



# The Cabletow

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE  
OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF THE PHILIPPINES



*MW Jaime Y. Gonzales together with officers of the Philippine Masonic Association of America, Inc. (PMAAI) and those of its Chapters during their Annual Convention in Los Angeles, California.*

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### **OUR COVER**

**Our front cover shows our Grand Master together with the officers of the Philippine Masonic Association of America, Inc. and those of its Chapters during their Annual Convention in Los Angeles, CA. The PMAAI pledged closer ties with the Grand Lodge of the Philippines and its subordinate Lodges**

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## ENDEAVORING FURTHER TO SOLVE THE CAVITE PROBLEM

FOR YOUR FURTHER consideration and enlightenment, dear brethren, we are reprinting in this edition of the bimonthly publication of our Grand Lodge two letters of great import to us.

The first of these is the letter of our Grand Lodge, through the office of our Grand Secretary, to all Grand Lodges with which it has fraternal relations. In that letter we officially provided these Grand Lodges with clarificatory statements relative to the establishment of the Independent Grand Lodge of the Philippine Islands (IGLPI). The second is the response of the External Relations Committee of the Board of General Purposes of the United Grand Lodge of England (UGLE) to our letter. In that response we have been assured that the ERC of the Board of General Purposes of the UGLE will not recommend recognition of the IGLPI.

We are pretty confident that the other Grand Lodges in the world than the UGLE will not give due recognition to the IGLPI because the standards for recognition, as summarized by the Grand Commission of the Grand Masters of North America Conference (GMNAC), are as follows:

1. Legitimacy of origin;
2. Exclusive territorial jurisdiction, except by mutual consent and/or treaty; and
3. Adherence to the Ancient Landmarks – specifically, a Belief in God, the Volume of the Sacred Law as an indispensable part of the Furniture of the lodge, and the prohibition of the discussion of politics and religion within the lodge.

Applying the foregoing standards to the request of the IGLPI for recognition, the said Commission of the GMNAC declared that the IGLPI was not legally constituted, and that its constituent Lodges do not have exclusive territorial jurisdiction in the Philippines. Concluded the Commission: "It is, therefore, the opinion of the Commission that this Grand Lodge (i.e., the IGLPI) does not meet the standards for recognition."

During our recent visitations to the different Grand Lodges in the United States, moreover, we further explained the situation prevailing in the Philippine grand jurisdiction, thereby sealing further the attempt of the IGLPI and its members at

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recognition and strengthening the fraternal ties of our Grand Lodge with these other Grand Lodges. We were even invited to attend the next Grand Masters of North America Conference to be held at Louisville, Kentucky in February 2008. We accepted the invitation in order that we would be able to present our case to the Conference's Committee on Recognition.

In the light of these and other developments, we are pretty confident that the IGLPI will never get the recognition that it is trying to seek and that the other Grand Lodges in the world will not go against the Grand Lodge of the Philippines.

I am happy to report to you that we have had dialogues with the present Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of California and his Grand Line and that we have become very close to them. We therefore foresee a return to normalization in the fraternal relations of our Grand Lodge and its Mother Grand Lodge, the Grand Lodge of California.

I am also happy to report to you, dear brethren, that a great number of the individuals who joined the IGLPI are now returning to the fold of our Grand Lodge.

Let us, dear brethren, implore the GAOTU to help us finally solve the Cavite problem, so that Philippine Masonry will once again be a "realm of peace."

Faternally,

**JAIME Y. GONZALES**  
Grand Master

*The fundamental requirements in establishing regularity as the basis for recognition of Grand Lodges by the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines are stated in our Masonic Law Book, revised 1994 and updated 2005, p. 239. The basic principles for Grand Lodge recognition are enumerated on pp. 240-241.*



Page 2 of 2, June 28, 2007  
clarificatory statement of Edict Nos. 232

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Mark of the lodges' property rights which is guaranteed and protected by our laws. They used our Cavite Lodge No. 2 as their *Cavite Lodge No. 2 too*; our Pilar Lodge No. 15 as their *Pilar Lodge No. 3*; our Bagong Buhay Lodge No. 17 as their *Bagong Buhay Lodge No. 4*; our Emilio Aguinaldo Mem. Lodge No. 31 as their *Emilio Aguinaldo Mem. Lodge 5*; our Bagong Ilaw Lodge No. 97 as their *Bagong Ilaw Lodge No. 6*; our La Naval Lodge No. 269 as their *La Naval Lodge No. 7*; and our Mendez-Nuñez Lodge No. 316 as their *Mendez-Nuñez Lodge No. 8*. Therefore, the seven (7) Lodges with the original name and numbers are NOT Clandestine Lodges under our Grand Jurisdiction.

- That, information has it that since the abnormal inception of the said **IGLPI** of **Cavite**, it has not received the due recognition of any of the Sister Grand Lodges in the World due to the total defiance of the "Basic Principles for Grand Lodge Recognition" which is the Regularity of Origin, i.e., each Grand Lodge, shall have been established by a duly recognized Grand Lodge or by, three or more regularly constituted Lodges. **IGLPI** was not established by any duly recognized Grand Lodge nor of any of the regularly constituted Lodges but only by individual members.
- That, should any mason desires to visit any of the Lodges within your Grand Jurisdiction, may we recommend to require the presentation of this duly recognized Dues Card in addition to the usual examination process.

We request that no recognition be given to the IGLPI and its irregular Lodges. Needless to say, we further request that the individual members of IGLPI be not accorded the rights and privileges due the members of our Grand Jurisdiction.

Hoping we have clarified significant matters regarding our January 24, 2007 letter and action be kindly taken by your Grand Lodge.

Our warmest and best regards,

Fraternally,

  
**DANILO D. ANGELES, PGM**  
Grand Secretary

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COM/ER/PSR

(Direct line: 020 7395 9315)

25 July 2007

Dear Brother Angeles,

Thank you for your letter of 4 July 2007, clarifying the situation with regard to the Independent Grand Lodge of the Philippine Islands.

The United Grand Lodge of England has already received a request for recognition from the Independent Grand Lodge of the Philippine Islands, and although this has not as yet been put to the External Relations Committee of our Board of General Purposes for consideration, I can assure you that recognition would not be a recommendation.

Yours sincerely and fraternally,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J.M. Hamill'.

John M. Hamill  
for Grand Chancellor

*From the Editor's Desk*

## **ON LODGE ELECTIONS**

BY THE TIME you, dear Brother, read this and other articles in this issue of our Grand Lodge's official bimonthly publication, you shall be thinking of the annual elections in your own Lodge. You shall be asking yourself, "Who are the brethren on whom I and other members can lay our full trust and confidence to lead our Lodge in the 12 months of 2008?"

On you, and on you alone, dear Brother, lies the grave responsibility of electing officers who, in your considered opinion, will lead your Lodge zealously and enthusiastically, proficiently and unselfishly, efficiently and effectively. You are expected by the Fraternity to put into office the brethren who you sincerely believe can best work and best agree, demonstrate inspired and inspiring leadership, proficiently perform ritualistic and Lodge work, and get things done for the best interest of your Lodge as well as the welfare and happiness of the members thereof.

We need Lodge officers who can work together in close harmony as did the three Grand Masters under whose auspices the Temple on Mount Moriah was constructed; for, as we have been informed, "There must be wisdom to contrive, strength to support, and beauty to adorn all great and important undertakings."

We need Lodge officers who are inspired to lead us to greater heights of achievement and who can inspire us to become "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."

We need Lodge officers who are, in their own right, masters of the nature and scope of Masonic teachings as contained in the rituals.

Above all, we need officers who can run our respective Lodges properly, solve their problems with dispatch, and effect their projects with efficiency.

Invariably, every one of our Lodges, composed as it is of intelligent men, young and old alike, has to face not a few problems. That is why the Lodge needs officers who can lead the members thereof in working out the solutions to the problems it will face. The Lodge needs officers who work together in close harmony not for their own interest, but for the interest of the Lodge itself and for the welfare and happiness of its members.

If you, dear Brother, as well as the rest of the members of your Lodge, put to office brethren possessed of the foregoing specifications, your Lodge will grow both in number and in strength in Masonic year 2008.

# CIRCULARS

## GRAND LODGE MEMBERSHIP PLASTIC IDENTIFICATION CARDS

In his Circular No. 7 issued on August 27, 2007, MW Jaime Y. Gonzales states:

"Master Masons in good standing have availed of the Grand Lodge membership plastic cards attesting to the positions they have held or are currently holding in their respective Blue Lodges or in the Grand Lodge. Their membership plastic cards can still be availed of at the Grand Lodge for a cost of Php 100 each.

"Master Masons in good standing may also avail of three distinctively designed commemorative and souvenir identification cards. One of those cards is the Entered Apprentice Mason Card, which on the front bears the owner's picture and the date of his initiation, and at the back is a certification, signed by the Grand Master and attested to by the Grand Secretary, that he is a member of a certain Blue Lodge. Another is the Fellowcraft Mason Card, which on the front bears the owner's picture and date of his passing, and at the back is a certification, signed by the Grand Master and attested to by the Grand Secretary, that he is a member of a certain Blue Lodge. The third card is the Master Mason Card, which again bears on the front the owner's picture and the date of his raising, and at the back is a certification, signed by the Grand Master and attested to by the Grand Secretary, that he is a member of a certain Blue Lodge. Each of these cards will cost Php 100 if ordered separately.

"A Master Mason in good standing may avail of all three cards for only Php 250. This special offer will expire on December 31, 2007, after which all three will cost Php 300.

"A Brother interested in ordering the commemorative and souvenir identification cards should accomplish the GLP membership ID application form, to which he is to attach one 2x2 ID photo.

"These cards are not available to Entered Apprentice Masons and Fellowcraft Masons."

Adds MW Gonzales: "Also available at the Grand Lodge are identification cards for members of the family of a Master Mason in good standing as well as for the widow and orphans of a deceased Brother. Possessors of those identification cards are entitled to assistance from members of the Craft."

## **REFUND OF THE PHP 1,500 ONE-TIME-PAYMENT GLMAP (AMASI) MEMBERSHIP**

In his Circular No. 8 issued on October 15, 2007, MW Gonzales has the following to say to the brethren:

"The resolution which the Board of Trustees of the Financial Relief Assistance Program (FRAP) presented during the 2007 Ancom in Clarkfield, Pampanga was duly approved by the brethren, as follows:

"1. The Php 500,000 principal payment to the Masonic Charities for Crippled Children, Inc. (MCCCI)

"2. The equivalent of another Php 500,000 via dacio on pago for the liquidation of the Grand Lodge Cash Advance to the Acacia Mutual Aid Society, Inc. (AMASI), the liabilities of which had been assumed by the FRAP; and

"3. Refund of the Php 1,500.00 One-Time-Payment (OTP) to AMASI, which the brethren condoned in 2003.

"The Trustees of the FRAP believe that it is their moral responsibility to refund the Php 1,500.00 OTP to the brethren to whom it is due. But should the brethren decide to donate back the same amount to the FRAP, the Trustees will highly appreciate the unselfish gesture because this will enhance the financial position of the FRAP and, therefore, it will help the FRAP settle its other liabilities and improve benefits for the brethren.

"The FRAP is now in a good condition. When the new management of the AMASI in 2001, the financial relief assistance to the widows and orphans of our deceased brethren was further increased from the original Php 10,000.00 to the present benefit of Php 20,000.00 regardless of the age of the members. The increase took effect on May 1, 2007.

"We have been distributing the refund of the Php 1,500.00 OTP during district, multi-district."

## **UNMASONIC CONDUCT AND MASONIC PENALTIES FOR HAZING WITHIN AND WITHOUT THE LODGE**

In his Circular No. 9 dated November 5, 2007, MW Jaime Y. Gonzales reminds the brethren of the following points:

"When we confer the Degrees of Masonry on our candidates, we are in the process of making good men good Masons. Since the rituals are calculated to inculcate wise and serious truths in the minds of our candidates, we should perform them as proficiently, solemnly, impressively and seriously as we can; we should not trifle with the feelings of our candidates, but rather treat them with kindness and condescension. There is no room for horseplay and maltreatment of candidates in the conferral of Masonic Degrees. Otherwise, our ancient and honorable institution would become no different from a college fraternity. In this case, we would lose our existence as a society of men symbolically applying the principles of operative masonry and architecture to the science and art of character building.

"I want, therefore, to remind the brethren of the prohibitions of Edicts 131-Choa, 131-A-Bañez and 131-B-Galvez, as well as those of Republic Act. No. 8049, otherwise known as the Anti-Hazing Act.

"Edict 131-Choa prohibits maltreatment and humiliation of candidates and horseplay during degree conferrals and provides penalties for violation thereof. This edict is contained in our Constitution (Masonic Law Book, revised 1994); hence, it is in full force.

"Edict 131A-Bañez strengthens the foregoing edict by requiring the presence of at least the District Deputy Grand Master (DDGM), the District Grand Lecturer (DGL), the Grand Lodge Inspector (GLI), or a Grand Lodge Officer (GLO) during the conferral of a Masonic Degree.

"Edict 131B-Galvez further enhances the measures against hazing by declaring any member who places a candidate for any of the degrees of Masonry in some embarrassing situation, such as forcing him to do menial, silly, foolish and similar tasks or activities or subjecting him to physical or psychological suffering or injury, as guilty of unmasonic conduct.

"Edict 131B-Galvez also requires Lodge Officers to ensure that Edicts 131 and 131A-Bañez are strictly complied with and that they have full control over Degree Conferrals; otherwise, they shall be liable for any violation of such Edicts and the Anti-Hazing Act (Republic Act No. 8049). The same Edict requires DDGMs, DGLs and GLIs to ensure strict compliance with such Edicts; otherwise, they shall also be liable for their failure to ensure that Lodges conform to the degree work as prescribed by the Grand Lodge. Failure of such officers to attend and monitor Degree Conferrals does not excuse them from liability as they shall be considered as negligent in the performance of their duties.

"It has been reported to us that candidates are humiliated and maltreated outside the Lodge. As reported, members of a Lodge commit such acts against candidates

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in activities that are either tacitly authorized by the Lodge or completely unauthorized by the same. Therefore, Brethren, please be reminded that under Section 1 of the Republic Act No. 8049 (Anti-Hazing Act), 'placing the recruit, neophyte or applicant in some embarrassing or humiliating situations such as forcing him to do menial, silly, foolish and similar tasks or activities or otherwise subjecting him to physical or psychological suffering or injury' constitutes HAZING penalized by imprisonment and is also similar to our Masonic understanding of what constitutes such disgraceful and cowardly acts of hazing.

"Masonic penalties provided for in the aforementioned Edicts, as well as the penalties provided for in Republic Act No. 8049, otherwise known as the Anti-Hazing Act," are not joking matters. Masonic penalties and imprisonment are real consequences for those who violate such Edicts and the Anti-Hazing Act."



MW Jaime Y. Gonzales talks with the Administrator of the Grand Lodge of New York and other brethren. Brother Ace Espejo and VW Emil dela Rosa intently listen.

# EDICTS

Edict Nos. 233-A, 233-B 233-C, 233-D, 233-E

## RESTORATION OF CERTAIN BRETHERN TO MEMBERSHIP IN THE GRAND LODGE OF FREE & ACCEPTED MASONS OF THE PHILIPPINES

In Edict No. 233-A issued on August 21, 2007, MW Jaime Y. Gonzales declared the restoration of Bros. Ponciano Mabaga, Esmeraldo Cantada and Jeorge Lopez as Master Masons in good standing of Pilar Lodge No. 15 and of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines. He also declared that Bro. Mabaga is restored, correspondingly, as Master Mason good standing of Dr. Jose P. Rizal Lodge No. 270.

In Edict No. 233-B issued on November 26, 2007, MW Gonzales declared the restoration of Bros. Joselito Quintana and Reynaldo Abad as Master Masons in good standing of Pilar Lodge No. 15 and of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines.

In Edict No. 233-C, which was issued on November 29, 2007, MW Gonzales declared the restoration of Bro. Eduardo Navarro as Master Mason in good standing of Mendez-Nuñez Lodge No. 316 and of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines. He also declared that Bro. Navarro had been restored as Master Mason in good standing of Las Piñas Lodge No. 332.

In Edict No. 233-D issued also on November 29, 2007, MW Gonzales decreed that Bro. Edward Y. We had been restored as Master Mason in good standing of Pintong Bato Lodge No. 51 and of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines.

In Edict No. 233-E issued on December 3, 2007, MW Gonzales declared that Bro. Bernardo F. Bondoc had been restored as Master Mason in good standing of Pilar Lodge No. 15 and of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines as well as of Las Piñas Lodge No. 332.

## *Grand Lecturers' Corner*

### **BY PRECEPT AND BY EXAMPLE**

WE CAN HELP the leadership of our Grand Lodge raise the level of the general public's awareness and understanding of Masonry and its membership in two ways: by **precept** and by **example**.

We should, each of us, be able to convincingly, persuasively and confidently, tell non-Masons, including our critics and detractors, the truth about Masonry – what it is, what it is trying to do in the world, what its philosophy and creed are, whence it came, how it metamorphosed from the operative to the speculative stage, what it has contributed to human progress, and so forth. But, of course, we can do this only if and when we have avidly studied the esoteric and exoteric aspects of Masonry.

More importantly, we should, each of us, be so regular in our own conduct, wherever we are and whatever we do, as to convince the world that, through the beneficent influence of the pure principles of Masonry, we have become men to whom others may look for example and inspiration – men who others will say are men of honor, virtue and charitable feelings. Thus we will remove every aspersion against our Fraternity, which has for its foundation the practice of the social and moral, as well as the domestic and public, virtues.

Never should we allow any consideration to induce us to act in any manner unworthy of the respectable character which we, as Masons, sustain or bear. On the contrary, we should ever display the discretion, the virtue and the dignity which become a worthy and exemplary Mason.

If and when we proficiently use our symbolic 24-Inch Gauge, we will be Masons 24 hours a day.

The pure and spotless surface of the Lambskin Apron, our badge as Masons, should constantly remind us of an emblematical or unblemished purity of life and rectitude of conduct; it should always stimulate us to aim for nobler deeds, for higher thoughts, for purer actions, and for greater achievements.

We should, each of us, bear in mind the unceasing message of the Ashlars, as well as the Point within a Circle, so that we will not allow our passions, our prejudices, or our interests to betray us. Instead, we will apply to our lives the teachings of, as well as emulate the example set by, the holy Saints John, who are represented by the two perpendicular parallel lines supporting the Circle. We will also regulate our actions by the divine precepts contained in the Volume of Sacred Law, which rests on top of the Circle.

We should, each of us, use the Volume of the Sacred Law, as well Nature, as our spiritual, moral and Masonic Trestle Board as we endeavor to erect ourselves into spiritual temples. We should, each of us, proficiently employ the Common Gavel to divest our hearts and consciences of all the vices and superfluities of life, thereby fitting our minds as living stones for that spiritual building, that house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

We should, each of us, also consistently and persistently live by the never-ending message of the Square and Compasses, the universal emblem of Masonry.

In short, we should, each of us, adamantly apply in daily life the principles and teachings that are regularly developed in the degrees into which Masonry, as a progressive moral science, has been conveniently divided.

Yes, by precept and by example, we can convince the world that Masonry is, indeed, "an organized society of men symbolically applying the principles of operative masonry and architecture to the science and art of character building." By precept and by example, we can effectively sell Masonry as a "quality product" to non-Masons, including our critics and detractors.

*Mahirap bang i-memorize 'yan?*



Fellowship dinner hosted by San Leandro Lodge No. 113 in honor of MW Jaime Y. Gonzales and party. Other Lodges present were Pittsburg, Benetia and Crocker.

## Cover Story

### GRAND MASTER AND PARTY'S U.S. TRIP, SOJOURN: A FIRST- PERSON ACCOUNT



by VW Samuel A. Laus, DDGM, NCR-D

ON AUGUST 29, 2007, not wanting to leave important matters unattended to before our flight to the United States of America, MW Jaime Y. Gonzales labored in his office at the Grand Lodge Building, focusing his attention on the many papers that lay on his table and making final arrangements with Filipino brethren in the US.

His labors done, we hied to the Ninoy Aquino International Airport, whence we flew to the Los Angeles Airport, where we were warmly welcomed by a big throng of Filipino Masons, with whom we exchanged sincere pleasantries.

After a brief respite in the hotel where we were billeted, we were treated by our hosts to a sumptuous meal and a joyful fellowship social.

On the three days following, we attended the annual convention of the Philippine Masonic Association of America, Inc. (PMAAI) held at the Hilton Hotel. The convention was well attended by delegates from the different Chapters of the PMAAI, who actively participated in the deliberations and joyously joined in the fellowship socials.

In his keynote address, MW Gonzales talked on the convention theme, "Wisdom: A Key to Moving Forward"; reported to his auditors certain recent developments in our Grand Lodge; challenged the different Chapters of the PMAAI to work together in closer harmony to accomplish common goals, including demonstrating to the American public that Filipino Masons can contribute significantly to the welfare and happiness of the communities in which they live; and urged them to keep in close touch with our Grand Lodge, whose best interest they should help promote.

On September 6, MW Gonzales met with the Deputy Grand Master, Senior Grand Warden, Junior Grand Warden, and Junior Grand Warden-Nominee and Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of California, the Mother of our Grand Lodge, at the Covina Masonic Homes in Covina City, California.

On the day following, MW Gonzales and his party had a fellowship with the officers and members of the Las Vegas Chapter of the PMAAI.

On September 9-13, MW Gonzales officially visited the Grand Lodge of New York. Together with his party, he was formally and solemnly received into several

Lodges in that State, particularly Jose Rizal Lodge No. 1172 and Manahata Lodge No. 449, whose officers and members were patently nostalgic of their native land when the Philippine National Anthem was sung and the "Pagpupugay sa Watawat" was recited eloquently by our Grand Chaplain, VW Manny Palomo.

We paid a courtesy call on MW Neal Bidnick of the, Grand Lodge of New York on the 11<sup>th</sup>; lunched with the MW Grand Master and Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of New York; and attended the meeting of Manahata Lodge No. 449.

On the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> we had fellowship socials with the officers and members of the Travellers Club of Washington D.C. Also on the 13<sup>th</sup>, we had a fellowship social with the officers and members of Manahatta Lodge No. 449.

The dialogues which our Grand Master had with the officers of the Grand Lodge of New York, as well as with those of subordinate Lodges in that State, resulted in better understanding of the current situation of our Grand Lodge vis-à-vis the Independent Grand Lodge of the Philippine Islands (IGLPI) and in stronger fraternal ties between our Grand Lodge and the Grand Lodge of New York.

On September 14-16, MW Gonzales officially visited the Grand Lodge of Ontario in Canada and was officially received by the officers and members of St. Andrews Lodge.

While the Grand Master was in Canada, we members of his party took a much-needed rest. But, with VW Teodulo "Joe" Yap, PDDGM and a member of Taga-Ilog Lodge No. 79 in Manila, who is now a member of Manahata Lodge No. 449, acting as our host and tour guide, we visited several Filipino Masons in their homes. He was readily assisted by other Filipino Masons in making our stay in New York pleasant, enjoyable, and memorable.

On September 17-20, we regrouped in Chicago and officially visited the Grand Lodge of Illinois. Again, MW Gonzales had a tete-a-tete with MW Noel Dicks, Grand Master of Masons in Illinois. We were officially received into Integrity Lodge No. 997, where we exchanged simple tokens with our hosts, including MW Dicho.

On September 20-23, we officially visited the Grand Lodge of Texas and were officially received into Solidarity Lodge No. 1457.

On September 23-26, we officially visited the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, the Grand Master of whom is MW Orville Armstrong. Then we were officially received into Unity Lodge.

On the 26<sup>th</sup>, our Grand Master officially met with MW Richard Hopper, Grand Master of Masons in California, as well as with the Snakes of California.

On the 27<sup>th</sup>, we toured the Union City Masonic Home, with VW Art Ashfield as our host and tour guide. Then we were treated to a sumptuous dinner by the

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officers and members of San Leandro Lodge in Union City, California.

Lest I forget, we visited Filipino Masons in San Diego and Vallejo, San Francisco, California, as well as those in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Our 30-day sojourn in North America was hectic but enjoyable and fruitful. It brought the Filipino Masons in North America closer to our Grand Lodge; it resulted in stronger fraternal relations between our Grand Lodge and North American Grand Lodges; it was

fraught with meaningful experiences, which our Grand Master might look back to as he endeavors to govern our Grand Jurisdiction with wisdom, so that the general public would see the strength and beauty of Philippine Masonry.

**Note:** The photos on the centerfold are eloquent enough to show that MW Gonzales and party's trip to and from North America was crowned with much success and fruition.



MW Gonzales and party with brethren of Manahata and other NY Lodges.

## MASONIC INFORMATION

by VW Conrado V. Sanga, PDDGM



### **1. How many worked on King Solomon's Temple?**

About 113,000, according to Anderson. Some of these men worked in the quarries and others in the forest of Lebanon. According to our Monitor, there were employed in its erection three Grand Masters (i.e., Solomon, King of Israel; Hiram, King of Tyre; and Hiram Abif, a widow's son of the tribe of Naphtali). In addition, there were 3,300 Masters or overseers of the work; 80,000 Fellowcrafts or hewers on the mountains and in the quarries; and 70,000 Entered Apprentices or bearers of burdens.

### **2. Where did Masons assemble in King Solomon's Temple?**

Entered Apprentices assembled on the ground floor. Fellowcrafts met in the Middle Chamber. Master Masons held their meetings in the Sanctum Sanctorum or Holy of Holies.

### **3. How long did it take for King Solomon's Temple to be completed?**

The construction of all the buildings and structures took place in seven years, six months and two days. But it took a period of another 20 years for the ornaments and sculptures to be set in place.

### **4. Of what is the phoenix an emblem?**

The phoenix is an emblem of immortality.

### **5. What does a pomegranate or pomegranade denote?**

A pomegranate or pomegranade denotes plenty due to the exuberance of its seeds.

### **6. What is the most ancient and distinctive badge of a Mason?**

The lambskin apron.

### **7. What is the Blazing Star a symbol of?**

As indicated by the concurrent testimony of various religions, the Blazing Star is the symbol of God.

## **8. Who was Solomon?**

He was the son of King David of Israel and Bathsheba. He was born in the year of the world 2871. According to our Monitor, "He ascended the throne (of Israel) and, when David was gathered to his fathers, wielded the scepter over Israel at a time when, as the great Jewish historian Josephus informs us, peace and tranquility pervaded the world, and all eyes seemed directed toward Jerusalem as if to witness the splendid display of the wisdom of Solomon." Solomon was destined to be the man who would be adequate to the performance of so great and glorious an undertaking, namely, the building of a house erected to God and dedicated to His holy name. He died in the year 975 B.C.; he was 58 years old.

## **9. How old was Solomon when he became king (of Israel)?**

Some authorities say that he was 14 years of age. Others claim between 18 and 25 years old. But many Masonic scholars are inclined to believe that he was 27 years old.

## **10. How long did Solomon reign as King of Israel?**

About 40 years. He became king in the year 1015 B.C.

## **11. When did Solomon begin to build the temple which immortalized his name?**

According to our Monitor, the Temple on Mount Moriah was commenced to be constructed "in the fourth year of the reign of Solomon, on the second day of the month Zif, being the second month of the sacred year."

## **12. How was the foundation built?**

There were 10, 20 and even 40 feet long large stones, mortised together and fastened to the side of the mountain. The cubic contents of the foundation exceeded 10 million cubic feet, much larger than the great pyramid of Cheeps.

## **13. How old were the cedars of Lebanon when they were cut down?**

Many of them were 100 feet high and 30 feet in circumference. Cedars grow slowly. Hence, it is estimated that when the cedars of Lebanon were cut down, they were more than 1,000 years of age.

## 14. When was King Solomon's Temple dedicated?

King Solomon dedicated the Temple to Jehovah in the month of Tizri, 2999 years after the Creation, and 1005 years before the advent of Christ. After dedicating the Temple, Solomon stood before the Altar of the Lord and offered up the beautiful prayer and invocation (found in Chapter 8 of the 1<sup>st</sup> Book of Kings).

## 15 Who was Adoniram?

Adoniram is said to have been the brother-in-law of, Hiram, the builder. He was also the principal receiver of King Solomon's tribute and Chief Overseer of the 30,000 brethren sent to cut timber in the forest of Lebanon.



MW Jaime Y. Gonzales addresses the officers and members of  
Jose Rizal Lodge No. 1172

## *In My Opinion*

by VW Godofredo V. Señires, Jr., PAGS



## ON ELECTION AND APPOINTMENT OF LODGE OFFICERS

We have been very lenient or negligent in complying with our Masonic laws and edicts, during the annual elections of the officers of our Lodges. As long as a member is not suspended, he is allowed to exercise the right to vote and to hold either an elective or appointive office in his Lodge.

Thus, during the annual election of the officers of Lodges in this Grand Jurisdiction, many brethren are allowed to vote and hold either an elective or appointive position in the Lodge, even if they are in arrears in the payment of dues or have not submitted themselves to a strict examination to demonstrate their proficiency in the Master Mason Degree.

The Uniform Code of By-Laws for Subordinate Lodges provides in Section 2, Article IX that "No member who has been in arrears in the payment for dues at the time of the annual election shall be permitted to vote or shall be eligible for any office."

Edict No. 60, as amended, also provides that a Master Mason who has not submitted to a strict examination to demonstrate his proficiency in the Master Mason degree shall not hold office in the Lodge, either elective or appointive.

Both Section 2, Article IX of the Uniform Code of By-Laws for Subordinate Lodges found in our Masonic Law Book and Edict No. 60, as amended, appended in our Masonic Law Book should be strictly complied with during the annual election of officers of our lodges.

The right to vote and hold an elective or appointive office in the Lodge is granted only to members who are in good standing – meaning that they are not in arrears in the payment of their annual dues and they have passed the proficiency examination of the Master Mason Degree. Absent either one – payment of dues and proficiency examinations – the Master Mason should not exercise the right to vote during the annual elections and to hold either an elective or appointive office in the Lodge.

## **Ignoratio legis neminem excusat**

## Hard Talk

by VW Mawi B. Lazaro, Jr, PDDGM  
R. Palma Lodge No. 147; Bud Daho Lodge No. 102



# Ghosts

Our Non-Government Organization (NGO), Kasanyangan Foundation, Incorporated (KFI), is engaged in the installation of solar panels in individual households in 13 barangays in the municipality of Pangutaran, Province of Sulu. Like-minded NGOs are doing similar work in other islands, including the mainland of Sulu.

To date, in Pangutaran alone, 30 households in each of the 13 barangays or a total of 390 households have been installed solar panels, which have provided our partner-beneficiaries light generated from the sun where otherwise there would be total darkness. In addition, we have also initiated social projects like water-disinfection and mangrove rehabilitation that are intended to chip in to the people's development thrusts.

As I survey around Sulu, there are almost a hundred more barangays without electric power and which could no longer be accessed by the so-called grid. These barangays, nonetheless, qualify as target sites for future projects for renewable energy. Many more barangays around Basilan and Tawi-tawi are in a similar state.

At this point, I would for the meantime set aside development initiatives that are Manila-dependent. I would rather call the attention of all concerned, Masons especially, to a far more strategic concern – that of global warming with a definitely forthcoming scenario of rising coastal waters that can wash out not only islands like Pangutaran, but also the low-lying coastal towns in Basilan, Sulu and Tawi-tawi, not to mention most of the coastal towns of our entire archipelago. Climate change is the dark reality.

As Robin Mckie, writing recently in the United Kingdom's *The Guardian*, warned – “a total of 46 nations and 2.7 billion people are now at high risk of being overwhelmed by armed conflict and war because of climate change. A further 56 countries face political destabilization, affecting another 1.2 billion individuals.”

International Alert (IA), a peace group, painted the scenario – “much of Africa, Asia and South America will suffer outbreaks of war and social disruption as climate change erodes land, raises seas, melts glaciers and increases storms.”

## MW Gonzales and Party's U.S. Sojourn in Photos



**MW Jaime Y. Gonzales is received into Jose Rizal Lodge No. 1172 under the jurisdiction of the MW Grand Lodge of New York.**



**VW Manny Palomo eloquently recites the “Pagpupugay sa Watawat,” thereby making the Filipino brethren of the Lodge homesick of their native land. Carrying the Philippine Flag is VW Sammy A. Laus, DDGM, NCR-D.**



**MW Jaime Y. Gonzales addresses the officers and members of Manahata Lodge No. 448, G.L. of New York. At his left is the Grand Master of Masons in New York, MW Neal Bidnick.**



**MW Jaime Y. Gonzales and party visit Grand Lodge of Maryland. With them are brethren of Washington D.C.**

## The Cabletow

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**Grand Master & party with Las Vegas brethren: Elias A. Brioner, Dante F. Fontimayor, Franklin P. Demonteverde, Jr., Romy M. Peruel, Raul Laman, Mato Hilario, Rod Lampa, Jay Cattray, Leon Fortune, Lito Lobrin. Venue: Salo-Salo Grill in Las Vegas, Nevada.**



**MW Gonzales at his home in Arizona wearing his new “apron”; at his back is his beloved wife, Sis. Lilwynn.**



**MW Gonzales and party visit Al Bhar Shrine Temple in California, the Potentate of which is Ill. Benjamin Villena.**



**MW Gonzales and Ill. Villena together with other brethren pose for a photo in front of the Al Bhar Shrine Bldg.**



**MW Jimmy Gonzales and Sis. Lylwynn show their joy as they dance during the fellowship night of the PMAAI held at the Hilton Hotel in Los Angeles, CA.**



**MW Gonzales, G.M. of Masons in the Phils., and MW Noel Dicks, G.M. of Masons in Illinois, together with other brethren, at Integrity Lodge No. 997**



**Standing at back (L-R): MW Noel Dicks, MW Jerome Pa of Integrity Lodge, MW Jimmy Gonzales. In front of them (L-R): Sis. Dicks, Sis. Lylwynn, and wife of Bro. Macario Ramos, Jr.**



**The brethren of the Philippines and of Vallejo, San Francisco, CA, pose with MW Oscar Jayme, G.M. of Masons in Hawaii.**



**(R-L): WM Suwerto of Solidarity Lodge No. 1457, G.L. of Texas; MW Jaime Y. Gonzales; VW Sammy Laus; and a Brother of the said Lodge.**



**MW Jimmy Gonzales and party with Filipino brethren and sisters in Texas at the Halian Restaurant owned by a Filipino brother.**



**MW Jimmy Gonzales and party with brethren of San Diego at an enjoyable barbecue party.**



**Fellowship social with the brethren of Manahata and other Lodges in New York. At extreme left is VW Teodulo “Joe” Yap; at extreme right, VW Sammy Laus.**

## The Cabletow

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IA added, 'climate change will compound the propensity for violent conflict, which in turn will leave communities poorer and less able to cope with the consequences of climate change.'

IA's secretary-general Dan Smith even underscored their forecast with this dire prediction, "consider Peru. Its fresh water comes mostly from glacier meltwater. But by 2015 nearly all Peru's glaciers will have been removed by global warming and its 27 million people will nearly all lack fresh water. .... If Peru took action now, it could offset the impending crisis. But the country has little experience of effective democracy, suffers occasional outbreaks of insurgency, and has border disputes with Chile and Ecuador." In other words, chaos, conflict and mass migration.

In countries where a significant amount of limited governmental resources literally go into the pockets of corrupt government officials, like what we have here in the Philippines, we should expect and prepare for the worst with these rising sea levels. These corrupt officials, I tell you, will run for their lives and there would be no effective government to address the forthcoming situation. Let us, Masons especially, ponder upon this, before hell break lose and we end up as what the title suggests.



Grand Master Jimmy Gonzales and party with WM Suwerte and other Filipino brethren in Houston, Texas.

# OUT OF THE HUMDRUM



by VW Robert O. Asuncion, PJGL

1. On September 19, 1783 a sheep, a duck and a rooster became the first passengers in a hot air balloon launched by its inventors, the Montgolfier brothers, Joseph and Etienne, both Freemasons and members of Loge Desneuf Soeurs, Paris. The flight lasted 8 minutes and reached a maximum of 500 meters. The animals landed unharmed 3.5 kms. from their starting point

2. On his famous first solo flight over the Atlantic in 1927, Bro. Charles Lindenberg ( Keystone Lodge No. 253, St Louis, Mo.) wore the square and compass on his jacket as a good luck charm.

3. On March 18, 1910 Bro. Harry Houdini ( St. Cecile Lodge No. 568, New York) made the **first "powered flight of an airplane" in Australia** and he was the first aviator to have documented the event on film. A monument to Bro. Houdini's historic flight is located in Diggers Rest, a town northwest of Melbourne Airport.

4. During World War II, Bro. Eddie Rickenbacker, "Ace of Aces" pilot, race car driver (he raced in the 1912, 1914, 1915 and 1916 **Indianapolis 500**) and recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor, tried to convince the U.S. Military to let him form a squadron of former race car drivers on the theory that such men accustomed to tight spaces and high speeds would make excellent fighter pilots. His request was denied.



The Speed Kings

5. The 2006 **Indianapolis 500** winner is Bro. Sam Hornish Jr. He won by pulling in the last 200 yards to win by an amazing 0.635 of a second, the second closest finish in Indianapolis 500 history. Bro. Hornish was raised in 2001 at Omega Lodge No. 564 in Defiance, Ohio when he was 21. The Indianapolis 500 is the oldest and richest motorsports event in existence.

6. The " Speed Kings" as they were to be known, Bros. Malcom Campbel (1885-1948) and Donald Malcolm Campbel (1921-1967) were a

father-and-son tandem pushing the boundaries of speed on land and water. Between them they achieved no less than 21 world speed records, 11 on water and 10 on land. In 1937, Bro. Malcolm, a World War I pilot, was the first person to drive an automobile at speed of more than 300 miles per hour. His son, Bro. Donald, was tragically killed in a crash in 1967; he was trying to emulate his father's water speed exploit. In 2001 divers have raised the wreck of Bro. Donald's boat at the bottom Coniston Water in Cumbria England. The "Speed Kings" are members of Old Uppinghamian Lodge No. 4227, UGLE, and Grandmasters Lodge No.1, UGLE, respectively.

7. **Citroen** (now part of Peugeot), founded by Bro. Andrew Citroen of Lodge Philosophie Positive, Paris, introduced in 1934 the innovative **Tractor Avant**, the **world's first mass produced front wheel drives**. The Citroen Logo is called a "Double Chevron" but because of his masonic affiliation, many interpret it as a "Double Masonic Square".

8. Sandra West (1939-1977), Beverly Hills socialite and Texas oil heiress, tasked her brother-in-law, Sol West to bury her in her 1964 "Powder Blue" **Ferrari 330- America**. She was to be wearing a specific outfit, and the seat was to be reclined at a comfortable angle. In order to make this happen, Ms. West's will stated that his brother-in-law would get over \$2,000,000 if the wishes were carried out. If not he would get \$10,000. After going to court to try and get out of it, Sol West was obliged to bury his sister-in-law in the car. The car and Mrs. West are in a 9 foot deep hole in **Alamo Masonic Cemetery** at San Antonio, Texas.

9. Bro. Henry Ford (Palestine Lodge No. 357, Detroit), the father of modern assembly lines used in mass production of automobiles, was honored by the Smithsonian Institute for changing the aviation industry. His Ford Motor Company played a pivotal role in the Allied victory during World War I and World War II. With Europe under siege, Bro. Ford's genius turned to mass production of **B-24 Liberator Bombers**. Before Bro. Ford, the aviation industry could produce one B-24 bomber a day at an aircraft plant. Bro. Ford showed the world how to produce one B-24 Bomber an hour at a peak of 600 per month in 24 hour shifts.

10. Chrysler Corporation, founded by Bro. Walter Chrysler of Apollo Lodge No. 27, Kansas, produced the **Chrysler Airflow** from 1934 to 1937. It was the first full size car to use **aerodynamics** (or streamlining as it was called then) as a basis for building a sleeker automobile that is less susceptible to air resistance. In 1937, the official car of the President of the Philippine Commonwealth, Bro. Manuel L. Quezon was a Chrysler Airflow Limousine.



*Opinion*

**MASONRY AS I SEE IT...**

by VW Joselito P. Tamaray, PDDGM  
Kalilayan Lodge No. 37

Since I became a Mason in 1992 or some fifteen years ago, Freemasonry has always fascinated me. The more I study it, the more I am engrossed in it and excited to learn about it. It has been a meaningful journey ever since and the ride has been so interesting that I will treasure it for the rest of my life. There have been discoveries in the course of that journey which only a diligent student of the Craft would certainly appreciate, and it is for this reason that I will give my own personal perception about Masonry as I see it!

Masonry presents us with a picture of goodness and excellence and virtue we have not seen before. By instilling in us the truth that we are all creatures of ONE SUPREME INEFFABLE BEING, and that we are recipients of all the bounties encompassed in the spiritual heritage of mankind, Masonry invites us to walk on exalted heights, with heads unbowed and hearts undaunted, free to look any man straight in the eye and supremely proud of our finite being. The acceptance of this reality of our mortal being enables us to see through the superfluities and hypocrisies, the prejudices and bigotries, the unkindness and cruelties that so often becloud the atmosphere we breathe and blur further our own judgment. So much has been spilt against Masonry, but it has survived the barbarous attempts to destroy it. Even Masons themselves have not been spared of these human imperfections to hate and begrudge a brother under the guise of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth!

It shames the sensibilities of ordinary mortals like me to witness in my lifetime the inadequacies of our brethren to understand what Masonry stands for. It even pains me to witness the arrogance of Masons in their dealings with their fellowmen all for personal interest and gain. Even as Masonry gives us an opportunity to have a better understanding of the mystery of human nature, and in so many ways influences our conduct to live in harmony and peace of life, still many who profess to be Masons just do the opposite! There are those who even go to the extent of using the influence of Masonry to attain their selfish ambition, totally disregarding that their 'passions and prejudices should not become the masters of their own judgment'. Some would go so far as to preach CHARITY and LOVE for their fellows but are not very charitable and loving to their own brothers, and HATRED is their concept of Masonry. Still others would even justify their conduct on their twisted interpretation of the basic principles of Masonry only to demonize it by their avarice. There are those who veil themselves with being called Masons and proudly declare that they preach TEMPERANCE, FORTITUDE, PRUDENCE AND JUSTICE, but one need not have to examine microscopically in order to see the arrogant display of

intemperance, the utter lack of fortitude, the total disregard of prudent conduct and the deliberate injustice they commit in order to malign their brethren in public! It is not surprising that we have in our midst individuals disguised as saints of Masonry and enjoy with gusto the fellowship and hospitality of Masons while waiting for their next victim.

As Masons and belonging to the class of thinking creations of the Divine despite our imperfections, we too often err and repeat the same errors. Who is the individual that doesn't? But we have a set of values – the values that we have learned in Masonry will serve as our backbone to sustain us in our travels. Along the way, we may even commit a grievous offense against our fellows and brothers and even besmirch the image of the very institution we all call Freemasonry, but we come to realize soon enough that, "although by body men is of kin to the beasts, by spirit he is kin to God. And with that realization, we forthrightly essay to rise to the degree and dimensions of our avowed or professed character."

The indelible mark in the pages of history of the ideals of Freemasonry is

premised on the belief that we are all brothers in the eyes of GOD and this has a far-reaching effect on us Masons if only we continue to seek and discover that which was lost! The search must be for more light and not more spite in Masonry!

Masonry has evolved and developed as the last bastion of harmony and unity where men with avowed and sincere purpose can sit and work together without regard to race, color or creed. Every man who enters inside its mystic circle is ready to strip himself of all ambition for greatness and personal greed and neither hatred nor prejudices exist inside its silent domain. This is the kind of Masonry I have seen in my lifetime – "For it is not a fountain giving health and beauty to some single hamlet, and slaking the thirst of those only who dwell upon its humble banks; but it is a mighty stream penetrating through every hill and mountain and gliding through every field and valley of the earth, bearing on its beneficent bosom the abundant waters of LOVE and CHARITY for the poor, the widow, and the orphan of every land."

## Quick Quotes

- **A true friend (and brother) never gets in the way unless you happen to be going down – Arnold Glasgow**
- **Unless I accept my faults, I will most certainly doubt my virtues – Edward Thomas**

*Opinion*

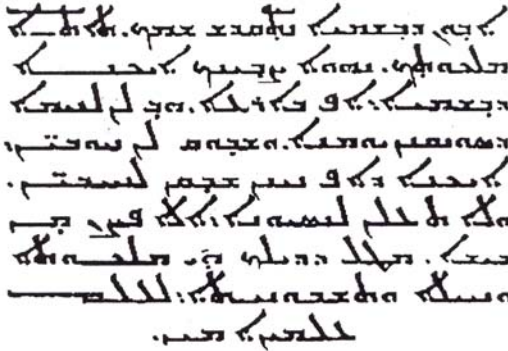
THE LORD'S PRAYER: A COMPARISON OF THE  
ARAMAIC AND PRESENT VERSIONS

by Brother Jesse D. Alto

Given below is the Lord's Prayer as spoken in the original Aramaic and translated into English by Dr. Rocco A. Errico.

**The Lord's Prayer**

Spoken in the original Aramaic by Dr. Rocco A. Errico



an expanded translation by Dr. Rocco A. Errico:

Our Father who is everywhere  
Your name is sacred.  
Your kingdom is come.  
Your will is throughout the earth  
Even as it is throughout the universe  
You give us our needful bread from day to day,  
And you forgive us our offenses  
Even as we forgive our offenders.  
And you let us not enter into materialism.  
But you separate us from error.  
Because yours are the kingdom, the power and the song and praise.  
From all ages, throughout all ages.  
(Sealed) in faith, trust and truth.

# The Cabletow

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The present version of the Lord's Prayer, on the other hand, reads thus:

Our father, who art in heaven,  
Hallowed be thy Name; Thy Kingdom  
come; Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
And forgive us our sin, as we  
Forgive those who sin against us;  
and lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil. Amen

Both versions hold that (1) the Father's Name is sacred and (2) His kingdom is come.

But they differ in several aspects.

Firstly, in the Aramaic version the Lord is everywhere or ubiquitous, while in the present version He is in Heaven only. This is a limitation. Is He not on earth, in the whole universe also?

Secondly, in the Aramaic version the will of God is throughout the earth and the rest of the universe. In the present version, on the other hand, the will of God is only on earth and in heaven. Does this imply that the will of God is not in the rest of the creation?

Thirdly, in the Aramaic version the Lord gives needed bread daily, but in the present version man has to ask for daily bread. Bread is of two kinds: physical and spiritual. Physical bread feeds and strengthens man's body; it is one of his physiological needs. But man has other needs like safety or security, belongingness, self-esteem, and self-actualization (i.e., becoming the self or person God meant him to be). This last need may be referred to as spiritual bread, which includes those teachings that feed and enrich man's immortal soul in that they motivate him to aim at personal perfection or excellence or to be like God. "Be ye perfect as your Father is perfect." In the Aramaic version the Lord gives man both kinds of bread daily, while in the present version man has to ask for them.

In the Aramaic version the Lord forgives the sin of man. Through self-knowledge and his own effort or initiative man can rectify the crimes or sins he has committed; thus his sins are forgiven by the Lord. In the present version, however, man asks for the forgiveness of his sins. If and when man asks the Lord to forgive his sins, no matter how many and how grave or heavy, then his sins are forgiven by the Lord. This is contrary to the laws of goodness and of nature.

In the Aramaic version the Lord does not let man enter into the world of materialism; He discourages man from doing so. This jibes with what Jesus said, namely, he is in, but not of, this materialistic world, for he belongs to the world of the spirit. God encourages man to live in the world of spirituality (i.e., to follow His will, Love and Wisdom). In the present version, however, man asks God not to lead him into temptation and to deliver him from evil. In other words, man depends on God; he implores God to lead him out of temptation and to take him away from (or out of) his evil (i.e., selfish and materialistic) ways.

Finally, the following sentence is included in the Aramaic version but not in the present version of the Lord's Prayer:

"Because yours are the kingdom, the power and the song and praise/ From all ages, throughout all ages/ (Sealed) in faith, trust and truth."

This is a glorious attainment for man, who, by relying on his own effort or initiative, can attain perfection, so that he will sit at the right hand of his Father in the Kingdom prepared for him from the foundation of the world.

This is the message of the Ashlars. By the rough ashlar we are reminded of our rude and imperfect state by nature; by the perfect ashlar, of that state of perfection at which we hope, at last, to arrive by a virtuous education, our own endeavors, and the blessing of God.

In sum, while the two versions of the Lord's Prayer seem to be alike in some aspects, each of them has a different impact on man's understanding of his spiritual nature and ways.

### Quick Quotes

- **You have to expect great things of yourself before you can do them. – Michael Jordan**
- **Fight for your opinions, but do not believe that they contain the whole truth or the only truth. – Charles Dana**
- **Know well what leads you forward and what holds you back and choose the path that leads you to wisdom. – Buddha**

*Speech*

**SERVING AS EXEMPLARS OF RESPONSIBLE  
PERFORMANCE OF DUTIES**

by MW Jaime Y. Gonzales

One of the Lodges we instituted this year is the AG MW Pedro M. Gimenez Memorial Lodge UD, which is composed of Auditors assigned in different parts of the country. It is named in fraternal tribute to the memory of the late Auditor General and Most Worshipful Pedro G. Gimenez, our Grand Master in 1963 who, like another great Mason, Illustrious Brother Apolinario Maranan Mabini, did not allow the poverty he had been born into to derail him from his ambition to serve his country and countrymen as an exemplary public servant.

The young Pedro Gimenez rose up from the ranks. He started as a lowly clerk at the Bureau of Posts. A working or self-supporting student, he later on served as a computer indexer at the Bureau of Audits, which is now called Commission on Audit (COA). To be promoted to a higher position, he took up Law at the University of the Philippines and subsequently passed the bar examinations.

Shortly afterwards Atty. Gimenez was promoted to the position of Deputy Auditor General.

Then in 1957, the then President of the Philippines, His Excellency Ramon Magsaysay, elevated him to the highest position in the COA, that of Auditor General, because he was widely known to be an exemplary and outstanding public servant – one who was possessed of industry, honesty, reliability, and integrity. Indeed, Auditor General Gimenez was inflexibly faithful to every trust committed to his care; Hiram Abif – like, he consistently manifested his unswerving fidelity to his principles.

When he was the Grand Master of Masons in the Jurisdiction of the Philippines in 1963, he challenged the brethren to faithfully perform their duties and to fervently fulfill their obligations. Said he:

“No matter how heavy the task is, no matter how rough and rugged the road may be, no Mason refuses to do his duty. No one amongst us should falter to proceed to his allotted task if that would mean for the best interest, the welfare, and the survival of our ancient and honorable fraternity.”

No, my brethren, no one amongst us should falter to proceed to his allotted task, and that task is to help Masonry achieve its purpose, which is, in the words of another exemplary public servant, the late Worshipful Brother and Chief Justice Manuel V. Moran, "to create in the world a band of men to whom others may look for example and inspiration – men who others will say are men of honor, virtue, and charitable feelings."

A significant number of you in this assembly are in the government service, while the others are holding responsible positions in the private sector. I do not have an iota of doubt that all of you have, to a great extent, developed yourselves into such a band of men – men who strive to live more and more Masonically so as to be better able to help bring about in Philippine society a juster, wiser, and more merciful, more benevolent order.

Another preeminent Mason and great hero, Brother Andres Bonifacio, has left us this admonition: "Our responsibility in the performance of our duties will be the example which our countrymen will imitate."

Yes, dear brethren, whether we are working in government or in the private sector, we should set the inspiring example of dedicated and disinterested service to our country and countrymen. Wherever we are, whithersoever we go, and whatever we do, we must be so regular in our conduct that the non-Masonic public will realize that Masonry

is an organization of excellence, and that merit is a just title to our privileges.

Like our Masonic forebears, we should serve as exemplars of the best and the highest moral standards. We should not forget that we have been charged to ever walk and act as just and upright Masons; never to suffer any consideration to induce us to act in any manner unworthy of the respectable character which we, as Masons, sustain; never to let any motive to make us swerve from our duties, violate our vows, or betray our trust; but, on the contrary, to ever display the discretion, the virtue, and the dignity which become a worthy and exemplary Mason.

Let us, therefore, strive to live more and more Masonically than before, ever setting the inspiring example of responsibly performing our allotted tasks.

I recall, at this juncture, another great Masonic leader, the late Senator Camilo Osias, our Grand Master in 1955, who gave us the slogan "More Masonry among Masons, more men in Masonry." In one of his addresses to government officials and employees, he said in part:

"Men in public service are not made moral by performing certain acts which are externally good and legally defensible. But they must first have righteous principles and a moral conscience, which guide them to perform virtuous acts that are not only legally right but also morally righteous acts, which

should redound to the greatest good of the greatest number.”

Like the late MW Camilo Osias, we current officers of the Grand Lodge fondly hope that you, our brethren in public service, demonstrate your righteous principles and moral conscience, which guide you to perform your allotted tasks with utmost responsibility, thereby setting the good example of dedicated and honest public service, of moral fitness in government.

Together with other Masonic leaders, the late Senator and Past Grand Master Camilo Osias challenged the brethren to be in the forefront of the movement for the moral regeneration of our people. Stated he:

“If individual Filipinos are morally fit, then our nation shall become morally fit. There must be moral fitness among nations if the world is to have a moral order. Principles of morality should govern the relationships among individuals and among nations. Indeed, moral fitness is intimately related to problems of war and of peace. If a sound moral code is lacking, there will be dissensions, conflicts, and wars.

“ What the world most needs and desires is peace - a real and enduring peace. Peace gives value to prosperity and life. Peace in turn subsists on sound morality. Contracts among persons and treaties among nations are of little worth if they are more honored in the breach than in the observance. Morality must govern the relations among men and among nations.”

We should, dear brethren, take the challenge of the leaders of the Craft, that we be in the forefront of the movement for the moral regeneration of our people. We should practice the social and moral virtues on which Masonry is founded. We should, moreover, spread the precepts and teachings of Masonry as widely as we can among our countrymen. We should, by precept and example, strenuously enforce a steady obedience to the tenets of Masonry. Why? Because, as illustrious Brother Albert Pike has pointed out, if men were all Masons and obeyed the teachings of Masonry with all their heart, this world would be a paradise...

Isn't all this worth striving for?

### Quick Quote

**Build for your team a feeling of oneness, of dependence on one another, and of strength derived by unity. – Vince Lombardi**

## A TALE OF THREE CROWNS

by Josie Carballo Tejada  
Past Grand Guardian of the Philippines,  
Job's Daughter International

Two years ago, my sister and I were standing at a curb near a camp in Obermenzing, West Germany, waiting for the bus that would take us to the city of Munich. We were caravanning around Europe and were in that part of Germany for at least four days. Munich was the nearest big city and the cultural hub, and we went there everyday to visit museums, basilicas and other historical sites. As we waited at the curb that morning, we saw an American couple whom we recognized as our co-campers at Obermenzing. But they were standing at the wrong curb; so we waved to them and told them to wait with us. While we rode in the bus for Munich together, we got to know them; Hank and Lenore Meyer were from Chicago. They were also caravanning in Germany to "touch roots" because they were of German descent. Since the ride was a short distance, we didn't exchange much information about each other but managed to give our email address. The Meyers broke camp earlier than we did and as they said goodbye, they promised to keep in touch online. Since then, we've been exchanging news via email.

Last May 2007, after I attended the Grand Session in Manila, I decided to attend Supreme Session in Merrillville, Indiana in August. Merrillville is just an hour's ride from Chicago; so I thought I should tell the Meyers that it might be possible to visit them while I was there. When they learned that I was a Job's Daughter, they couldn't believe it. Lenore later told me Hank had to call her because he wasn't sure if he was reading my email right. They read it several times over before they replied. You see the Meyers are so Masonic! Hank had been Secretary of his lodge for 18 years, and Lenore was Past Grand Guardian of Illinois and had been a Job's Daughter herself since she was 13. The casual acquaintance that I made at Obermenzing turned out to be a happy coincidence – pure serendipity!

Since then, we've been burning our keyboards with an exchange of emails. I mentioned to them that part of my attendance at Supreme Session was a mission for Bethel No. 6 – to purchase from Doc Morgan a new set of crowns, because what the Daughters are currently wearing are in really bad shape. Leonore promised to help me procure refurbished ones because they're a lot cheaper. She also told me to cancel my reservations at the Radisson and stay with them instead.

I arrived at Chicago two days before Supreme Session opening and was also thrilled to see them waiting for me at O'hare airport. The Meyers reside at Oak Lawn, which is quite near the border of Indiana; so it was not that difficult for us to travel to and from. I stayed at their fully furnished mobile home parked next to the house. It was like my own private hotel suite! Incidentally, Lenore and Pat Bradley –

then Supreme Secretary – are best friends, and Lenore had told her about our problem with the crowns. It turned out that Pat had actually set aside a set of refurbished crowns from the stock of paraphernalias that Supreme had from defunct Bethels. As it happened, I didn't have to pay anything for them! They were old style but still in perfect condition. What a blessing for Bethel # 6!

Another blessing came from Bro. Fred Windbiel – husband of Past Supreme Guardian Louise of Vancouver, British Columbia. While attending my Grand Session last year here in Davao, he attended a Stated Meeting of Panabodalisay Lodge and promised to donate something. In Indiana, he handed me a set of gold Square and Compass to place on top of the Bible for the lodge.

A recent blessing again arrived unexpectedly by mail. I must have told Lenore that our jurisdiction needed patterns for the regalia, but Supreme had already told me there was none available; so we just had to take apart an old robe. Obviously, this information got around, and early this month, I received a package from the Past Grand Guardian of Indiana, Rosella Lamb, who sent a newly made set of patterns for the regalia in three sizes (large, medium, small)!

All these I attribute to the friendship we have in Job's Daughters. Fraternal bond that binds us is so unique that it transcends race, color, creed or whatever circumstances others would call divisive. In Job's Daughters we are family. This experience that I will always be remembered as a shining highlight in my life as a Job's Daughter.

### *Quick Quotes*

- The way we communicate with others ultimately determines the quality of our lives. – Anthony Robbins*
- A well-developed sense of humor is the pole that adds balance to your steps as you walk the tightrope of life. – William Arthur Ward*

*Feature*

**KAPATID NA GOBERNADOR AURELIO UMALI:  
ANG MAKABAGONG MANUEL L. QUEZON**

ni Ang Nagmamasid na Gurong Mason

Marahil matatawag nga na makabagong Manuel L. Quezon ang ngayong bagong luklok na Gobernador ng Nueva Ecija, ang Kagalang-galang na Kaptid Aurelio "Oyie" Matias Umali.

Gaya ng yumaong Gran Maestro at Unang Presidente ng Komonwelt, ang butihing Kapatid na Umali ay isa ring abogado at iniuukol ang kanyang serbisyo para sa kanyang bayan nang magdesisyon siyang pasukin ang larangan na serbisyo publiko bilang isang kinatawan ng Ikatlong Distrito ng lalawigan bilang mambabatas ng Mababang Kapulungan taong 2001 dala ang minimithing pangarap na makapag-ambag sa lalawigan ng pagsisilbing hindi matatawaran.

Nagtapos ng kursong abogasya sa Kolehiyo ng San Beda at ng Pangangasiwa sa Pangangalakal sa Unibersidad ng De La Salle, ang Kapatid na Oyie ay kinuha ng iba't-ibang kumpanya upang kanilang maging abogado.

Sa kanyang pagpasok sa arena ng pulitika bilang mambabatas, siya'y personal na naglimbag at nagsumite ng humugit-kumulang tatlumpung batas para sa ikauunlad ng kanyang nasasakupan at ilan pang batas na katuwang ang ibang mambabatas ng Kongreso.

Dahil ditto, siya ay ginawaran ng parangal ng ika-12 Kongreso bilang Natatanging Bagong Kinatawan at Mambabatas sa Una at Ikalawang Sesyon nito.

Dahil sa kanyang magandang nasimulan, sa kanyang muling pagtakbo bilang Kinatawan ng ikatlong distrito, hindi matatawaran ang suportang ibinigay ng kanyang mga kadistrito upang siya'y muling iluklok sa ikalawang pagkakataon.

Samantala, maituturing na karangalan sa kapatiran ng Masonerya ang pagkahalal ng kapatid na Umali sa pagka-Gobernador ng lalawigan ng Nueva Ecija nitong nakaraang halalan. Siya ay ikalawang kapatid na Mason na naluklok sa posisyon matapos ang panunungkulan ng yumaong Kapatid at Gob. Eduardo L. Josen.

Nabigyan ng Unag Antas ng Masonerya noong Abril 24, 2000, Ikalawang Antas noong Disyembre 16, 2000 at nahirang na Gurong Mason noong Pebrero 10, 2001

sa lohiya ng Kapitan Pepe 293, ang Kapatid na Umali ay nagsimulang maging instrumento at larawan ng isang tunay at mabuting Mason sa kanyang paglalakbay.

Ayon sa kanya, "naging bahagi na ng aking buhay ang mga turo ng Masonerya. Kung kaya't ang pagnanais na makapagsilbi sa kapakanan ng nakakarami ay dati lamang isang pangarap na ngayo'y nagkakaroon ng katuparan sa pagkakataong makapaglingkod sa tiwalang ipinagkaloob sa akin ng Novo Ecijanos. Wala tayong ibang hangad kundi ang maglingkod gaya ng mga nagsipaglingkod, at mga nangangarap din maglingkod, ang mahalaga ay magkadaop palad lahat para sa kapakanan n gating lalawigan at makapagambag muli ang Masonerya sa pamamaraan ng mabuting pamamahala."

"Minsan lamang ako tatahak sa daang ito, anumang kabutihan maliit man o malaki na magagawa ko para sa ating mga kalalawigan, bigyan ninyo ako ng pagkakataon na gawin na ito ngayon... dahil hindi na ako muling tatahak sa daang ito," dagdag pa ng Kapatid na Oyie Umali.

Nakabanaag ng liwanag noong Enero 25, 1966, ang Kapatid na Oyie ay ikinasal kay Binibining Czarina "Cherry" Domingo kung saan ang kanilang pag-ibig ay biniyayaan ng tatlong prinsesa na sina Gabrielle Lois, Patricia Marie at Allesandra Maxine.

Source: *The Craftsman*, AL 6007-6008 August 2007

### *Wearing Your Apron*

*The white apron, which is the badge of a Mason, shall at all times be kept clean and spotless, neatly pressed and in good repair so that it may be worn with pride by every member of the Craft. On every occasion the apron must be worn outside of all clothing the strings tied in a neat bow. (General Regulations).*

## *Stirrings in the Beehive*

by WM Generoso G. Calonge

### **ISLAND LUZ MINERVA LODGE NO. 5 SUPPORTS PUBLIC EDUCATION**



Island Luz Minerva Lodge No. 5 has manifested the consistent support shown by Masons for public education by giving a cash gift to the potential valedictorian of Epifanio delos Santos Elementary School in Malvar Street, Singalong, Manila on October 18, 2007.

The beneficiary of the recognition of excellence was Brian Amante, 11-year old Manila-born son of Ram V. Amante of Masbate and Benita M. Amante of Batangas. Brian was recommended for the lodge award by the elementary school led by its principal Mrs. Carmen Siao.

Brian has been consistently number one in his class from grades one to five. He is expected to again top his class upon graduation in 2008. Brian has expressed desire to enter the Manila Science High School. His ambition is to be a lawyer someday. He said that he would like to be a graduate of the University of the Philippines College of Law.

The gift was presented by the Master of Island Luz Minerva Lodge No. 5 and the Mason in charge of the project, brother Zidney Zamora.



*Presenting the cash award to Brian Amante is WB Generoso Calonge, assisted by Brother Zidney Zamora. Witnessing the event are Mrs. Benita Amante (between Bro. Calonge and Brian), Mrs. Carmen Liao, Principal of Epifanio delos Santos Elementary School and Mrs. Anacoreta Nacum, class adviser of the awardee.*

## WHAT FILIPINO MASONS HERE AND ABROAD ARE DOING

### WALANA LODGE NO. 13 IMPLEMENTS ADOPT-A-SCHOOL PROJECT

The brethren of Walana Lodge No. 13, led by WM Rolando R. Perez, launched their adopt-a-School Program by distributing school supplies to 476 pupils of San Jose Matulid Elementary School in Mexico, Pampanga.

They also treated the pupils with hot and nutritious arroz caldo and cold zesto drinks.

The feeding of nutritious food to the pupils is to be done on a monthly basis – i.e., every last Friday of the month.



The brethren with the principal, teachers, and pupils of the adopted elementary school

## **RW Lim Lo Suy Leads Masonic Family in Wreath-Laying Ceremony**

RW Peter Lim Lo Suy, Senior Grand Warden (SGW), together with leaders of the two Masonic Districts in Cagayan de Oro City & Province of Mindanao, led the members of the Masonic Family therein in paying due homage to our foremost national hero, Brother Jose P. Rizal, by conducting a wreath-laying ceremony at his monument.



**If we are to be unified and proud Masons, we must live our Masonry and take it out of the lodge room into the community. We have to accept that responsibility and dedicate ourselves to that purpose. And we must have a deep commitment to accomplishing our purpose.**

## ***Dipolog Lodge No. 162 Conducts 3 Projects***

Led by VW Jaime S. Vesagas (DDGM), WB Anastacio Junio, Jr., and WB Rolando Cimafranca, PM, the brethren of Dipolog Lodge No. 162 carried out their reforestation project at the Barangay Sto. Niño watershed area in Dipolog City.

Subsequently, they conducted their feeding program at the same barangay, which benefited 65 children belonging to economically disadvantaged families.

They also paid their elderly Past DDGM, VW Antonio G. Lim, a surprise visit.



## DEMOLAY ALUMNI HAVE LODGE

by VW Felix D. Ramos, Jr., PDGL

The making of a history..., the realization of a dream... Call it what you want but the turn of events during a stormy weather in August was to become one of the brightest of days for a group of Senior DeMolays.

In August 10, 2007, The Escudo Lodge UD was instituted at the Jose Abad Santos Hall, Grand Lodge of F. & A.M. of the Philippines with the Grand Master himself, MW Jaime Y. Gonzales presiding over its institution. A little over two months before, on May 30, 2007, representatives from the Escudo DeMolay Alumni Chapter #4 made a courtesy call to the Grand Master to officially inform him of the serious intent of the Alumni Chapter to form a Lodge, and to invite him as one of its Charter Members. The Grand Master gladly obliged. Escudo exclaimed that their move was in response to the Grand Master's call to have more DeMolays join the Freemasonry.

Through the years, however, the idea of an Escudo Lodge was simply a "thought-for-talk" by members of the Escudo DeMolay Alumni Chapter #4. It was like a dream topic after each stated meeting, after each fellowship, and after each passing year. Developing Escudo into a Lodge was first pitched sometime in the later 1990s to the Alumni Chapter by MW Rosendo C. Herrera, PGM, the then Grandmaster of the Supreme Council, Order of DeMolay of the Republic of the Philippines. However, the question that frequented the mind among the members of the alumni chapter was: What was to become of the Alumni Chapter?

The only multi-chapter DeMolay Alumni Chapter in the Philippines had to stay alive not only for Manila-based Senior DeMolays from the provinces but also for other Senior DeMolays in Metro Manila seeking a second home and who wish to remain involved with the Order. Initially, it all began in 1975 when a group of DeMolays studying in Metro Manila and with their Chapter Advisor organized a Manila-based extension arm of the Serafin V. Aguilar Chapter which is based in Bacolod City. The purpose was to continue in Manila the camaraderie and fellowship established in their Mother Chapter. The group was named "Escudo Group". Escudo means "shield". It vows to protect or shield the interest of the Order and its members. On the occasion of the Charter Day of the Philippine Supreme Council of the Order of DeMolay in March 13, 1983, the Escudo Group – moved and inspired by the historic event – snapped back from an on and off communication, regrouped again and formed the "Escudo Club". Later in October 29, 1991 it opened its membership to all Senior DeMolays who are willing to be active members of the Club. It also affiliated itself with the DeMolay Alumni Association of the Philippines (DAAP). It is within historic perspective that the Escudo DeMolay Alumni Chapter #4 was born and instituted on December 14, 1991. the pioneers of Escudo from a Senior DeMolay

## The Cabletow

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group to the time it was instituted as a DeMolay alumni chapter: Alan A. Javellana, George M. Benares, Raul Astorga, Arabico Guerrero, Joemarie M. Benares, Leo Masbad, Dennis Lacson, Alfredo dela Paz, Amado Pal M. Benares and VW Alipio "Chap" Ykalina III – their Advisor.

In March 04, 2006 during its 14<sup>th</sup> Public Installation of Officers, their Chapter Advisor – VW Felix "Boy" D. Ramos (High Twelve Lodge # 82), after prior discussions with the then Chapter President, Senior DeMolay Tito G. Cruz (Wadih C. Saab Chapter, 1975 Pioneer), picked up from where MW Herrera left off. VW Ramos, in his speech, encouraged Escudo to rethink its position and seriously consider the formation of an Escudo Lodge. Although in agreement, the Chapter President, for his part and in a move to extinguish the anxiety among his fellow escudo brethren of losing the alumni chapter in lieu of a lodge, opted for the Chapter to first undertake a membership drive and pursued efforts to expand and extend its reach to spread its existence, vision and mission wherever and whenever possible. If more of the alumni chapter's members had to move on to become Masons as did quite a number of its own who have earlier joined existing Lodges, a solution had to be made to keep the fires burning in the Alumni Chapter. New members were needed to be infused into Escudo. Year 2006 saw just that. To date, Escudo candidates called Profanum, meaning "outside of the temple", continue to pour in.

During the Chapter's 15<sup>th</sup> Public Installation of Officers in January 27,

2007, VW Ramos renewed his call for the formation of an Escudo Lodge. Seeing that the time was ripe, the new Chapter President, Senior DeMolay Rudolph C. Cocjin (1979, Feliciano I. Iñigo Chapter) acceded to the call. Thus, the tough task of taking in new tools and of building the blocks for an Escudo Lodge was to form part of the Escudo DAC #4's priorities in 2007.

Installed as Charter officers of the Escudo Lodge UD last August 10 were: Worshipful Master – Bro. Felix D. Ramos, Jr., PDGL, Senior Warden – Bro. Edgardo Z. Paredes, PDGL, Junior Warden – Bro. Wilfredo G. Cayetano, Treasurer – Bro. Joel D. Gaspar, Secretary – Bro. Pepito Simeon, Auditor – Bro. Lorenzo P. Reyes, PM, Chaplain – Bro. Tomas T. Balisi, PM, Senior Deacon – Bro. Benito T. Dionson, Junior Deacon – Bro. Marcelito S. Pescante, Lecturer – Bro. Egidio R. Ancajas, PDDGM, Almoner – Bro. Romualdo A. Cunanan, Bible Bearer – Bro. Charles G. Agar, PDGL, Senior Steward – Bro. Exequiel O. Vergara, Junior Steward – Bro. Samuel O. Bautista, Organist – Bro. Rolando C. Chiu, PDGL, and Tyler – Bro. Benvenuto A. Alegre, PGC.

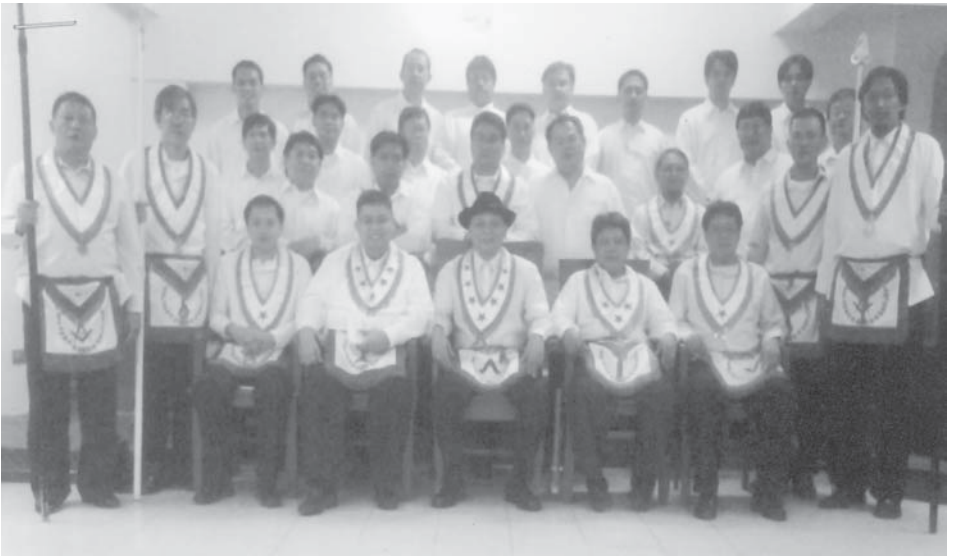
The other Charter Members are: Bro. Jaime Y. Gonzales, GM, Bro. Rosendo C. Herrera, PGM, GMH, Bro. Pacifico B. Aniag, DGM, Bro. Oscar V. Buniy, PGM, Bro. Evaristo A. Leviste, Bro. Avelino I. Razon, JGW, Bro. Samuel A. Laus, Bro. Victor Antonio T. Espejo, Bro. Voltaire R. Piansay, Bro. Antonio C. Almario, and Bro. Clifton C. Chiu.

The candidates, all from the Escudo DeMolay Alumni Chapter #4 are: Joseph

Nolan H. Jacinto, Bienvenido V. Samonte, Jr., Roice Castro, Danilo B. Ramirez, Dave Homer Y. Macrohon, Joel Naga, Omar Agama, Rudolph C. Cocjin, Bryan Allan F. Puncia, Saturnino Navarette, and Tito G. Cruz.

When its number is set into place, the Escudo DAC #4 will be the first DeMolay Alumni Chapter to have grown and moved on to form a lodge with the

usage of its own name, and the first Masonic Lodge to have a Senior DeMolay chapter. Moreover, the sponsoring lodges, namely: High Twelve Lodge No. 82 and the Manuel A. Roxas Lodge No. 152 will become the first Masonic Lodges in the history of Freemasonry in the Philippines, if not the world, to have helped nurture a DeMolay Alumni Chapter to bloom into forming a full-pledged lodge.



Escudo Lodge UD charter officers and members and the first batch of petitioners. Photo taken during their first stated meeting at Rafael Palma Hall, Grand Lodge of the Philippines in Ermita, Manila

**IN A PRACTICAL PUBLIC SENSE, WE ARE WHAT OTHERS SAY WE ARE. THUS, THE BEST ARGUMENT FOR MASONRY IS A GOOD MASON, JUST AS THE BEST EXAMPLE OF HUMANITY IS A GOOD HUMAN.**