge. Under the stewardship of WB Calvin Estudillo, and the energetic support of the brethren, led by Brothers Reynato S. Macalalag, Robert C. Santos, Generoso Opiña and Philip R. Rodriguez, the lodge building at Real, Calamba, Laguna was completed, and was inaugurated on June 19, 1990, at an approximate cost of P400,000.

VW Reynato S. Macalalag assumed the master's chair in 1991 and 1992; it was WB Roberto C. Santos in 1993; WB Francisco L. Tan in 1994; WB Manuel B. Mendoza in 1995; WB Narcisco H. Cansicio in 1996; and WB Reynaldo G. Casao in 1997.

Under the leadership of WB Reynaldo G. Casao, the lodge reached another milestone. With the solid commitment of all the brethren, and the inspired efforts of WB Manuel B. Mendoza, the new lodge building at Parian, Calamba, Laguna, under the auspices of the Calamba Travellers Association, Inc., was constructed and dedicated. The new temple, at the cost of some P3.2 million is breathtaking in its conception, and more so, in its realization. In sheer beauty and magnitude of architectural execution, it might be quite difficult to find any Masonic edifice outside Metro Manila, which can rival this new home of the Calamba Masons.

## Masons for today

Passivity has never been the hallmark of a true Mason. It has always been involvement – even in the political affairs of the community where he belongs.

True that Masonic precepts tend to proscribe any move tending to oppose or subvert the duly constituted authorities. But in the history of the Philippine struggle for civil and political rights, Masons had always been at the forefront. They never slinked out of the contest – regardless of the costs or consequences. Neither in silence nor in possibility had they made their mark. Militancy had always been their good portion.

That is why, at the present time, it should be cause for alarm if Filipino Masons of today should go about stultified and unheard.

To be sure, Masonry spotlights the preeminence of virtue and character. A true Mason is a virtuous man who strives to further develop his virtues. This abounding runs through all the teachings and rituals of the Craft.

And yet, virtues can never prosper in a vacuum. A man cannot bury his head, ostrich-like, and then forget the

rest of the world. His virtues can acquire substance and meaning, only if they are attuned to the needs, problems, and challenges of the society of which he is a part.

Today many communities in the country tend to regard Masonry as a "Mystic" or "Mysterious" aggravation. There are a number of factors contributory to this phenomenon. One of which is precisely that seeming penchant many of the brethren to stay aloof, to remain passive, to remove itself from the broiling mass of burning issues which confront society.

Present-day Masons should not hesitate to lead, as the Filipino Masons of the past had led, in the struggle for political and economic advancement. Masonry should pick up the hue and cry over corruption and the continuing flagrant violations of human rights. When, for instance, governmental abuses and deception become rampant, when there is massive despoliation of the electoral process, when the peoples' sovereignty is compromised – should the fraternity speak out loud and clear? Should Masons go to the arena? If they do not, could they otherwise be relevant?—**WB Emilio C. Capulong, Sr.**



## CATANDUANES ISLAND LODGE #291

The Catanduanes Island Lodge #291 came to be last 1989. Since its existence until July of this year, the Lodge was an "N.P.A." (No Permanent Address). It conducted meetings from offices to nipa huts to unused store-room shacks that could be spared by some brethren. Through the years of the Lodge's existence in Catanduanes, its fervent dream was to have a home of its own. A private place where they could labor in peace and privacy.

This dream came true; August of 1998 when they completed a very modest lodge made of light materials. The Lodge completed was indeed very simple and temporary, but it was the best place that CIL ever had! The brethren

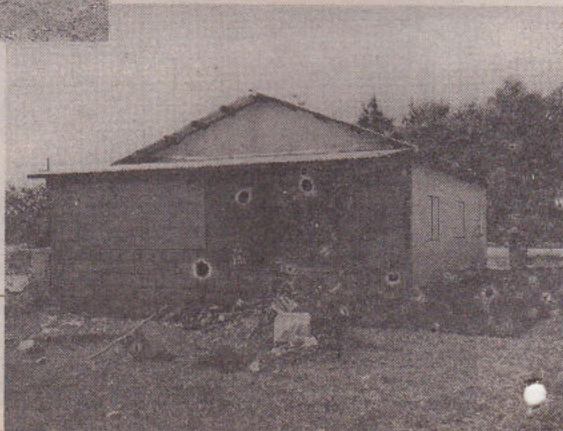
were happy that at last they have a home, a place they could call their own, and a place where they could meet and labor any time they wanted. At last, the wandering days of the Lodge was over!

For barely three months, the brethren basked in happiness and comfort of their labors in their new home. Unfortunately, in one nightmare of a night, their new haven was completely ravaged by Typhoon Loleng. All that was left of the structure was the skeleton. They are again plagued with the problem of where to conduct meetings and businesses of the Lodge. Where do they wander from here on? Where do they go from here?



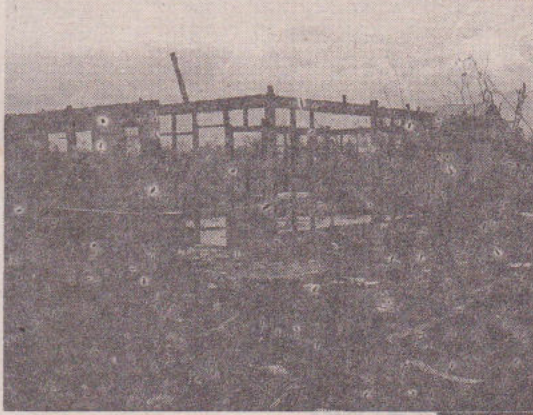
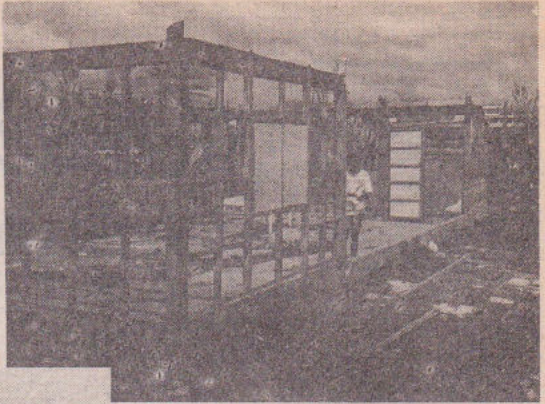
*This was the Lodge constructed by the brethren of Catanduanes Island Lodge #291, last August 1998. This had been a source of curiosity and speculations of some passersby and neighbors especially when it was closed to prying eyes during meetings.*

*At the back of the Lodge, a small room was annexed to the main structure to serve as the preparation room.*



*The home (that was) became a skeleton after Typhoon Loleng ravaged it. WB Abing Rodulfo regretfully inspected the damages the morning after the typhoon.*

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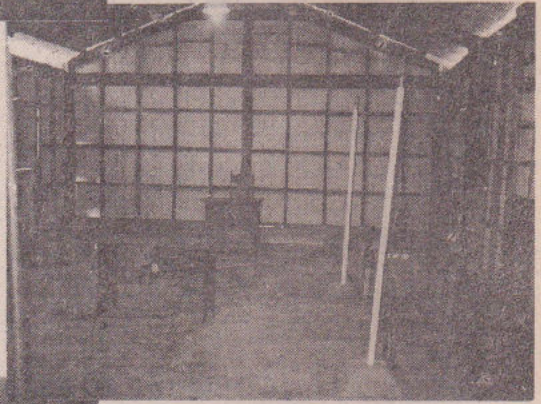


*The hardiflex walls were torn to pieces like skyflakes and scattered all over the place while the roof was flown to God knows where. 'Till when the Lodge will wander again?*

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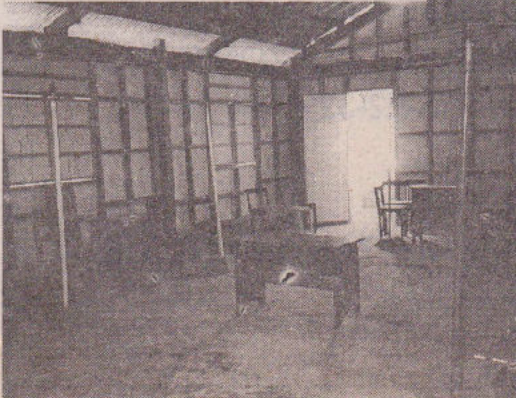
*This was the Eastern Section of the Lodge...*

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*The Western and Southern portions. Though wanting in many things, this had been the best place that CIL had ever had.*

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*Ideal*

**3M**

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# MASONIC LIFE: DR. JOSE P. RIZAL

*(Note: The author, Ms. Cerise P. Crudo is in her Senior Year in BS Special Education College of Education at U.P. Diliman, Quezon City. She is a P.W.A. of Perla Assembly No. 1, Order of the Rainbow for girls. She is the daughter of WB Rogelio Crudo, PM of Capitol Lodge #174 and the **grand daughter** of the late MW Manuel Crudo, Sr, PGM.)*

Freemasonry has evolved from its ancient days as an operative craft to become what is now — a speculative one. Operative, because, in the earlier times when there were still no modern modes of anything (transportation and communication wise), the professionals, if they wanted to stay alive and efficient, became members of guilds — therefore the guild of Masons. As people became freer, they became Freemasons but still retained their organization and gradually as modernization came, more and more non-masons embraced their craft and it became more of the speculative kind. The craft of Masonry (literally, as in building and carpentry) has evolved and consequently was given meanings — its square, compass, hammer, lambskin apron etc., all have amazing purposes in the lift of a Freemason and also, I can aver, of Man as well.

Freemasonry as a fraternity has proven itself well especially in the times when it is most needed. From its definition — a brotherhood of Man under the Fatherhood of God-to its aims-brotherly love, relief and truth — to its basic tenets — justice, fortitude, restraint, prudence, reverence and temperance — to its most obvious lessons — freedom of speech and religion and political opinion and resistance to any forms of tyranny — to the causes it has advocated — separation of Church and State, free public education for all, etc, the fraternity has become a haven and an able

teacher to its members, many of whom have answered the call of their countries in times of bondage and persecution. These men, having been thoroughly enlightened by their association with the Fraternity, became instrumental in winning for their people their freedom, which they learned as an inherent right of man. Some of these heroes and noble men include — Jefferson, Washington, Franklin of the US, Garibaldi of Italy, Pushkin, Kerensky of Russia, R. Churchill, George IV, Edward VII of England, Von Goethe of Germany, Bolivar of Columbia, Jose San Martin of Argentina, Hidalgo of Mexico, etc. The list goes on and on and as my report has fervently illustrated, we can even add some of our own — Rizal, del Pilar, M. Ponce, Lopez Jaena, A. Luna, J. Luna, even Bonifacio, Mabini, Aguinaldo, etc... of the Philippines.

## **Pre-Jose Rizal, 17-1800's**

Due to the political upheavals in Spain, a lot of liberals and Masons were exiled from their mother country to the islands. Because of rapid improvements in the world's financial and cultural consciousness, a lot of foreigners likewise got to interact with the natives. From these various characters, the brown-skinned people began to hear of terms like freedom, tyranny, Masonry, etc. Naturally they were intrigued and for a while they got bold enough and joined Masonic Lodges and learned. Unfortunately for them, and luckily for the drama

of our history, 1872 happened and once again everything became quiet.

Jose Rizal: His brother Paciano was a student of Padre Burgos, whose brother-in-law, Dr. Mariano Marti, 33° Mason, most likely became one of Paciano's influences. Teodora Alonzo's brother Jose Alonzo was also a Mason and it was in his house in Biñan where young Jose stayed when he was a student. In his first voyage, when they docked temporarily in Naples, he wrote his family, how impressed he was with the posters of Masons announcing the death of Garibaldi, their former Grand Master. When he got to the Universidad de Madrid, his history professor was Miguel Morayta, whose being a Mason figured prominently both in Spanish and Filipino Masonic history. All these plus the fact that the powerful people in the Spanish government (among them, Becerra, Sagaste, Pi y Margall) mostly belonged to the Fraternity, its indelible impact on the young student in all likelihood made him join Acasia Lodge No. 9 – under Grand Oriente de Español, whose Grand Master then was Becerra. He chose Dimasalang as his Masonic name.

In his travels throughout Europe, he quickly became friends with Feodor Jagor, Rudolf Vinchow and Friedrich Ratsel, the first two becoming his avid sponsors in two societies in Berlin. Their quick affinity with Rizal would not be so surprising for those who knew that all of them were Masons – his fraternity brothers.

His novel *Noli Me Tangere* was smuggled by his brother Jose Ramos into Manila, and when he returned home, the three powers there – Terrero, Centeno, Quiroga – were all Masons and therefore he escaped unreasonable harassment. But when the Calamba issue be-

came maliciously controversial he was told by Terrero to leave.

In Hongkong, he got to know his brother Jose Ma. Basa. In New York he secretly wrote in his diary the street adjacent to the street of NY's Grand Lodge. In London, he hooked up with his brothers Reinhold Rost and Antonio Regidor. His *Sucesos* was smuggled in Hongkong by Basa and another brother Rodriguez, in Manila. Despite his hectic itinerary, he became affiliated with the Propagandists in Spain, most of who were Masons like del Pilar, Lopez Jaina, Luna, Ponce, Panganiban, etc. – even with his old professor Morayta. He became an officer in their lodge *Solidaridad* No. 53 in 1890. They decided to spread Masonry in their miserable country because they strongly felt it was needed there. (There are a lot of literature available of their speeches about Masonry and its influence on them.)

One can say that these young men became "intoxicated" with the fraternity. Rizal and del Pilar had the differences of beliefs and the former left the lodge in Spain. He joined a lodge in Paris (members include T. Parde de Tavera, V. Ventura and A. Bautista) and was appointed Grand Representative to France and Germany by GM Morayta of Spain. As for *El Filibusterismo*, Basa and Rodriguez gave him money. In Ghent, he stayed with his brother Alejandrino and loaned money from Ventura. In Hongkong, he was helped by Bro. Basa, Robert Frazier and others in the medical board in publishing his articles. When his North Borneo project came up he got assured help from his brothers there as well. Brother Timoteo Paez helped his family in their trip to Hongkong. When he returned to Manila, he was accompanied by Paez and Bro. Serrano Laktaw around the city. He attended

Masonic banquets and when he formed La Liga Filipina, around 30 or more people there were Masons, among them is Bonifacio. When he was deported, most of the Masons were bounded, tortured then killed but their brothers still held on. Five of them formed the Katipunan, D. Arellano, T. Plata, V. Diaz, Ladislao Diwa and A. Bonifacio. The rest is history.

### **Post Rizal**

After he died, his brothers in Hongkong paid him a tribute, Bro. E. Aguinaldo, then the President of the Republic declared the day of his death a day of national mourning, and in Club Filipino, a tribute by his brothers again, and in Daet, Camarines Norte, the first ever monument dedicated to him was put up by his brothers. His brothers Father Toribio del Pilar and Father Manuel Trias gave requiem masses for Rizal which led to their Church being humiliated and excommunicated. In Madrid, under GM Morayta, his Spanish brothers paid him a tribute and a memorial placed in their Grand Lodge. They also circulated handbills with Rizal's portrait and farewell poem. His brothers in Barcelona got a street and named it in Rizal's memory. One can just imagine the publicity his death generated and the impact it had on his Fraternity brothers from all over the world, seeing as they did – one of their own – killed for believing what they also believed in. As the years went by, the Church realized its role as the villain to Rizal's martyrdom. So they gradually made excuses for their behavior and even accidentally found the retraction of Rizal more than three decades after his death. Regarding their bastard son's burial, recall that the Church didn't even do anything worthy of its name. In 1912, the Jesuits

approached the Rizal family for the rights to bury their famous pupil, but they gave their consent instead to his fraternity brothers, who led by Dr. Isidro de Santos and Timoteo Paez, asked for the same petition. So then on December 27, 1912, Rizal's fraternity brothers, dressed in full Masonic regalia had a long procession to the Masonic Temple in Tondo solemnly carrying their slain brother's body, or rather, what was left of it. On December 28, they had their funeral rites and on the 29<sup>th</sup>, they were with the Rizal family in the Luneta. They saw both their famous blood brother and fraternity brother be given the honorable burial he deserves. And so it was that until his death and beyond, his ties with the Fraternity was still with him.

### **Personal comments and analysis**

I know very well that my report was just a hasty addition by my professor but it is one, which I was vaguely familiar with so I went and researched. I wasn't prepared for what I discovered. I mean, I belong to a Masonic family and all but this is the first time I really realized what the fraternity is. That I was awed by everything is an understatement. I was thrilled, excited, very very happy and proud that my family belongs to, and that I am familiar with the Fraternity which has figured exceptionally in the lives of virtually all mortal saviors of the different countries and even prouder that through my research, I was able to become even more intimate with our own. I got to know them, their *struggles*, their *celebrations*, their jawdropping bravery, how they behaved as members of the fraternity and most of all, that they were also human, like me, who were in need of an organization to develop their humanity, because like them, I also have one sorority and

one organization – the former in UP, the latter under the Masonic Fraternity. And like them, I also belong to the best. But enough about them and me. As a reporter, I have to give an objective analysis about Rizal and the Masons.

So, anyway, we all know that the documentation on the influence of the Masonic Fraternity on our boys from the 1800's to the Revolution ranges from being simply unaccredited; like in Guerrero to highly skimpy, in Constantino to being there but still a bit hasty, and Agoncillo. And now the prolific Filipino Masonic historian Reynold S. Fajardo had his two books "Dimasalang" and the "The Brethren" published with full account of our heroes' membership to the Fraternity and the considerable influence it had on them. Now why is this so? (Actually for those who think that Dad Fajardo is a little bit pro Masonic – if they read his books, they can consult the other historians I've mentioned and also John Schumacher and they will see that the basic facts are there, they've all been mentioned a million times before but never the Masonic connection. – And if they say that Dad Fajardo is biased towards Masonry – he's not biased nor is he an inventor of facts. [he's a lawyer], he's just proud of their Fraternity [like I am] and in his books the aim is not to publicize but to correctly document and that is all I need to know to believe.)

So to my question, I think these historians have difficulty explaining the Masonic connection because they aren't

Masons. They weren't privileged enough to go through the same initiation rites their subjects underwent and therefore never can understand and appreciate fully the extent of how its lessons can affect its members. It would be very hard indeed to write about something you don't know. The Fraternity, for me, has been like the invisible thread, which these historians can't put their finger on to. What else can tie them all together and encourage them to become bolder and braver? Not as if I'm downplaying their desire for their country's freedom, but it is precisely because our young students (and also the older ones) did desire freedom and change and because they are Masons that our history became what it was. To understand what I said, recall what they have learned in the Fraternity whenever their exploits are mentioned.

And to the question about whether this Masonic influence on our history should even be discussed, I leave it up to the reader. The most *obvious* answer is the quest for truth, isn't it? I don't want to impose anything on anyone but this is what I have researched, what I have found out and what I lay on the line. It is up to the reader to *decide* whether Masonry should even be worthy of the attention it is getting from some. Dad Fajardo has made up his mind and so have I. It's the readers' turn and it's my classmates' turn to make up their minds and decide. C'mon, that's what we're in school for, isn't it?

*Excellence in action in an organization is when employees pay attention to details, do things right the first time, and practice good human relations!*

# DR. JOSE RIZAL HUWARANG PILIPINO AWARD

**B**RO. JOSE M. BAUTISTA, JR., CAPT. MC (PN), presently a resident of the Armed Forces of the Philippines Medical Center, V. Luna Rd, Quezon City, received a trophy and a Certificate of Award from the First Lady Dr. Loi Ejercito as one of the 10 national awardees of DR. JOSE RIZAL HUWARANG PILIPINO AWARD at the Kalayaan Hall, Malacañang Palace on the 30<sup>th</sup> of December 1998. This is a premier award to Young Professional Achiever (YPA) awardees between 21-40 years old who have excelled in more than one field making him/her a model citizen.

As a young boy, Dr. Bautista developed social awareness, extreme love for his country and fellowmen, and most importantly great fear of GOD. These he owed a lot to his father, the late Prof. Jose S.A. Bautista and his mother Leonila M. Bautista. Henceforth, he has made it a point to be of utmost service to his country. At 18 years of age, he founded a youth organization in his community to channel the attention of his fellow youth away from drug addiction and direct their energy and potentials towards Education and Community Development.

Dr. Bautista finished his degree of BS Med Tech at the University of Sto. Tomas, Manila in 1983 and passed the Med Tech licensure exam that same year. He graduated from De La Salle University College of Medicine in 1989, PostGraduate Internship at Medical Center Manila in 1990 and passed the Physicians licensure exam that same year. He joined the Armed Forces of the Philip-

pines Medical Service as a Probationary 2<sup>nd</sup> LT and was commissioned Captain of the Medical Corps in 1991. He was called to active duty in the Reserve and Regular forces in 1993 and 1995 respectively. He was the commanding officer of three Philippine Navy medical units namely: Naval Education and Training Command, Zambales; Headquarters

Philippine Navy, Roxas Blvd Manila and Naval Forces Central, Rawis, Legaspi City where he was a recipient of several medals, commendations and letters of appreciation due to exemplary performance of duty from local and foreign military institutions as well as civilian organizations and govern-



ment offices.

Dr. Bautista is a member of several medical associations in the Philippines and the USA as well as non-medical associations which include the Alliance for Emergency Response Training (ALERT) and the Grand Lodge of the Phils., (Pintong Bato Lodge #51, Bacoor, Cavite), promoting true brotherhood of men under the fatherhood of GOD. Other important positions handled were: Evaluator in the ALERT preparation for the APEC Summit held in Subic Base, Olongapo in 1996 and as Deputy Commander of the Medical Task Group, TASK FORCE National Capital Region, that ensured a peaceful and orderly Presidential Election in 1998.

Dr./Bro. Bautista is happily married to Sis. Lourdes B. Bautista and blessed with two children: Leo Mikhail B. Bautista, 3 years old, and Louielyn Junel B. Bautista, 1 year old.

# BRO. JOSE P. RIZAL IN THE NEXT MILLENIUM

(Speech delivered by MW Rizal D. Aportadera, PGM, during the Rizal Day Celebration in Davao City last December 30, 1998)

Exactly 3 minutes past the hour of seven in the morning some one hundred two years ago, the executioners' bullet ripped through the body of Dr. Jose Protacio Rizal extinguishing all vestiges of life. His body was soon hastily bundled, hied to a place unknown and dumped in an unmarked grave. His death ignited the flames of the revolution for independence and sounded the death toll for the Spanish Occupation of the Philippines. Fifteen years after his death, his body, buried uncoffined, was dug up from the Paco Cemetery and interred beneath the Rizal Monument at the Luneta on December 30, 1912. Dr. Jose Rizal lived and died for what he loved, his country and his people. He gave his life for his country and asked so little in return. Jose Rizal was destined for greatness as the account of his birth and life had been written in many books. He stood tall in his role as the prime mover for the Struggle for independence among the other patriots. He was the soul of the Filipino revolution against Spain. Rizal was a peace loving man for, while he was a loyal subject of Spain he did not in all his life act subversively nor espouse rebellion; The only desire that he passionately wrote and pursued was for his country to be free.

His eloquence and literary talent has swayed many into his sphere of influence and has awakened their desire for freedom. His virtues and intellect have been enshrined in the hallowed pages

of voluminous literary works. His ability to criticize the errors and irregular practices of the Frailocracy from revolution.

In *El Filibusterismo*, Rizal speaking through Basilio, dreams of a time wherein humanity has become enlightened: when there are no races; when all people are free; when there are neither tyrants nor slaves, colonies nor mother countries; when justice rules and man is a citizen of the world.

His nationalistic fervor lit the spark which gave rise to the flames of movements for freedom and democracy in other ASEAN countries way ahead of Nationalist like Tagore, Sun Yat Sen, Gandhi, Soekarno and Ho Chi Minh. Today he is claimed not only as the greatest Filipino but also as the greatest Malay by some member ASEAN Countries.

Jose Rizal was an Asian Renaissance man, his understanding and exaltation of humanism sought the highest achievement the "excelcis of homo universalis" in active care for the being of others.

In his letter to his countrymen dated Hongkong 20 June 1892 "I wish to show those who deny us patriotism that we know how to die for our duty and our convictions. What matters death if one dies for what one loves, for native land and cherished ones."

He prepared for his ultimate execution. He composed his thoughts and aspirations in the immortal epic the *Ultimo Pensamiento* - later titled as the

*Mi Ultimo Adios*, a masterpiece that would serve as the arrow shot beyond death into the future to remind, to inspire and to impel his countrymen. How he composed and put his masterpiece in writing in the wee hours on the eve of his execution and managed to have this secreted and made available to his family and countrymen escaped the strict interdiction of the Authorities. He crafted his masterpiece so flawlessly and in order to circumvent any attempt to diminish or change the message he wished to convey he encrypted it. We are in the Centennial Year of our independence a legacy purchased from us by the precious blood of our brave heroes.

And, as we stand in the threshold of the next millenium, can we honestly admit that Rizal will continue to occupy the hallowed place we reserve for him? Will the next generation afford him the same adulation that we are giving him here today? I see an omnimous sign that portends; Rizal will be denigrated and demystified from his place and role in history for he continues to remain a threat to those who would seek to subvert the peace and good order of our society.

This will only come to pass if we all allow complacency to make better of our fervent desire to enshrine Dr. Jose Rizal. We should redouble our efforts and energize our movements to inculcate Rizalism in the minds and hearts of the youth. Our brothers, the Knights of Rizal, had been doing this herculian job for many years, they should be encouraged and supported in their efforts to reach out to our youth, the fair hopes of

our motherland. We should make available more reading materials and references of Dr. Jose Rizal in Libraries of public and private institutions and support essay writings and public fora or movement or movements that will heighten the awareness to the virtues and teachings of Rizal. We should encourage the attendance of more young people and students in public celebrations like this morning. Our media, both print and TV, should devote a day like today to extol Dr. Jose Rizal. We need the government and non-government organizations to urge our lawmakers to put into law that his day of Martyrdom be given a special place and appropriate celebrations. Throughout Civic and Fraternal organizations should likewise lead in movements to propagate Rizals works in the community and contribute and make available to public schools copies of the *Noli Me Tangere* and *El Filibusterismo*. Our public officials should take the cue and lead by example by being available in all our public celebrations. And unless we individually and collectively take this as our responsibility and commitment to do all there is in our capacity to see to it that Dr. Jose Rizal will continue to occupy his hallowed place in the next millenium. I urge you all not to allow this day to pass without our firm commitment to pass this legacy to our children's children in the generations that will follow. Then, and only then, can we truly say that Dr. Jose Rizal did not die in vain 102 years ago today.

Good day and Happy New Year to all!

*To give real service you must add something which cannot be bought  
or measured with money, and that is  
SINCERITY and INTEGRITY*

# MINDANAO REGIONAL CONVENTION

February 19-20, 1999  
Cagayan de Oro City

Once again, we are gathered in fraternal communication in order to lay finish those matters which you have initiated during your respective regional conventions. Except for the region of the Zamboanga and Sulu area, I have attended the three regional conventions here in Mindanao, with very vivid impression of the cohesiveness of the Fraternity - working together in harmony towards a common goal of strengthening the bond of the Brotherhood of Man under the Fatherhood of God.

After the 1717 formation of the first Grand Lodge, Dr. James Anderson, its prime mover insisted that the fraternity should be bound by the moral ties of Brotherly Love and Charity and projected that a universal society of Masons; would in time be developed.

The Brotherhood of Man very well depends on the Fatherhood of God, and this is a very effective and cohesive force which brings men together and binds them.

Unfortunately, against this centripetal force of Belief in God which brings men together, these are centrifugal forces emanating from beliefs about God, which ironically tend to separate men. Faith in God unites men but belief about God divides men. Brotherhood is not a cause but an effect. It is the outward evidence and token of a moral activity having its center rooted in Ma-

sonic philosophy.

I am confident that by this display of the Masonic precept of the Brotherhood of Man Under the Fatherhood of God here in Mindanao, our Christian and Muslim countrymen will learn to exist in harmony and peace.

It is possible for all men to live and work together, regardless of the diversity of their races, creeds and colors, if they would only subscribe to three universal beliefs consistent with any faith or lack of it: That all men were created equal by God, that all men are brothers under his Fatherhood, and that all men should guide their actions by that reason he put in each of us an equal capacity that is a reflection of his infinite own. This is best expressed in the perfect proportions of the temple of Solomon.

No one can dispute the central role of Masonry in the birth of the nation. As we celebrated the centennial of that birth, it is our obligation to remind our countrymen of the ideals that created their country, and might yet inspire its renewal.

The importance of Masonry transcends the duty of truth with regard to its place in our history. Masonry's ideals contain the answer to the problem of our lack of cooperation and unity which stand obstruct to the improvement of our state.

The central story of Masonry is the

building of the Temple of Solomon. The story that Solomon called all the skilled men in his vast dominions, as well as all skilled men outside, to build a temple to the one God in which every religion ultimately subscribes.

Masons, carpenters, wood and stonecutters - men of all colors and creeds - came, bringing each his special skill in building.

As we all know who have been initiated into the Craft, the building did not go smoothly. There was jealousy and conflict. There was a heinous crime. We all know that by the use of deductive reasoning, the perpetrators of that crime were exposed and brought to justice, and that the building of the Temple resumed and was completed. The lesson is clear: in order to build rather than destroy, we need a common plan, we need men of learning and skill and we need to develop that reasoning capacity, which alone can show us how to make the different parts join and hold.

This lesson applies to our country as well.

As we try to create a common community out of the rich diversity of our country, particularly in the South, I can think of no principles more universal than Masonry's by which to organize that diversity into a working and progressive unity.

With its belief in one God, that Architect of the Universe - a belief shared by all Filipinos, Christian and Muslim - surely they can unite to honor their maker by building the only Temple of a free, just and progressive country. This is the Temple that Filipinos must build to honor the God who gave them their country over 100 years ago.

It is not surprising that Masonry

should be so prevalent in those places where conflict is widespread and where so many Brothers have paid the ultimate price of disagreement and disunity. We know how widely Masonry is practiced by our brothers in the army of the South, who have fought and died to keep the unity of the Republic and the territorial integrity of our country intact. But as they wage war, they long for peace; as they combat for secession, they long for unity.

Masonry created the Philippines over 100 years ago. It is our duty to remind the nation of that. It is still the principles of Masonry that best assure its healing and final unity.

But the last thing we want to do is just preach Masonry. For one, we are bound by the oath of secrecy not to speak out. And Masons don't really care if they get the credit or not, or if more become Masons. Our only interest is that more men behave according to the tenets of Masonry.

Our duty is to show by our example that Masonry - the answer of the past - is still the most vibrant answer for the future. It is a dynamic answer which consists of building rather than talking, of showing rather than proclaiming mutual respect and help.

We think that by distinctly Masonic activities we can achieve that final unity and peace that will complete the circle of felicity in which our fine and beautiful country has entered, with its established freedom and growing prosperity.

There are long and new roads to travel and a new direction to focus on. Let the Square and the Compass hold true as our symbol in reaching perfection which is our ultimate goal. Let us take the journey together and reach our destination triumphant and fulfilled.



# UNVEILING OF THE MARKER FOR THE 13 MARTYRS OF BAGUMBAYAN

by Bro. Siegfredo Ibay, JW, Walana Lodge #13

Last February 27, 1999 MW Enrique L. Locsin together with WM Danilo P. Mangila unveiled the marker of the 13 Martyrs of Bagumbayan at the Japanese Garden, Luneta Park.

The occasion was one of the most important events for the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines. After so many years this project was conceptualized during the term of WB Hermeno A. Palamine and was constructed during the term of WB Danilo P. Mangila.

## Historical Background

The 13 martyrs of Bagumbayan were executed on January 11, 1897. Among those executed was WB Faustino Villaruel, the Father of the Walana Lodge No. 13. He was born in 1845 in Pandacan, Manila.

Upon the founding of Lodge Solidaridad in Madrid in 1890, it was decided that lodges be secretly organized in the Philippines. Thereupon, Villaruel founded Walana Lodge in 1892 and Patria Lodge in 1893 both of which he served as Worshipful Master.

He was largely instrumental in the organization of 35 lodges in Manila and in the provinces by 1893. He conducted Masonic meetings in his home while his daughter Rosario, played the piano to hide the meet-

ings from the authorities.

During such meetings the children playing outside their house were "look outs" for the "Guardia Civil" patrolling their area. These children will be heard shouting "Wala na! Wala na! Once the soldiers were out of sight. The Masons will then resume their secret meeting after hearing these words. These words were the origin of the Walana Lodge.

In spite of the dangers and threats to his life his activities entailed, he continued to dedicate his life to country and preferred to die rather than give up his Masonic and patriotic work.

After the execution of Rizal, a new wave of mass arrests swept Manila. Villaruel was not spared. On January 11, 1897, he was executed by musketry in Bagumbayan together with 12 other prominent Filipinos, ten of whom were Masons.

This project was made possible due to the untiring efforts of the Brethren of the Walana Lodge and the efforts of the VW Rene C. Damian who prepared all the paraphernalias and landscaping of the monument.

The event was also graced by the presence of Grand Lodge officers brethren from different lodges.



## MD NO. 8 HOLDS DISTRICT CONVENTION

by WB Joselito P. Tamaray

The brethren of Masonic District No. 8, headed by VW Luis LI. Vizcocho, Jr., DDGM, held a very simple and austere convention last November 28, 1998 at Don Filemon Perez Lodge Hall, Lucena City which was hosted by Kalilayan Lodge No. 37.

The affair was graced by the presence of RW Oscar V. Bunyi, who was invited as Guest of Honor and official representative of the Grand Master. Bro. Voltaire Gazmin was likewise invited as Guest Speaker. He is a member of Maranaw Lodge #111 and presently, the Commanding General for Southern Luzon based in Camp Guillermo Nakar,

Lucena City.

The Convention was very successful and well-attended by the brethren of the four lodges belonging to Masonic District #8, namely, Kalilayan #37, headed by yours truly, Balintawak #28 (Gumaca) headed by WB Darwin N. Prieto, Plaridel #74 (Calauag) and Tayabas #43 headed by WB Ben Hur Sacopla. Fellowship was held at JM Premiere Cuisine with the brethren enjoying the company of sojourning brethren, like Bro. Derek Orbase of Naga City #257 and Bro. Oscar Gonato of Sibuguey Valley #246.



(L-R) VW Ricardo T. Tan, RW Oca Bunyi, VW Luis LI. Vizcocho, Jr., DDGM, Bro. Voltaire Gazmin, VW Rey Valbuena, DGL, VW Reynaldo O. Calayan, Jr., DGL and WB Joselito P. Tamaray

# TARLAC HAS A NEW LODGE

by VW BJ Torres, AGS

Last December 9, 1998, the Apolinario B. Yap Memorial Lodge, U.D. was instituted in Victoria, Tarlac. RW Napoleon A. Soriano, JGW, was presiding as the official representative of MW Enrique L. Locsin in the memorable event.

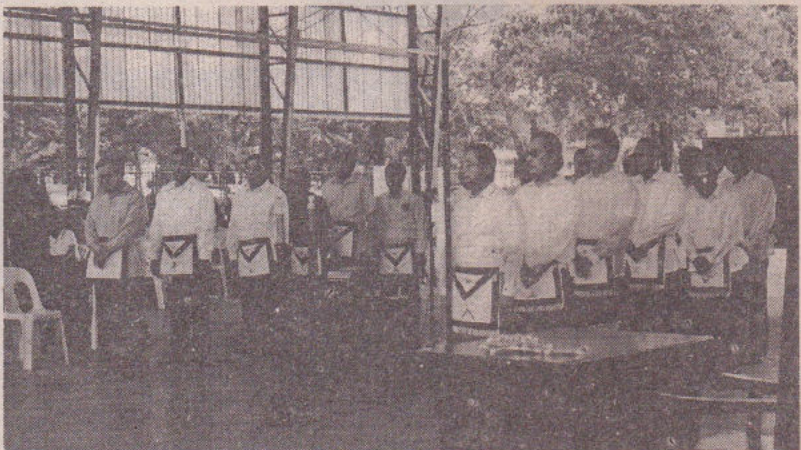
Because of his noble effort of championing the rights of the poor in the province, the Lodge was named in honor of the late Gov. Apolinario B. Yap. Governor Jose V. Yap, the incumbent governor of Victoria, Tarlac and is the son of the late governor was present to grace the event and to receive a Plaque of Appreciation, as guest of Honor and Speaker. Present also, to witness the ceremony were the three sons and two daughters of the late governor. The Hon. Emmanuel Guiam, Mayor of Victoria was present to give the welcoming remarks. The guest of honor and the speaker was introduced by VW Jesus David, PDDGM.

The appointed Worshipful Master, VW E. Erundino M. Cajucom, PGL

and a practicing lawyer, promised during his inaugural speech to dedicate his term in encoding the community about Freemasonry through solid activities especially through community and charitable projects.

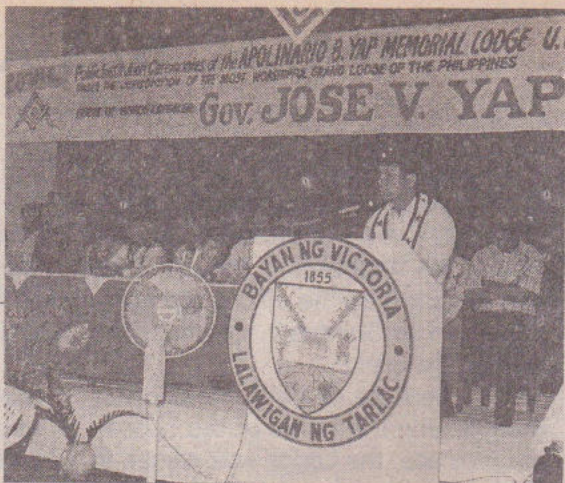
Gov. Jose V. Yap in his speech promised to help the new Lodge in its temple building and its being assigned a piece of land where the temple will someday be built. As a young boy, Gov. Jose V. Yap, remembered always accompanying his Father to Masonic affairs and saw the beautiful and harmonious relations of Masons and their concern about other people and the community.

In the closing ceremonies, RW Napoleon A. Soriano, commended in his speech the group of brethren who organized the new Lodge which belongs to District #35, West Central Luzon Region. He further wished them success in their projects and conveyed to them the felicitation of Grand Master Enrique L. Locsin.



*Brethren of Apolinario V. Yap Memorial Lodge, UD in "U" formation prior to their investments led by VW Cajucom (front right column)*

*Newly-installed Worshipful Master Cajucom giving his inaugural address.*



*Gov. Jose B. Yap receiving his Plaque of Appreciation as Guest of Honor and Speaker from VW Cajucom assisted by VW Sammy Guerrero, PDDGM.*

*RW Napoleon A. Soriano, JGW, giving his address*



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## LAOAG #71: FREE MEDICAL AND DENTAL MISSION

**T**he Laoag Lodge #71 conducted a free medical and dental mission last Oct. 24, 1998 in Brgy. Davila, Pasuquin, Ilocos Norte.

The brethren who joined the mission, namely WM Joey Soriano, Bro. Saldy Santiago, Bro. Mario Bumanglag, VW Lou Santos, VW Severo Domingo, VW Nap Domingo, WB Jimmy Hernando, WB Jack Duarte, Bro. Oscar Domingo, Bro. Dave Pascual, Bro. Rogil Peralta, Bro. Dexter Corpuz, Bro. Herbert Guerrero and Bro. Alex Ventura, gathered at the place of Bro. Dave Pascual for a sumptuous breakfast. Additional help was given by the dentists Bernabe Brothers, Dra. Carol Suguitan, daughter of VW Oscar Suguitan, Pepe of Glaxo who provided number of various medicines for the children. Sis. Carmen Domingo, MD, and wife of VW Severo Domingo and a number of Barangay volunteers were also present to help in the mission and in the registering of the patients.

The group proceeded to the Barangay after breakfast. The route to Davila was beautiful because of the cemented roads leading to the site by the

seashore. As soon as the group arrived in Davila, the patients slowly came in and as noontime approached, more and more patients arrived. Both the Medical and Dental teams were kept busy. Despite the busy and hectic happenings, Bro./Dr. Nap Domingo managed to make each patient important by attending to each one personally.

As lunch approached, so did the last patient. The lunch marked the end of the day's mission. After prayers and the various preparation of fish for lunch, the tired and weary bodies of the mission, decided to proceed to the beach for a short fellowship and to relax in the ambiance.

As the day drew to a close, there were still other activities needed to be attended. The brethren proceeded to the Poblacion and went to the nearest kin of our Departed Brethren, VW Pablo Edrozo and Bro. Garduque, of Pasuquin, and gave perpetual prayers and candles in preparation of the celebration of All Saints Day. The brethren went home tired, yet full of satisfaction in being able to share a part of themselves in the service of others.

*There is a great man who makes every man feel small;  
but the real great man is the man who makes every man  
feel great...*

*Medical and Dental team...*



# RAIN OR SHINE

by **VW Godofredo O. Peteza, PJGL**

**M**asons are sincere with their Masonic duties and responsibilities. The Principal Tenets of Freemasonry binds Masons: Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth. Masons are, by fraternal ties, obligated to help one another, that success in any Masonic undertaking is a success in Freemasonry, rain or shine.

This was proven true during the offering of fresh flowers at the foot of the First Rizal Monument in downtown Daet. When it was raining cats and dogs, so to speak, the brethren thought it was impossible to push through the Four in One Affair on the 30<sup>th</sup> of December 1998, the last Masonic gathering ever to be held at the turn of the century. Yet, the brethren braved the torrential rains and moved in unison for the yearend celebration.

Among those present during the floral offering were: VW Jose P. Tabios, Sr., PDDGM; VW Ernesto C. Tabanao, PDDGM; VW Godofredo O. Salagoste, PDGL; VW Jose Dy Ching, PDGL; WB Godofredo E. Peteza, Jr.; VW Godofredo O. Peteza, Sr., PJGL; Bro. Fernando E. Peteza, Bro. Mauro O. Mangubat; VW Felipe M. Jardinel; WB Amable C. Ables; WB Arthur Z. Elizes; Sis. Trinidad E. Peteza and Sis. Mercedes L. Peteza.

After the eventful floral offering, the brethren motored to the Masonic Center for the traditional breakfast, followed by the induction of the newly elected Officers of the Camarines Norte Freemasons Past Masters Club, the advisory body of Camarines Norte Lodge #107, Daet Lodge #247 and the Daet Lodge of Perfection.

In his message, incumbent District

Guild President VW Godofredo O. Peteza, Sr., PJGL of the District Guild of Past Masters, District No. 12, challenged the newly inducted officers to act as catalysts of change to workout programs with Past Masters who, more often than not, are always absent during meetings and do not involve themselves in Masonic intercourse with their brethren.

The District Guild President also informed the Past Masters of the benefits being extended by the Grand Guild of Past Masters of the Philippines under the stewardship of MW John L. Choa, PGM and Grand Guild President on the reimbursement of Hospital Bills not exceeding P4,000 for every confinement in a given year.

The officers of the Camarines Norte Freemasons Past Masters Club were: WB Arthur Z. Elizes, President; VW Felipe M. Jardinel, Vice-President; VW Jose Dy Ching, Secretary-Treasurer and VW Godofredo O. Salagoste, Auditor. In his inaugural address, WB Arthur Z. Elizes thanked the members for the mandate given him to lead the Past Masters to the next millenium. He also read the Constitution and By-Laws where the members found some of the provisions no longer appropriate with the changing times, hence amendments and repeal of previous amendments were proposed for the next meeting on the 30<sup>th</sup> of January 1999.

During the Paglingap, the 100 or so poorest of the poor of Daet listened to Miss Maria Luisa N. Tabios, an MPA graduate of UCPA, Manila, on the adverse effect of economic upheaval in the country. While she spoke in Filipino, our

less fortunate brethren could hardly understand anything about economics. What is first and foremost in their minds were the gift packages displayed in front of them.

Exotically interesting was the children's Christmas Party where almost all kinds of games for children were played, handing out of prizes of various kinds. It could also be considered the merriest yearend where Masons ushered in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. With the children or grandchildren of Masons sharing the event with their Tatays, Nanays, Lolos and Lolas, where widows and orphans of Masons were given tokens of love and comfort. Meanwhile, some discriminating visitors ventured to take a good look at the much talked about newly air-con-

ditioned Lodge Hall, complete with beautifully tailored curtains – thanks to the brethren, without whose moral and financial support, the project would not have been possible.

Of course, the sumptuous and mouth-watering kalderetang baka, patatim, Shanghai lumpia, rice and bread filled hungry stomachs with gusto. "Better late than never," was the comment of the sisters and brethren when food was served at about 9:30 in the evening. Non-stop scintillating music filled the air of the newly refurbished ground floor of the Masonic Center where the four donated ceiling fans of VW Jerbert O. Yap, DGL were strategically installed.

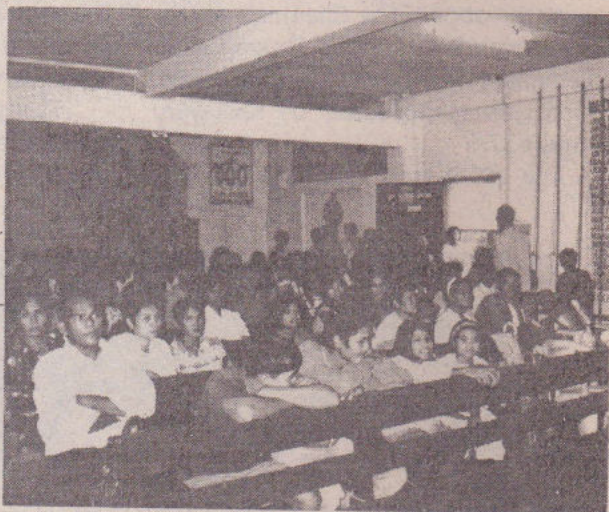


*floral offering...*



*...pile of gift packages...*

*The 120 poorest of the poor  
of Daet.*



*Officers of the Camarines Norte  
Freemasons Past Masters Club dur-  
ing the oath taking before VW G.O.  
Peteza, Sr., PJGL (L-R) WB A.Z. Elizes,  
President; VW G.O. Salagoste, Audi-  
tor, VW F.M. Jardinel, V-President and  
VW J. Dy Ching, Secretary-Treasure*

# KALILAYAN LODGE #37 UPDATES

by WM Joselito M. Tamaray

## HOLDS TREE PLANTING

The brethren of Kalilayan #37 held a tree-planting project last October 10, 1998 at Barangay Salinas and Barangay Talim in Lucena City in cooperation with the Southern Luzon Command, Citizen's Military Operation, the Peacemaker and PGL, and other organizations connected with environmental conservation. The Chairman of the project was Bro. Antonio Inciong who coordinated with the other organizations which was spearheaded by Kalilayan Lodge #37.

The affair was attended by VW

Reynaldo O. Calayan, Jr., Bros. Raul Ibal and Tony Inciong, and yours truly.

Our group, together with a contingent from the SOLCOM, was met at the site by the Barangay Captain of Salinas and the representatives of the participating organizations. The project was very successful and the inhabitants of the area gave their assurances to preserve and protect the twenty-kamagon trees planted by the group.

This project was in support of the government's conservation program to protect Mother Earth.



WM J.P. Tamaray with VW Reynaldo O. Calayan, Jr., Bro. Raul Ibal, Bro. Tony Inciong and all members of Kalilayan #37 together with other participating organizations during the Tree-Planting held at Barangay Salinas and Barangay Talim, Lucena City

## HOLDS JOINT FREE MEDICAL AND DENTAL MISSION WITH THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE AND SOLCOM

Last October 25, 1998, at the compound of Saint Jude's Parish Church at Barangay Cotta, Lucena City, the brethren of Kalilayan Lodge #37 conducted a free medical and dental mission in cooperation with the Catholic Women's League and a team from the Southern Luzon Command headed by Bro. Derick Orbase, AC7 of the SOLCOM.

The brother doctors who helped in the affair were VW Bong Habito, VW Willy Frondoza, Bro. Dion Morales and Sis. Edna Joyce S. Tamaray. The dental team was provided by the SOLCOM.

The medicines were provided by the CWL, Bro. Alex Cariaga as the project's

chairman, Bro. Totoy Gomez, VW Willy Frondoza, WB Jun Cagauan and myself.

Those who assisted in the project were Bros. Raul Ibal, Danilo T. Tan, Cesar Tan and Boy Custodio, VWBros. Ric Tan and Ramon Borja, and Bro. Gani Abaricia as well as the DeMolays of the Kalilayan Chapter.

The Catholic Women's League was headed by Sis. Linda Gomez who promised to make this an annual affair to be held every October.

The fellowship was hosted by Bro. Totoy Gomez at his Palay-Isdaan Restaurant at Talipan, Pagbilao, Quezon.

*The brethren of Kalilayan #37 headed by WM Joselito P. Tamaray together with the Catholic Women's League of Saint Jude Parish and the contingent from SOLCOM headed by Bro. Derick Orbase.*



*The Catholic Women's League with all smiles together with Bros. Alex Cariaga and Totoy Gomez, WM Joselito P. Tamaray, WB Jun Cagauan and Bro. Boy Custodio and the boxes of medicines ready for distribution.*



## DOUBLE FELLOWSHIP IN OCTOBER WITH BRO. VOLTAIRE GAZMIN

The newly installed commander of the Southern Luzon Command was invited to a fellowship with the brethren of Kalilayan Lodge #37 last October 28, 1998 at Palay-Isdaan restaurant at Pagbilao, Quezon, owned and managed by Bro. Totoy Gomez, Bro. Voltaire Gazmin, who is a Major General in the AFP, an active member of Maranaw #111 (Iligan City), since 1983 and a dual member of Palanyag Lodge, UD.

The other military officers, who are also true-blooded Masons, joined the affair, namely, Bros. Oscar Gonato of Sibuguey #246, Derick Orbase of Naga #257, Cris Cristobal of M.S. Garcia Mem. #306 and Tony Taguibao of Tayabas #43.

It was a whole night affair full of excitement and Masonic pleasantries. Majority of the members of Kalilayan Lodge #37 and some brethren from Tayabas Lodge also attended the fellow-

ship.

Previous to the affair, Bro. Voltaire Gazmin hosted a fellowship for the brethren of Masonic District No. 8 last October 9, 1998 at the Officers' Club at Camp Nakar, Lucena City. The affair was more of an acquaintance party because the local brethren were able to meet most of the newly assigned officers of the Southern Luzon Command. To our surprise, most of the senior officers of Bro. Voltaire Gazmin are Masons which unites us into one sacred band, or Society of Friends and brothers among whom no contention should ever exist, but that noble contention, or rather emulation, of who best can work and best agree."

Incidentally, Bro. Jimmy Caringal, the Provincial Director of the PNP of Quezon, also provided some surprise numbers to the delight and excitement of the brethren.

### *Something to think about*

*First I was dying to finish high school and start college;  
And then I was dying to finish college and start working;  
And then I was dying to marry and have children;  
And then I was dying for my children to grow old enough for  
school so I could return to work;  
And then I was dying to retire;  
And now, I am dying . . . and suddenly  
I realize I forgot to live.*

## KALILAYAN BRETHREN CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS TOGETHER WITH THEIR FAMILIES

**D**ecember 12, 1998 was a red-letter day for Masons of Kalilayan Lodge #37 for it rekindled the joy of the Nativity when they held a Christmas party at the Heritage Hall of the Halina Hotel, Lucena City. The spirit of Christmas was greatly felt especially with the presence of the families of the brethren.

The occasion was overflowing with love and camaraderie, with the spouses and children of Masons providing the entertainment. Everybody joined in the merriment, including the parlor games. Bro. Marvin Llamas and Sister Grace were all agog giving instruction regarding the mechanics of the games, while Bro. Isagani Abaricia served as Santa Claus for he was assigned to dole out

cash gifts to the children of Masons.

The Masons sang passionate sonatas to their wives who in turn sang emotional love songs to their husbands. The affair turned sentimental when the brethren gave a surprise number to VW Ding Buendia and Sister Sonia. They serenaded them with "He ain't heavy, he's my brother," a very meaningful melody which exemplified the tenets of Freemasonry – Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth.

It was a fun-filled get together with the brethren welcoming the birth of our Savior with ceremonial tosses and impromptu recitation of Masonic verses, especially the phrase, Together, Brethren!"

*The full compliment of Kalilayan brethren, headed by WB J.P. Tamaray, serenading VW Ding Buendia and Sister Sonia during the Christmas Party.*



*Bro. Marvin Llamas explaining the mechanics of the parlor games with the children of Masons intently listening.*



# MW R.V. BUNDA, PGM AND PAST MASTERS HONORED BY BAGONG ILAW LODGE #97

by WB Teddy P. Cleofe, PM

Last December 20, 1998, the Bagong Ilaw Lodge #97, sponsored a testimonial dinner in honor of MW Rudyardo V. Bunda, PGM a distinguished son of Bagong Ilaw Lodge, together with the Past Masters of the said Lodge.

In that occasion, VW Nick G. Ricafrente, PDGM and a Past Master of this Lodge delivered the testimonial message. The officers and members of the Lodge expressed their full recognition of all the sacrifice that MW Bunda has offered to his Mother Lodge, thus making him feel his real importance to us.

MW Bunda, is the first and only son of Bagong Ilaw Lodge who has given honors to his Mother Lodge, not only here in the Philippines, but also abroad. A Grand Master under the jurisdiction

of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Masons of the Philippines, and the incumbent Sovereign Grand Commander of the Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry of the Republic of the Philippines.

A family Christmas party, held at Magdiwang Lodge compound in Noveleta followed the testimonial dinner.

In the morning of the same day, the Bagong Ilaw Lodge #97 distributed a number of gift bags, consisting of rice and assorted groceries, to indigent families in Noveleta and Cavite City. The distribution of gifts was headed by WB Danny A. Vilda, Worshipful Master. The venue was the residence of WB Teddy P. Cleofe, PM, chairman of the project, in San Rafael I, Noveleta, Cavite.

## Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of the Philippines



### 83rd ANNUAL COMMUNICATION

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# SO THAT THE BRETHREN MAY KNOW

by **WB Gaudencio V. Fabroa, PM**

**M**emorandum of Agreement on Environmental Improvement and Protection Projects. This memorandum of agreement is made and entered into by and between: The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), represented by Hon. Secretary Angel C. Alcala, and the Grand Lodge of the Phils., represented by Grand Master Agustin V. Mateo referred to as the Freemasons of the Republic of the Philippines dated April 3, 1983 at Camp Gen. Aguinaldo, Quezon City. Acknowledgement (notarized) dated April 6, 1993, Notary Public, Atty. Jose M. Dumangas, Doc. No. 319, Page No. 10, Book No. 10, Series of 1993.

"Hiram Lodge #88 Environmental Project" as an offshoot of the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) mentioned above, WB Gaudencio V. (Dodo) Fabroa, PM of Hiram Lodge No. 88-Manila donated his 47.88 hectares of mountain resort already surveyed by the DENR. With additional one (100) hundred hectares from the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) under Proclamation 196 by her Excellency Corazon Aquino to be distributed to farmer beneficiaries at Real, Quezon Province. WB Dodo Fabroa as the founder and proponent of the mentioned project. All requirements were furnished by the DAR through the Regional Director of Region IV Percival C. Daludug with the strong support of Hiram Lodge #88 and the backing of Grand Master Rizal D. Aportadera in support of the environmental preservation and wild life protection project. This is a Memorandum of Agreement between the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) and Hiram Lodge #88 was

inked on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of August 1995.

Witnesses: Armando L. Polinag a Brother Mason, Chief Administration Officer, DAR, Region IV, Pasig City, Rizal; Vicente J. Mayoralgo, Jr., Maro, Real, Quezon detailed Regional DAR Region, IV, Pasig, City, Rizal, Notarized by: Atty. Ma. Patricia M.P. Ruaco, Doc. No. 297, Page 61, Book No. 11, January 27, 1995, Pasig City.

A complete folder has been furnished to the Grand Lodge of the Philippines to Most Worshipful Enrique L. Locsin, Grand Master of Masons of the Republic of the Philippines.

## **THE GRAND MASTER AS A MAN AND MASON**

After MW Enrique L. Locsin, Grand Master, received his personal file of the complete records of the mentioned Masonic Environmental Project, he immediately ordered VW BJ Torres, AGS and WB G.V. Fabroa of Hiram Lodge #88 to set a date for the visit of the project site.

December 27, 1998 was the day of departure from Robinson's, Ortigas, Quezon City. I informed the Grand Master that the proper time for departure should be 4:00 a.m. so that the project site at the waterfalls, will be reached on time. Later on, due to unavoidable circumstances the departure time was moved to 6:00 a.m. The Grand Master arrived next to VW Roy G. Azarcon, Junior Grand Deacon, and some employees of the Commission on Audit (COA). We waited for the DeMolay and the Rainbow volunteers who decided to go with the trip with the desire to fulfill their com-

mitment of tree planting in the area. Unfortunately, they did not arrive and we left at exactly 6:20 a.m. passing Antipolo, Rizal to Siniloan, Famy, crossing the Sierra Madre mountains down to Tignoan River/Bridge along the beach line of Real, Quezon, passing a fish port and buying some fish for our additional meal, we arrived at Kinasumbahan. Knowing that the Grand Master was not feeling well, he waited down at Kinalumbakan with his driver. I knew that it would be hard for the new climbers to trek to the destination, so I advised all of them not to ask questions regarding distance. The climb covered 4 kilometers; in order to avoid frustrations and impatience, continuous stories were exchanged. As we were about to leave, the Grand Master decided to go with us. At first it was alright, then as we went along, human weakness was felt by everyone including me, as I have just been hospitalized with my umbra instability. Despite the impending weak-

ness, we found the perseverance to continue because of our commitment to the schedule for the day. We were able to reach my rest house in Barangay Tagumpay at 11:30 a.m. 2 1/2 kms from the site. The estimated time of arrival at the site, however, could not be met as we arrived late in my rest house. The fish that we have earlier bought had been our lunch along with the lunch already prepared for the group by my son. The Grand Master informed us that he will leave with Sister Susan and Norie. I told him to join us in our lunch, but he decided to just take their lunch when they get down. A picture taking was done before their departure.

Here a Grand Master with his wife and Secretary, with VW Roy Azarcon and with some COAn's has proven endurance, perseverance inspite of human weakness, a commitment may be accomplished.

Attached pictures to proved the events.



*At Brgy. Kinalumbakan beach the starting point of the climb to Brgy. Tagumpay, Real, Quezon w/ the GM, Sis. Susan, Norie, WB Azarcon, with the employees of the Commission on Audit (COA) Central Office*



*At the rest house of WB Dodo, Brgy. Tagumpay, Real, Quezon; The GM w/ WB Azarcon. WB Dodo holding a pili seedlings for planting at the project site near the waterfalls.*

*This picture upon entering Brgy. Tagumpay 1 Km still to climb, at this time 10:30 am. GM was getting faster and faster in his climb a proof of recovery from frustration fulfilled commitment.*



*The rest house of WB Dodo upon arrival from Brgy. Tagumpay.*

# POLICE CAVALIERS INDUCTED

Last November 10, 1998, the Officers and Charter Members of the Police Cavaliers Square and Compass Club, Inc., Northern Mindanao Chapter, were inducted at Philtown Hotel and Restaurant, Cagayan de Oro City by the National President of the Police Cavaliers Square and Compass Club, WB Reynaldo M. Acop, Police Chief Superintendent and the incumbent Regional Director of Police Regional Office 4 in Camp Vicente Lim, Canlubang, Laguna. WB Acop also presented a letter of recognition to the Chapter, authorizing it to conduct business in accordance with the Constitution and by-laws of the mother club.

The newly inducted officers with their respective positions were: *President*, VWB Police Senior Superintendent **CREDO B. RUBIO, PDDGM** of District 40, and presently the Deputy Regional Director for Operations of Police Regional Office 10; *V-President*, VWB Police Senior Superintendent **CARLITO V. TABACULDE**, PDDGM of District #30,

presently the Provincial Director of Zamboanga del Sur; *Secretary*, VW Police Superintended **TEODORICO B. CAPUYAN**, DDGM of District 30, presently Provincial Director of Misamis Oriental; *Treasurer*, Bro. Police Superintendent **JUAN RATUNIL**, Bukidnon Police Office; *Auditor*, WB Police Chief Inspector **JOSE GALARIO, JR., PM, COP**, Valencia Pol Station; *PRO*, WB Police Superintendent **LYNDEL DESQUITADO**, C, RIID, PRO 10 and *Adviser*, Bro. **RUBEN V. CABAGNOT**, Regional Director, Police Regional Office.

Aside from the officers, there were also 58 PNP brethren coming from as far as Tandag, Surigao del Sur in the East, Quezon; Bukidnon in the South; Camiguin in the North and Pagadian, Zamboanga del Sur in the West, who were inducted as Charter Members.

The Charter came into being when on the 7<sup>th</sup> of July 1992, VWB Rubio called for an organization meeting at Camp Alagcar, Cagayan de Oro City. Twenty PNP brethren attended.



*Officers during their oath taking before WB Rey Acop.*

# 66<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CONVENTION OF MASONIC DISTRICT NO. 2

**M**asonic District No. 2 held its 66<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention at Taal Vista Resort Hotel last November 30, 1998, with Tagaytay Lodge #165 as lead Lodge. The convention was well attended and fruitful particularly in terms of resolutions submitted, discussed and approved.

MW Enrique L. Locsin, Grand Master, in Silang – Dasmariñas boundary, unveiled a Masonic marker. A short program was held in the town plaza where Mayor Ruben Madlangsakay gave a short talk.

VW Nicolas Ricafrente, PDDGM, assisted by two other PDDGMs – VWBros. Ruperto Sangalang and Valeriano Espiritu, took charge of presenting plaques of appreciation to winners of the Degree Exemplification Competition, as follows: *Best Conferral Lodge, 1<sup>st</sup> degree* – Primera Luz Filipina #69; *Best Conferral Lodge, 2<sup>nd</sup> degree* – Bagong Ilaw #97; *Best Conferral Lodge, 3<sup>rd</sup> degree* – Pintong Bato #51; *Best in Pageantry/*

*Costumes* – Mt. Mainam #49; *Best Conferral Master, 1<sup>st</sup> degree* – Bro. Medardo Cambaliza; *Best Conferral Master, 1<sup>st</sup> degree* – Bro. Medardo Cambaliza; *Best Conferral Master, 2<sup>nd</sup> degree* – Bro. Danilo M. Vilda; *Best Conferral Master, 3<sup>rd</sup> degree* – WM Ricardo R. de Jesus, Pintong Bato #51; *Best King Solomon* – Bro. Raul M. Ejercito; *Best Senior Deacon, 1<sup>st</sup> degree* – Bro. Roland Garcia (#69); *Best Senior Deacon, 2<sup>nd</sup> degree, 1<sup>st</sup> section* – Bro. G. Bergantin (#97); *Best Senior Deacon, 2<sup>nd</sup> degree, 2<sup>nd</sup> section* – Bro. Giovanni Bergantin (#97); *Best Senior Deacon, 3<sup>rd</sup> degree, 1<sup>st</sup> section* – Bro. Noel Manimtim (#165); *Best Senior Deacon, 3<sup>rd</sup> degree, 2<sup>nd</sup> section* – Bro. Severino Angeles.

The convention was a complete success. The programs were well prepared and attended. Meal times were always bountiful and prizes were being awarded all throughout the day. Magdiwang Lodge #238 accepted the challenge of hosting the next district convention.



# DISTRIBUTION OF RELIEF GOODS TO VICTIMS OF TYPHOON "ILIANG"

## MASONIC DISTRICT NO. 45 (NORTH ISABELA)

*"Nagpapasalamat kami sa kaunting tulong na aming natanggap mula sa mga Mason. Kahit papaano ay makatutulong ito sa amin..." – Juanita Matusalem, 68, recipient*

*"Nagpapasalamat po ako ng marami sa mga Mason na nagbigay ng kaunting tulong sa amin." – Jovita Lumapad, 44, recipient*

*"Dakal nga pabbalo-balo mi ta igga y allo na Dios." – Conchita Dumaua, 46, recipient*

*"I wish to thank the Grand Lodge of Freemasons for the relief goods given to my barangay mates. May the blessing of God be with you always." – Dominga Gamiao, 40, Brgy. Kagawad of San Antonio, Cabisera 10*

In whatever dialect, the heartfelt gratitude of those who have been helped in their time of need can clearly be heard and the many "thank yous" continue to echo in those who were actually there. November 14, 17 and 26 of last year marked a very memorable day for our brethren in Masonic District #45 in Northern Isabela. In those three days our brethren, carrying with them the grace of the Grand Lodge of the Philippines, served some 600 people who were recently hit by the wrath of typhoon "ILIANG".

Lodges like Mallig Plains #191, Tumauni #251, Isabela #60 and San Mariano #307 served as the centers of distribution of relief goods.

In Mallig Plains #191, the operation was led by WB Hector B. Anagaran, WM, VW Antonio Catembong, Jr., DGL, assisted by VW Gualfredo C. Martinez, RGL and the officers and members of the

Lodge distributed relief goods to eighty (80) recipients of Sitio Puragid, Brgy. San Antonio, and Sitio Acacia, Brgy. San Jose, Roxas, Isabela in the morning of Nov. 14, 1998. Meanwhile, 100 recipients were handled by Tumauni #251 in Brgy. Pilitan, Tumauni, Isabela in the afternoon of the same day. Worshipful Master Ramon T. Lugo, VW Roger Z. Guzman, DGL; VW Gualfredo C. Martinez, RGL; Hermanas and officers and members of the Lodge in coordination with Barangay officials participated in this worthy endeavor. The group had to cross the mighty Cagayan River to reach the place, it being located in the western side of Tumauni town proper.

Barangay San Antonio, Cabisera 10, Ilagan, Isabela was the center of all operations. Officers and members of Isabela #60 led by WM Leopoldo P. Jaramillo, assisted by VW Gualfredo C. Martinez, RGL, distributed relief goods

to four hundred (400) recipients last Nov. 17 from Brgys. Centro Bariki, Angasian, San Antonio, Cabisera 23, Alinaguigan and Baculod respectively. The gesture of Freemasons was duly recognized by the residents of the barangays concerned.

On Nov. 26, using a helicopter, courtesy of 51D, Gamu, Isabela, WM Rodel Costales and officers and members of

the lodge in San Mariano Lodge #307 conducted relief operations and medical mission in Brgy. Tappa, San Mariano, Isabela located in the mountainous eastern side of the town proper, accessible only by air transportation. The barangay residents were very grateful to the assistance given by the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons.

*distribution of relief goods sponsored by the Grand Lodge during the typhoon Iliang...*



*\*...more bags were distributed...more people coming in.*

## NEWS PICTORIALS...



*MW Enrique L. Locsin delivering his messages last Nov. 28, 1998 when he was the Guest Speaker at the three-day-celebration of Gat Andres Bonifacio Day which started Nov. 28-30, 1998.*

*The occasion was chebbed as "DAGUNDONG SA MARAGONDON," meaning, a very loud sound in Maragondon, Cavite.*

*This was held in Mt. Hulog in Brgy. Pinagsanhan, Maragondon, Cavite, where our late hero was buried after his execution.*



*The GM and VW ER Manarin, DDGM of MD #2, receiving a warm welcome from the Honorable Mayor Teodorico C. Ramiez of Maragondon, Cavite.*

*Looking at are WB Norberto Anloaque, PM, at the right of the GM and VW Al Dualan, PDDGM at the back.*

*The background, "ANG PAGLILITIS AT KAMATAYAN NI GAT ANDRES BONIFACIO," is a part of the celebration.*



*Holding the strings of the capsule with pertinent documents on the proposed Andres Bonifacio National Shrine and Park inside it are GM Locsin, Bro. Lodenilo del Rosario, SW of Mt. Mainam #49, opposite the Grand Master and VW Serapin "Totoy" Manarin, DDGM of MD #2 at the center.*

*Assisting them are Congressman Nap Beratio of the 3rd District of Cavite in checkered blue and white polo shirt and VW Guillermo R. Narvaez, PDDGM, partly hidden at the back of the GM wearing a "buntal" hat.*

*Others in photo are the brethren from different Lodges and some Municipal and Barangay Officials.*



*A souvenir photo of the GM during the celebration of 'DAGUNDONG SA MARAGONDON' taken at the site of the proposed ANDRES BONIFACIO NATIONAL SHRINE and PARK at Mt. Hulog in Brgy. Pinagsanhan, Maragondon, Cavite.*

*At his right is VW Totoy Manarin with Congressman Nap Beratio at his left. Posing besides the Congressman is Bro. Severino B. Angeles, the Chaplain and Chairman, Committee on Andres Bonifacio National Shrine and Park of Mt. Mainam Lodge #49.*

*Sharing this momentous pictorial are Bro. Marcelino Castor wearing his favorite cap and Bro. Jun Montano giving his best smile.*



*GM Locsin touring the proposed site of Andres Bonifacio National Shrine and Park in Mt. Hulog, Maragondon, Cavite.*

*The GM was accompanied by VW Totoy Manarin at his right and WI Ric Alfaro with Bro. Joshua Manarin behind him.*

*The tourist guide was VW Guillermo R. Narvaez, PDDGM, wearing a "buntal" hat with red, white and blue stripes.*



*They posed again for a souvenir photo right after the floral offering of MASONRY from all Lodges of MD #2 headed by Mt. Mainam #49 and Square and Compass Association of Maragondon, Cavite.*

*Posing in front of the monument of Gat Andres are MW Locsin, GM (center), Cong. Nap Beratio, VW Totoy Manarin, WB Bert Anloague, WB Merito Javier, WB Ric Alfaro, WB Charles Anderson. VW Guillermo R. Narvaez, VW Raffy Vasquez, WB Rodrigo Narvaez and WB Pacifico Hintay among others.*

...news bits...news bits...news bits...news bits...

## GM'S SURPRISE BIRTHDAY PARTY

A huge birthday cake surrounded by vigil candles and a rousing birthday song is what greeted MW Enrique L. Locsin last Jan. 28, 1999. He was met with a surprise birthday party in the conference room of the GLP. The GM was greeted by birthday music as he walked towards the room while the Staff and the other guests hid behind the room. The event was planned by Exec. Secretary Norie and Finance Officer Ms. Nancy Que Hanco. There was of course, a sumptuous luncheon that followed and well-wishers were welcomed to join in the party. It was indeed a very memorable and surprise-filled birthday for the GM.



...I wish...I wish more...I wish...

The GLP Staff and other guests...



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## SRM SANDI M. SMALLWOOD VISITS THE GRAND MASTER

Last January 16, 1999 at 9:00 o'clock in the morning the Supreme Royal Matron, Order of the Amaranth, Inc. HL Sandi M. Smallwood and party paid the Most Worshipful Enrique L. Locsin, Grand Master, Grand Lodge of the Philippines a courtesy call at his office.

As a tribute to his foreign guests and in line with Filipino hospitality, GM Locsin tendered a sumptuous luncheon at the Club Intramuros. HL Smallwood in behalf of the group acknowledge with deep appreciation the generosity of the Grand Master and wish him success in his every endeavour.



# GLP CHRISTMAS OUTREACH

Last November 27, 1998 the office of the GM played host to a group of street children from the SERRA CENTER in Pasay City. The girls were welcomed to the GM's office by the GLP Staff. A program was prepared for them, a flower talk in Filipino was delivered by DeMolay Carlos Valencia. Carlos rendition was very emotionally-charged and highly impressive that it drew tears from the eyes of those present. Two ladies from Bethel 22, Job's Daughters Hazel Lopez and Mary Grace Evangelista entertained the children by playing games and awarding the prizes. The afternoon ended with a delicious merienda-cena and the presentation of a ceiling fan donated by SK Fidel Chua to Sis. Graciana OSR by Sis. Susan Locsin.

The girls went home with christmas stockings filled with goodies -- all's well that ends well!



## HUWARANG PAMILYANG PILIPINO

**V**W Marcelino C. Cabucana, PDDGM for MD #51 and Past Grand Royal Matron of the Order of the Amaranth, and Sis. HL Zenaida C. Cabucana, Past Grand Royal Matron of the Order of the Amaranth with their Children Edmar, Ma. Sarah Laarni, Margaret Jean and Marcelino, Jr., was chosen as Huwarang Pamilyang Pilipino for 1998. The awarding ceremonies were held at the UP Film Center in Quezon City last September 25, 1998.



*VW Marcelino C. Cabucana Family, Santiago City*

Bro. Quintino S. Castillo, Jr., Mayor, Talugtog, Nueva Ecija - Senior Deacon of Eulogio R. Dizon Lodge No. 321 voted as Most Outstanding Mayor of the Province of Nueva Ecija and of the Region.

## KORONADAL #209 JOINS GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS OF KORONADAL, SOUTH COTABATO IN CELEBRATING RIZAL DAY

Ten members of our Lodge joined the Municipal Officials and other entities in celebrating Rizal Day last Dec. 30, 1998 at the Rizal Park. After the program, the celebration was capped by the floral offering at the foot of the Rizal Monument. Shown in the picture: (L-R) WB A.A. Marinao; Bro. H.F. Faderan; WB L.R. Delizo, Jr.; VW A.E. Sarrosa, DGL; SW-elect S.T. Mangudatu; WM M.Ja. Amador; WM-elect J.Y. Ang; Bro. D.O. Riego de Dios; WM L.C. Hong and Bro. P.L. Padua.



## WIFE OF DEPARTED BROTHER RECEIVES CHECK FROM AMASI

Sis. Divina Togonon, wife of our departed brother Federico P. Togonon, Jr. who died last Nov. 13, 1998, receives a check for P10,000 from Acacia Mutual Aid Society, Inc. The check was presented by WM Manuel Ja. Amador during our Stated Meeting of Dec. 19, 1998. Picture shows Sis. Divina receiving the check while VW Antonio E. Sarrosa, DGL and Bro. Marshal Cesar D. Taleon looks on. Sis. Divina was also presented the Scroll of Remembrance.





Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons  
of the Philippines

PLARIDEL MASONIC TEMPLE

1440 SAN MARCELINO ST., MANILA

P.O. BOX 990

TEL. NOS.: 524-32-63 • 523-27-91

FAX NO. (632) 522-22-18



**CIRCULAR NO. 33**

Series of 1998 - LOCSIN

TO : ALL MASTER MASONS WITHERSOEVER DISPERSED

SUBJECT : **MRS. RUBY RAMOS**

Let it be known to all under this jurisdiction that Mrs. Ruby Ramos who introduces herself as a Mason's wife has allegedly reneged on many of her obligations to deliver Masonic paraphernalia to Masons and Lodges after having collected payment therefor.. We have been informed that efforts to ascertain her whereabouts by those who entered into contracts with her have proved futile.

This information is disseminated to everyone that they may be aware of the need to take appropriate precautions when dealing with her.

This Circular shall be read in open Lodge at the Stated Meeting next following its receipt and duly recorded in the Minutes.

Given under my hand and seal of the Grand Lodge of the Philippines at the City of Manila this 4th day of January 1999.

(Sgd) **ENRIQUE L. LOCSIN**  
*Grand Master*

Attest:

(Sgd) **REYNOLD S. FAJARDO, PGM, GMH**  
*Grand Secretary*

ELL/RSF/nem



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FAX NO. (632) 522-22-18



**CIRCULAR NO. 34 - LOCSIN**

**TO :** ALL GLOs, RDGMs, RGLs, DDGMs, DGLs, GLIs, Officers and Members of Subordinate Lodges in this Grand Jurisdiction

**SUBJECT :** ADDITIONAL ASSESSMENTS APPROVED DURING THE 82nd ANNUAL COMMUNICATION HELD AT THE PLARIDEL MASONIC TEMPLE, APRIL 23-25, 1998 TO BE IMPLEMENTED STARTING IN 1999.

During the 82nd Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge which was held in Manila in April 1998, the assessment for the Grand Guild of Past Masters was increased from P30.00 to P50.00 per Master Mason and that for the Youth Fund was upped from P30.00 to P100.00 per Master Mason. These increases are effective this year, 1999.

By way of summary the following are the assessments payable for 1999-2000:

1. Per Capita .....	P200.00 (no increase)
2. Charity Fund .....	P 10.00 (no increase)
3. Youth Fund .....	P120.00 (increased)
4. Masonic Charity for Crippled Children .....	P 75.00 (no increase)
5. Building Fund .....	P 10.00 (no increase)
6. Cabletow .....	P 80.00 (local) }
	\$ 6.50 (foreign no increase) }
7. Grand Guild of Past Master .....	P 50.00 (increased)
8. Library & Museum .....	P 20.00 (no increase)
9. Grand Lodge Committee on Youth .....	P 20.00 (no increase)
	<hr/>
Total .....	P585.00
	vvvvvv

Lodges which have paid their 1999 dues based on the old rates will still have to pay the additional charges.

This Circular shall be read in open Lodge at the Stated Meeting next following its receipt and duly recorded in the Minutes.

Given under my hand and seal of the Grand Lodge of the Philippines at the City of Manila this 15th day of January 1999.

**(Sgd) ENRIQUE L. LOCSIN**  
*Grand Master*

Attest:

**(Sgd) REYNOLD S. FAJARDO, PGM, GMH**  
*Grand Secretary*



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**CIRCULAR NO. 35 - LOCSIN**

TO : ALL PAST MASTERS, INSTALLED MASTERS AND SECRETARIES  
SUBJECT : PAST MASTER'S DEGREE

In conformance with our custom and tradition of conferring the Past Master's Degree every Saturday of the Annual Grand Communications, I have instructed the Senior Grand Lecturer to confer the degree in full ceremonial form. In the past this degree has been conferred in a brief manner hence the impact of its importance has been taken for granted. A separate program for the conferral will be contained in the handouts during the ANCOM in General Santos City.

All incumbent Worshipful Masters and Past Masters who have not been conferred the Past Masters, or Installed Masters degree must register for the conferral. In addition to the usual certificate, a permanent wallet size certificate will be given to each of those who will receive the degree.

This degree is embodied in part II, Article XX, Section 4(e) on page 63 of our Masonic Law Book.

This Circular shall be read in open Lodge at the Stated Meeting next following its receipt and duly recorded in the Minutes.

Given under my hand and seal of the Grand Lodge of the Philippines at the City of Manila this 29th day of January 1999.

**(Sgd) ENRIQUE L. LOCSIN**

*Grand Master*

Attest:

**(Sgd) REYNOLD S. FAJARDO, PGM, GMH**

*Grand Secretary*

ELL/RSF/nem

Cabletow - 54



**Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons  
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**CIRCULAR NO. 36 - LOCSIN**

**TO :** ALL GLOs, RDGMs, RGLs, DDGMs, DGLs, GLIs, Officers and  
Members of Subordinate Lodges in this Grand Jurisdiction

**SUBJECT :** THE BRETHREN

It has come to the knowledge of the Grand Lodge that some members entertain the belief that MW Reynold S. Fajardo, PGM, is receiving from the Grand Lodge royalties or some form of emolument from the proceeds of the sale of "THE BRETHREN." A few even go to the extent of charging that the Grand Lodge directed subordinate Lodges to acquire copies of THE BRETHREN for the purpose of generating royalties for MW Fajardo.

In the interest of truth, the Grand Lodge hereby states for the record that MW Fajardo has not received nor will he receive any royalty or payment from the proceeds of the sale of THE BRETHREN. MW Fajardo donated gratis et amore all his rights of authorship, including copyright, to the Grand Lodge. He wrote THE BRETHREN purely as a labor of love and not for any pecuniary motive. Hence all income derived from the sale of all copies go to the Grand Lodge and to no one else.

The Grand Lodge, for its part, required Lodges to acquire copies of THE BRETHREN for the purpose of insuring that all Masons in this jurisdiction will have access to information about the heroic role played by Masons in the attainment of Philippine independence a century ago.

This Circular shall be read in open Lodge at the Stated Meeting next following its receipt and duly recorded in the Minutes.

Given under my hand and seal of the Grand Lodge of the Philippines at the City of Manila this 10th day of February 1999.

**(Sgd) ENRIQUE L. LOCSIN**

*Grand Master*

Attest:

**(Sgd) REYNOLD S. FAJARDO, PGM, GMH**

*Grand Secretary*

# TRECE MARTIRES DE BAGUMBAYAN

*(Speech delivered by MW Enrique L. Locsin, Grand Master, during the Unveiling of the Marker for the 13 Martyrs of Bagumbayan in Japanese Garden, Luneta Park last February 27, 1999).*

Today, we celebrate the unveiling of this marker to perpetuate the memory of the gallant group of men who like our Brothers Jose Rizal, Andres Bonifacio, Marcelo H. del Pilar and others sacrificed their lives for the sake of freedom for the Filipino people.

Unlike our known national heroes, the 13 Martyrs of Bagumbayan save that of their collective fame, were the least known individually. I guarantee each one of us who are here this morning to name the names of these illustrious countrymen of ours and I would consider it a very high score if one of us can even name five of them. This Marker is intended to perpetuate their memory especially among our youth. Very little is written in our history books about their exploits that deserved their place in our history. It is hoped that our youth through this marker will encourage them to study more about their lives.

What is noteworthy with these Martyrs is that 10 of them were Masons. It is not far fetched that what motivated

them to adhere to the precept of the Fraternity - is the love for freedom.

On this spot 13 patriotic Filipinos were executed on January 11, 1897. Of these, 10 were members of the Masonic Fraternity, Numeriano Adriano, Jose Dizon, Domingo Franco, Eustacio Mañalac, Geronimo Cristobal Medina, Ramon Padilla, Antonio Salazar, Moises Salvador, Luis Enciso Villareal, and Faustino Villaruel. The non-Masons were Benedicto Nijaga, Braulio Rivera, and Francisco L. Roxas.

The 13 Martyrs of Bagumbayan were among the most patriotic Filipinos who gave all that man could be called upon to give that their country and people would have freedom to enjoy peace and happiness. They are the Masonic Martyrs who, innocent of what would be considered a serious crime in any other civilized nation, were imprisoned, tortured, and made to suffer the ignominious death of a traitor by being shot in the back. Having died for a noble cause, they live in the hearts of their grateful countrymen.

*Do it good all you can;  
be all the means you can;  
in all the ways you can;  
in all the places you can;  
at all the time you can;  
to all the people you can  
and...*

**AS LONG AS YOU CAN**

# UNVEILING MARKER OF TRECE MARTIRES

*Japanese Garden, Luneta Park*



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PLARIDEL MASONIC TEMPLE 1440 SAN MARCELINO ST., ERMITA, MANILA, PHILIPPINES D-2801



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