

The Official Publication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free
and Accepted Masons of the Philippines

Vol.94 No. 2
2017

The Cabletaw



2017
SPECIAL COMMUNICATION



105th Anniversary
Grand Lodge of the Philippines



DECEMBER 19, 2017

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF UNIFICATION

GRAND LODGE OF PHILIPPINE ISLANDS
GRAND LODGE OF CALIFORNIA
GRAN ORIENTE ESPAÑOL



1917 - 2017

ESCOLTA MANILA TAGAYTAY CITY

EDITORIAL

The current state of our country demands that the patriots rise up and be heroes again. Killing is an everyday occurrence and the morning news should rather be classified as Triple X as they are not fit anymore for our children to see. Appointments to the government bureaucracy started promising at the start, but then corruption comes easy and they end hustling in line for prosecution.

Confined to our Masonic space of developing a man to be the better man that he can be, we focus on the thrusts of recovering the values of every mason. One value that requires a re-mastery is Respect. Respect is taught to every Filipino since childhood and that value is continued to be taught by us - the parents. One way or the other, this value has deteriorated and some of our brothers became eaten up with pride and fame that they forget that each person deserves a respect that is due to him consistent with his stature in life. Respect if not delivered may have serious repercussions. In some instances, respect may be forced to be reinstated if it has been intentionally forgotten. As our fraternity is not governed by strict democratic standards, respect may have come to some of us through the force of autocratic governance, to instill that we are brothers under King Solomon, to stress a point that as a regular brother on his square deserves respect, much so does the Grand Master deserves respect. This we learn through a Judicial Pronouncement that has never been done before. Think twice then, before you lose your respect to your regular brother or to King Solomon at that.



On the lighter side, this issue also features the activities of Kalilayan Lodge No. 37. This is to remind all lodges they too can be featured in the Cabletow. We have designated associate editors for Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao to whom you can coordinate for the submission of your articles. If your article can fit the test of our publication, we will have published. Our cover issue personifies the fraternity with a philanthropic heart of reaching to the less fortunate. The Grand Master is setting an example for our lodges to follow.

In addition to the current bulk of work at the Cabletow, we are devising a system to digitally publish all the issues of the Cabletow. Cabletow is rich in historical data that trace back to the days of our heroes. These data if not preserved will be gone into oblivion as the pages of our old issues cannot be opened anymore due to material deterioration. The current procedure being done by the National Library is expensive but it is supported by the national treasury. We will employ the current available free technologies to attain the digitization. Our brothers are not aware of these endeavors of the current leadership, and the Grand Master has no intention of bragging his works. We have observed him to love his philanthropy without any sense of personal gain but for the good of the craft. Our simple instruction was to tender and transfer to the next leadership a working and systematic Grand Lodge and to this, we do not intend to fail.

VW Avelino M. Sumagui, PDDGM
Editor-in-Chief

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The publication holds office at Plaridel Masonic Temple, 1440 San Marcelino St., Ermita, Manila D2801, Philippines.
WE ACCEPT PAID ADS
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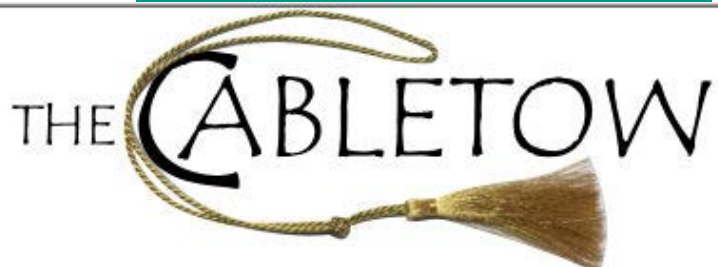
Cabletow@grandlodge.ph

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
VW Avelino M. Sumagui, PDDGM

VW Leo D. Manansala
Associate Editor for Luzon

VW Assalym B. Aurita
Associate Editor for Visayas

VW Lyndon J. Romero
Associate Editor for Mindanao



ACTIVITIES OF KALILAYAN LODGE NO.37 IN A NUTSHELL!

By: VW Joselito P. Tamaray, (#37) PM;
PDDGM; PJGL.

Kalilayan Lodge No. 37 went full-throttle with its activities for the Month of May and June, 2017.

On May 14, 2017, the Kalilayan Brethren together with some Sisters, in line with WM Ronaldo Soriano's programs, Save Mother Earth and Love thy Nature, planted 1,000 Mangrove Seedlings along the coastline of Lamón Bay in Brgy. Bantigue, Pagbilao, Quezon. It was a taxing activity under the overwhelming heat of the sun, but the brethren like the workmen in the quarries never wavered to accomplish their mission and all for the love of nature.



(With WM Ronaldo Soriano, VW Joselito P. Tamaray, Bros. Werner Decena, Samuel Gayongorza, Ronaldo Oreste, Gary Huerto and Sisters Marnie Gayongorza and Mercy Soriano all set for Mangrove Planting.)



(The Brethren and Sisters of Kalilayan Lodge No.37 headed by WM Ronaldo Soriano enjoying with great delight the mangrove planting along the coastline of Lamón Bay, Bantigue, Pagbilao, Quezon.)

The Family being the Centerfold of any Masonic Endeavor, an event dubbed as the Kalilayan Family Day was held on May 22, 2017 at the Palay-isdaan Kamayan Restaurant and Resort also in Pagbilao, Quezon, owned and managed by VW Totoy Gomez, a Past Master of Kalilayan Lodge No. 37. It was indeed an affair worth remembering as the families of masons gathered to celebrate the true spirit of Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth.



(The Kalilayan's finest during the Family Day with the 50 year mason VW Jesus R. Decena and Bros. Richard Hutamares, Gerard Aranas, Marvin Llamas, Raul Ibal, Apolinario Panebe, Alex Cariaga, Rodante Sanga, Jose Almero, Jose Pumida, Johnson Tiu, Totoy Gomez, Joselito P. Tamaray, Abet Gomez, Gerald Huerto, Ramon Puache, WM Ronaldo Soriano, Benedicto Asi, Anno Dayalo, Ronaldo Oreste, Ramon Talaga III, Sassan Motavalli and Gary Huerto.)



(The Kalilayan beautiful Hermanas always the wind beneath the wings of their Hermanos in all of their Masonic endeavor)

The Brigada Eskwela Project of Kalilayan Lodge No. 37 is now on its Tenth (10th) year and the usual beneficiaries of the school supplies and other necessities are the KALILAYAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL in Unisan, Quezon and its students. On June 3, 2017, the Brethren motored to Bundok Peninsula of the Province of Quezon, and distributed books and school supplies to

the indigent pupils of Kalilayan Elementary School of Unisan, Quezon. After a hard day's work, the brethren proceeded to the private resort of VW Ramon Puache of the same town and thereat partook of a sumptuous lunch and a few bottles of inspiring spirit to complete their day.

(The Brethren of Kalilayan Lodge No. 37 In-front of the entrance of the Adopted Public School in Unisan, Quezon. The Adopt a School Project is on its 10th year.)



(The distribution of school supplies and uniform to the recipient pupils and teachers of Kalilayan Elementary School of Unisan, Quezon with Bros. Johnson Tiu, Rodante Sanga, Victorino Panganiban, jr., WM Ronaldo Soriano, Alex Cariaga, Jose Almero, Ronaldo Oreste, Ramon D. Borja, Gary Huerto, Jose Pumida and Ramon Puache.)

All work no play makes the brethren dull all day, and to appease their gumption for physical activity and to drive from their system the storage of fats, a FUN RUN Activity was held on June 10, 2017 in the City of Lucena. The yearly activity of Kalilayan Lodge No. 37 is now on its 2nd year and this is also a fund raising project to sustain the continuous Free Medical and Dental Mission of the Lodge. Several groups participated in the event such as the Officers and Enlisted Personnel of the 404th Community Defense Group, ARESKOM, some personnel of the PNP, the Joggers and Marathon Club of Lucena as well as the brethren from Masonic District R4-C. Despite the inclement weather, the brethren together with the participants trekked the wet and slippery route of the Fun Run and adding spice to the activity was the Lugaw feeding that was conducted after the fun run to all participants and non-participants at the Pacific Mall Compound.



(The Brethren of Kalilayan Lodge No. 37 with the participants during the Fun-Run cum Lugaw Feeding.)

The Independence Day Celebration on June 12, 2017, was an event all Masons in the Grand Jurisdiction must take an active part and the Brethren of Kalilayan Lodge N0. 37, headed by its WM Ronaldo Soriano and the rest of its Incumbent Officers, joined the festivities sponsored by the City Government of Lucena City. Mayor Roderick A. Alcalá, City Mayor of Lucena City, profusely thanked the brethren for their support and graciously joined them for a group picture.



(The Brethren of Kalilayan Lodge No. 37 with Mayor Roderick Alcalá and Vice Mayor Philip Castillo of Lucena City, Quezon during 119th Independence Celebration on June 12, 2017.)



Finally, a night to remember by all Past Masters of Kalilayan Lodge No. 37 was held on June 23, 2017 at the Queen Margarete Downtown Hotel. This event was a tribute to all Past Masters of the Lodge, a Post Father's Day Celebration and the Launching of the Kalilayan Builders, a fund raising project for the construction of a New Masonic Temple of Kalilayan Lodge No. 37. With the full support of the brethren, sisters and the masons, all the activities of the Lodge was indeed a resounding success and we shall always continue to do so for the good of the order and for masonry's sake. After all, masonry is judged by what the masons do in public and to their fellowmen...



Taking A Closer Look At Masonic Handshake

VW Leo D. Manansala, DGL
Associate Editor for Luzon

As this honorable fraternity of Freemasons spread around the world, certain words and handshakes were invented to identify a brother to another whether in the dark as well as in the light.

This article tries to share the author's reflection about handshake in general and Masonic grip in particular by sharing its history, some "secrets", and symbolic meaning.

A handshake is a short ritual in which two people grasp one of each other's like hands, in most cases accompanied by a brief up-and-down movement of the grasped hands.

History is full of significant handshakes. Handshakes are said to be everyday gesture but they capture deeper meaning. It is one of the highest forms of symbolic currency with the power to unite, to divide, to seal deals, and even break peace.

Numerous opinions on what a handshake can tell you about someone. Some people judge another person by his or her handshake. Some studies say that character of an individual may be revealed by way he shake hands. Accordingly, they say that extroverts have firm confident grips why shy people and neurotics tend to shake hands softly and gently. But what if a true confident person cannot give the right firmness of the handshake because of arthritis?

But what is important is that the ritual of the handshake is powerful and rich with symbolic significance. A handshake allows you to form a first impression of that person or, if you have met them before, to form an impression of them for that interaction. It is something you do without even thinking about it, and it profoundly affects relationships.

The Freemason Handshake

Handshake or handgrip among Masons is very important. It is used to recognize symbols that they are Brothers on the same degree or order. It is a universal sign of unity. When it was properly done even by two Masons that meet for the first time, a "Bro-mode" recognition will be on and a mysterious bond will hover. The grip between Masons, therefore, is a significant symbolic gesture of trust.

Today, several handgrips are used by Freemasons. However, these grips were not exactly invented by Ma-

sons but they certainly perfected it. This ancient sacred method of greeting the initiated members of the Masonic craft was inherited by Freemasons from the ancient Gnostic mysteries . These handshakes maybe originated with the ancient Gnostic Ophites with their Mithraic mysteries.

The worshippers of Mithras had a complex system of seven grades of initiation and communal ritual meals. Initiates called themselves syndexioi, those “united by the handshake.” According to Saint Epiphanius, 4th Century Church Father by both the Orthodox and Roman Catholic Churches described the ritual of hand clasps of the Gnostic Ophites, “On the arrival of any stranger belonging to the same belief, they have a sign given by the man to the woman, and vice versa. In holding out the hand under pretense of saluting each other, they feel and tickle it in a peculiar manner underneath the palm, and so discover that the new-comer belongs to the same sect. Thereupon, however poor they may be, they serve up to him a sumptuous feast, with abundance of meats and wine. After they are well filled the entertainer rises and withdraws, leaving his wife behind, with the command: show thy charity to this man, our brother.”

Furthermore, archaeological ruins and ancient texts show that handshaking – also known as dexiosis – was practiced in ancient Greece as far back as the 5th century BC. Dexiosis means ‘to give (someone) the right (hand),’ in Latin dextrarum iunctio ,’joining together of the right hands’) is a term used in fine arts for the representation of two people offering each other their right hand.

During ancient times, the operative masons’ secret handshake served as their guard in transferring their valuable knowledge and skills in building great churches, cathedrals, castles and other buildings of the time to younger members of the craft, thereby bonding as a set of trustworthy brothers. Today’s Masonic order is protected in much the same way. The Masonic handgrip still serves as much as a modern union card- permitting only authorized members to labor in the vineyard of Freemasonry. However, the Masonic handshake is not sufficient protection from those who would seek to reap the rewards of knowledge without first gaining that knowledge.

The secret to the Masonic handshake is not in how it is given, but what it represents. Learning its true meaning is subscribing to the three basic tenets of Freemasonry- Brother Love, Relief and Truth. These tenets are more than a catchy and cheesy phrase. It represents how Masons are to treat each other; to meet on the level as friends, the expected rectitude of conduct, and how to work with others, such as offering wise counsel between brothers. Such a handshake creates a bond between people, just as the ancient Masons tried to build in their society of fellow craftsmen.

Every Mason is called to take this Masonic handgrip seriously and be mindful of what it really represents. While it may be true that there is a small minority of people who joined this honorable fraternity for ulterior motives, such as to build a network of contacts to promote their business, for promotion at work, etc. but true Masons should remain steadfast in protecting its beloved Fraternity.

The true secret of the Masonic handshake is that it represents a type of harmonious and healthy relationship and rapport expected between Brother.

Handshake is just a gesture but understanding it clearly and living out what the does represents, shall give meaning and will keep our Fraternity alive forever.

FATHER INSTALLED HIS SON AS MASTER OF THE LODGE

by: VW Honorio N. Sakall, PDDGM

VW OSCAR D. TOMARONG, PSGD, a regular member of Antonino G. Lim Memorial Lodge NO. 162, F. & A.M., and a charter member of SHRINE CITY LODGE U.D., Dapitan City, installed his son Bro. J. Harlan A. TOMARONG, as Worshipful Master at Bernardo A. Neri Memorial Lodge No. 214 in Calamba, Misamis Occidental, on March 25, 2017 held at Cassandra Pension Haus, with VW HONORIO N. SAKALL, PDDGM, a charter member of Shrine City Lodge U.D., as its installing master of Ceremonies, while WB NESTOR D. MEREICIDO, Immediate Past Master of Sindangan Lodge No. 240, Sindangan, Zamboanga del Norte, as Assistant Master of Ceremonies; and ATTY. ORLANDO M. SALATANDRE, JR., as its invited Guest of Honor and Speaker, Past President of the International Order of DeMolay.

WB J. Harlan A. Tomarong, also a member of the International Order of the DeMolay, Oroquieta City Chapter on March 2003. Eager and willing to seek further lights in freemasonry, he filed his petition and elected, and was then initiated an Entered Apprentice Mason (EAM) on July 28, 2012 at Bernardo A. Neri Memorial Lodge No. 214, Calamba, Misamis Occidental; passed to the degree of Fellowcraft on August 25, 2012; and subsequently raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason on September 22, 2012.

Being active in several lodge activities, he was elected Junior Warden in the Lodge on December 2014; elevated to the position of Senior Warden in December 2015; and subsequently elected to sit in the Oriental Chair in December 2016, where he was installed Worshipful Master of Bernardo A. Neri Memorial Lodge No. 214 Calamba, Misamis Occidental on March 25, 2017 by his own father, VW OSCAR D. TOMARONG, PSGD, RTC Judge, Branch 28, Liloy, Zamboanga del Norte.

Other invited guess: Illustrious Luisito S. Yu, Sovereign Inspector General (SGIG) Orient of Misamis Occidental, Zamboanga del Norte, Zamboanga del Sur & Pagadian City of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite (A.A.S.R.), along with the neighboring Masonic lodges; Gregorio O. Calit Memorial Lodge No. 154, Oroquieta City; Antonio G. Lim Lodge No. 162, Dipolog City; Sindangan Lodge No. 240, Sindangan, Zamboanga del Norte; Shrine City Lodge U.D., Dapitan City (wherein the B.A. Neri Lodge 214 was sponsoring lodge in opening Shrine City Lodge); Palilan Lodge No. 239, Jimenez, Misamis Occidental; Don Lorenzo Tan Memorial Lodge No. 265, Tangub City, and with the presence of VW Nestor Gonzales, PDGL, member Illana Bay Lodge No. 274, Pagadian City, the former USEC of the Presidential Commission of Peace Process.





Jobs' Daughters International, Bethel No. 21

Arnold Jim Y. Chua
Associate Bethel Guardian



Jobs' Daughters University

Last August 26-28, 2017 Bethel 6 - Davao City hosted the Jobs' Daughters University held at Roadway Inn, Davao City that was attended by Bethel Guardian Rowena Padolina, Incoming Bethel Guardian Secretary Always Germo, Grand Bethel Junior Princess Alexandra Raven Padolina, Senior Princess Shayka Requerme, Guide - Laycah Requerme, Marshal - Mycah Requerme, and Junior Custodian Seth Germo.

Bethel 21 - Cotabato City, Bethel 33 - Kabacan, Bethel 14 - Kidapawan and Bethel UD - Socsargen participated in the said activity. The JDU aims to further educate the Daughters with the Rituals and By Laws of Jobs' Daughters International for them to appreciate the teachings of the Order. There were games and activities that molds the friendship between Daughters and enhances their skills in public speaking. They also raised questions and the facilitators willingly answered them in the hope that it would give them clarity. Some Daughters shared the experiences and hardships that they encountered and how they over came it.

During this activity the Daughters were able to gain new friends and expanded their relationships with their Masonic Family. Daughters from all the Bethels were thankful for this opportunity.

To our JDI Bethel 21 Daughters, congratulation for participating in the Jobs Daughters University and we hope that you exemplify what you have learned and share it with your Bethel 21 Sisters. Continue to Lead! Bloom! Soar!



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DE MOLAY

The International Order of DeMolay is a worldwide fraternal organization dedicated in preparing young men, from ages 12 to 21 years, to lead successful and productive lives by allowing and empowering them to develop their personal talents and leadership skills that are needed in everyday life. The International Order of DeMolay was founded by Dad Frank S. Land together with nine young men on March 18, 1919 in Kansas City, Missouri, USA. The name DeMolay was in honor of Jacques DeMolay, who was the last Grand Master of the Knights Templar and was burned at the stake for his fidelity on March 18, 1314. Some of the distinguished members of the International Order of DeMolay are Movie Producer Walt Disney, Oscar Awardee Actor John Wayne, U.S. Astronaut Frank Borman, Nobel Laureate and Pulitzer Prize Author John Steinbeck, and former U.S. President Bill Clinton, among others. Today, the International Order of DeMolay is composed of about four million members coming from more than 1,000 Chapters worldwide.

It is the premier youth leadership organization that builds the character of young men making them better people and able leaders. Providing a program based on timeless principles and practical experiences, DeMolay strives not only to create an extraordinary leader, but a leader of character. DeMolays hold themselves to a higher moral standard, striving to constantly improve and become a better person every day. DeMolay is a youth-led, adult-advised organization in which young men learn to plan, organize and facilitate their own projects. DeMolays take part in a wide-range of activities, from athletic competitions, to public speaking tournaments and to community service events. All activities are confined and interests of the local chapter. If you can dream it, you can do it in DeMolay. DeMolay provides endless fun and friendships that last a lifetime, even with such a serious mission. When a young man joins DeMolay, he instantly gains over four million brothers across the globe. No youth organization provides such life-changing experiences like DeMolay. But words are insufficient to describe DeMolay; it must be experienced. Give it a chance and we know you will discover what we already know; DeMolay is the greatest youth organization in the world.

The Supreme Council, Order of DeMolay of the Republic of the Philippines is an appendant body of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Masons in the Jurisdiction of the Philippines. The Supreme Council, Order of DeMolay is the sole and sovereign body that governs all affairs and activities of the Order of DeMolay in the Philippines and has jurisdiction over all DeMolay Chapters and Members in the country. In 1975, during the 55th Annual Session of the International Supreme Council (ISC), Bro. Macario R. Ramos, Sr. had initiated some discussions with Bro. George A. Newbury, Chairman, ISC International Relations Committee. "DeMolay is also well established in both Germany and the Philippines and discussions and correspondences have been had with their leaders, looking at the establishment of an autonomous and sovereign Supreme Council in these countries. We urge that these discussions and this correspondences be continued, looking to authorization for the establishment of such sovereign and independent Supreme Councils in these countries in the near future."

In 1980, Bro. Macario R. Ramos, Sr. relayed the results of his continued discussions with the ISC to MW Jolly R. Bugarin, then-Grand Master of Masons in the Philippines, who wrote an official letter to the ISC requesting that steps be initiated to create a Supreme Council of the Philippines. Bro. G. Welbur Bell, Chairman, ISC International Relations Committee, was quoted: "When deemed advisable by the Masonic Leadership of the Philippines, we anticipate a granting of a charter for the establishment of an autonomous Supreme Council in that country."

In 1981, during the 61st ISC Annual Session held on April 5-6, 1981 at Cherry Hall, New Jersey, USA, the International Relations Committee submitted a resolution, quoted: “Be it resolved... recommend to the Grand Master of ISC that he authorize the Executive Officers of the Order of DeMolay of the Republic of the Philippines to take preliminary steps, in accord with the laws of the Philippines, to create a Provisional Supreme Council of the Order of the DeMolay to govern the affairs of the Order of DeMolay in that country.” Recommend further when appropriate steps have been taken that such proposed Provisional Supreme Council conforms to the landmarks of the Order of DeMolay, that the Grand Master shall take the appropriate steps to initiate the establishment of such Supreme Council.” The ISC unanimously adopted the report.

In 1982, during the 62nd Annual Session, ISC held on March 24, 1982 at Reno, Nevada, the International Relations Committee recommended, quoting: “the Provisional Supreme Council of the Philippines be empowered to elect its own set of officers and proceed with the organization of the Supreme Council as a step towards its eventual independence”. The ISC unanimously adopted the report.

In 1983, during the General Meeting of the Charter Members of the Provisional Supreme Council of the Philippines, which was held on March 5, 1983, the body elected its officers and adopted of the proposed Statutes.

On May 4, 1983, the International Supreme Council ordained and constituted the provisional Supreme Council of the Philippines. During the Grand Master’s Banquet of the International Supreme Council, Order of DeMolay held on that same evening, Grand Master Elect, Brother Macario R. Ramos, Sr., was duly installed as Grand Master of the Provisional Supreme Council, Order of DeMolay of the Republic of the Philippines. Grand Master Ramos was authorized to install the remainder of the provisional Grand Line Officers and to complete ordination and constitution of the Supreme Council, Order of DeMolay of the Republic of the Philippines.

On March 13, 1985, the formal presentation of the Charter of the Supreme Council, Order of DeMolay as an Autonomous, Sovereign and Independent Supreme Council with full power and authority in all matters pertaining to the government of the Order of DeMolay in the Republic of the Philippines was held at the Midtown Ramada Hotel in Manila.



Officers:

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Leg. Edward Y. Chua, Chev, LOH, COH
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BRIEF HISTORY OF WS INTERNATIONAL

(Content taken from <http://www.widowssons.com/> and <http://wsiamra.org/> with peculiar Philippine setting added)

The Widows Sons Masonic Riders Association is comprised of Master Masons from around the world. Each Chapter falls under their jurisdiction's founding Grand chapter, and is autonomous from other grand chapters and their sub chapters. We are NOT a 1% outlaw group. We are good men who love to ride Motorcycles. We are considered a Motorcycle or Masonic Riders Association (MRA) which promotes great causes like supporting our Brothers in need or children with medical needs at the Shriner's Hospitals.

The Widows Sons was founded between 1989 to 1999 with intention to offer aid and assistance to Masonic Widows and Orphans. Still holding strong to that commitment, the Widows Sons offers regular charitable donations to Masonic and other charities to help benefit many people throughout the world.

Since its founding the Widows Sons has grown world-

wide spanning from the United States, Canada, UK, Japan, Scotland, Mexico, Philippines and Taiwan just to name a few. The Widows Sons MRA prides itself on its charitable duties and strong belief in Faith, Hope and Charity. We support our Masonic lodges by providing a positive outlet for riding with our likeminded brethren of Masonry while enjoying the fellowship of our Fraternal Brotherhood. The Widows Sons is open to Master Masons in good standing with their respective Grand Lodges who own and ride a motorcycle of 400cc or more and who possess a license restriction to drive a motorcycle.

Widows Sons Masonic Riders Association Cause:

- a. Contribute to the relief of our Widows & Orphans
- b. Introduce the sport of motorcycling to our



With WS Pres James Raterta

Masonic Brothers

- c. Raise Masonic Awareness in the world of motorcycling
- d. Support our Blue Lodges through regular attendance and assisting with lodge events.

WS members are required to represent the fraternity in a positive light always. The Widows Sons serve as a Masonic "Booster" Club by helping to raise Masonic Awareness while we attend public motorcycling events, and by supporting our Blue Lodges in whatever capacity we are able.

Widows Sons chapters have helped to increase Masonic membership through our presence and visibility during public motor-

cycle events and rallies. In every location where we have a chapter, the Widows Sons have proven themselves to be a positive asset to the fraternity. Many of our chapters are proud to have current and past Grand Masters as members. We regularly attract new members to the fraternity, and several of our chapters have their own Degree Teams or volunteer in doing Masonic work whenever possible.

Each Widows Sons chapter sponsors or participates in local charity runs or events. In all cases, we strive to present a positive image of Freemasonry and our Association to the public.

BRIEF HISTORY OF WS MASONIC RIDERS ASSOCIATION PHILS GRAND CHAPTER

(By: Past Grand Chapter President Caesar "Bogus" Asuncion)



Donation of Laptops to Mahabang Kahoy School



WS Riding to the Jurisdiction of RW Rolan Paulino

The Widows Sons Philippine Grand Chapter was officially chartered on 23 January 2013, receiving its charter from the Illinois Widows Sons Grand Chapter. It was a long process of almost two (2) years but thru the hard work and perseverance of the founders, this illustrious association of mason riders came to existence in this part of the world.

It all began with a conversation among brothers who turned out to share a common passion – riding their motorcycles. Bro. Jomel "Bunso" Maranan, Bro. Caesar "Bogus" Asuncion, and Bro. Emmanuel "Fiscal" Velasco (+) during a Masonic event sometime in 2011, having found out their common interest, and vaguely knowing that there was a Masonic

riders club in the USA, then decided to do some research and if possible, to bring the same here to the Philippines. Bro. Bunso was able to get in touch with several brothers from the USA and eventually found out that Bro. Chris Palisoc Sanchez, a Fil-Am, was a member of the Widows Sons Knights of Solomon Chapter in Chicago, Illinois. An exchange of e-mails Philippines then transpired, outlining the steps, criteria and the process which was needed for bringing the WS to the country.

On 30 April 2012, Bro Bogus, Bro Bunso, Bro Dirty and Bro Fernando "Stingray" Pace, the President of LERAP, the biggest motorcycle club in the Philippines, held a meeting and it was agreed that we would comply with all the requirements to be recognized as a Grand Chapter. Upon Bro Dirty's return to the US, it was his job to present to his WS GC the intentions of the Philippine Brethren of bringing the WS to the country. It fell upon Bro Bogus, Bro Bunso, Bro Fiscal and Bro Stingray to organize the mechanics of our club. Thereafter, Bro Rey "Lawin" Berroya (President of Lawin Riders Club), Bro Carlos Jack F. Joaquin, Jr., Bro. Jerry Johan "Mad Dog" R. Echter (Past President of Mad Dog MC), Bro Erwin A. Punzalan, Bro Angelo "Guardian" P. Quinto, and RW Tomas G. Rentoy, III, and Bro. Billy "Mustang" Sumagui, formed the Founders of the WS Phil. Grand Chapter.



WS Pres James Raterta and VW Rey Berroya handing over the WS Vest /Uniform to MW Tom Rentoy

WS MEMBERS PATCHED IN BATCH

1. DNA (Distinguished Noble Alphans) Patched November 22-24, 2013, Dads Place Inn, Baguio City – 15 members lead by MRP James “Azul” Raterta and Asst. MRP Mholick “Almho” Gamueda.
2. SMIB (Sierra Madre Integrated Brothers) Patched September 12, 2014, Sierra Madre Hotel and Resort, Tanay Rizal – 9 members lead by MRP Federico Diagono Jr. and Asst MRP Tadaki Machida.
3. REBELS (Riders Evolving on Brotherhood, Equality, Loyalty and Safety) Patched September 25, 2015, Olebasi Resort Lubao Pampanga – 7 members lead by MRP Melan De Sagun and Asst MRP Cris Padilla
4. LMN (Lumina or Light also the initial of the 3 members) Patched September 30, 2016, Driftwoods Sports Part Indang Cavite – 3 members lead by MRP Leni Lopez and Asst MRP Melvin Sandoval.

MEMBERSHIP ROSTER – FOUNDING MEMBERS

The first eleven comprised the Founding Members of the WS-MRA-Phil GC. An election was then held around August of 2012 and the results were as follows:

President - CAESAR D. ASUNCION
 Vice President – EMMANUEL Y. VELASCO ((+) MAY 20, 2013) Replaced by : JERRY JOHAN R. ETCHER
 Secretary - JOMEL DENNIS L. MARANAN
 Treasurer - ERWIN A. PUNZALAN
 Guardian of Membership - ANGELO P. QUINTO
 Sergeant at Arms - CARLOS F. JOAQUIN, JR.

Charter Members:
 FERNANDO C. PACE
 REYNALDO I. BERROYA
 TOMAS G. RENTOY, III
 AVELINO M. SUMAGUI

On 23 January 2013, the Charter of the WS-MRA-Phil GC was signed by Bro Danny F. Briscoe, President, Illinois Presidents Council of the Widows Sons.

Our Charter was then formally presented to us on 05 May 2013 by Bro Dirty (President of the Knights of Solomon Chapter, and Sponsor of the Phil Grand Chapter) during ceremonies held at H&J Bar and Grill in Makati City.



ALLIED MASONIC ORGANIZATIONS

Satisfactory complied with Edict Nos. 259 and 259-A are the following:

1. Quezon City Trowel Club

WB Freddie V. Lilagan	President	0915-8661185
Bro Robert B. Sales	1st Vice President	0922-8155909
Bro Jimmy T. Lao	2nd Vice President	0922-8680211
Bro Emil Leo A. Padilla	Secretary	0943-3111304
Bro Ramon Jose D. Gener	Treasurer	0917-8915212
VW Eduard Y. Sevilla	Auditor	0917-8951553
WM Arnulfo B. Macatangay	PRO	0922-8855349
Bro Alexander L. Flores	Chaplain	
Bro Johnnie Abo	Marshall	

2. Silanganan Temple Builders Associations Inc

3. Square & Compass We – Connect

Bro Raymond Wong	President	0922-8302283
Bro Arnulfo B. Macatangay	Vice President	0922-8855349
Bro Anthony Tan	Secretary	0922-8636382
Bro Feliciano P. Narciso, Jr.	Treasurer	0922-8042623
Bro Alex Go	Auditor	0922-8808282

4. Kuyang on the Level Club Inc.

Bro Emil Leo A. Padilla	President	0943-3111304
Bro Roland N. Marcelo	Vice President	0906-2224164
Bro Reynaldo Sioson	Secretary	0916-5132893
Bro Andrew See	Treasurer	0932-5593576
Bro Pablo Dayao	Auditor	

5. Masons Order of Law Association

Bro Emil Leo A. Padilla	President	0943-3111304
VW Marlon M. Castor	Vice President Internal	0917-3181855
Bro Jesse T. Le Complete	Vice President NCR	0917-8215948
VW Florendo Opay	Vice President Visayas	0917-7167296
Bro Redentor Mojares	Vice President Mindanao	0919-3066730
Bro Noel G. Nuestro	Secretary	0906-2048550
Bro Ricky Mendoza	Assistant Secretary	
Bro Grand Marlon W. Doria	Treasurer	0917-5280827

6. Grand Order of the Blue Rabbit

7. Widows Sons Masonic Riders Associations of the Philippines

VW James K. Raterta	President
Bro Vladimir Kahulugan	Vice President
Bro Cris Padilla	Secretary
Bro Noriel Javier	Treasurer

8. Assembly of Customs Travelers, Inc. (ACT)

Bro Ciriaco DG. Ugay	National President	0927-4106288
VW Tomas D. Tagra, Jr.	Vice President Internal	0917-7351560
Bro Jaybee Raul U. Cometa	Vice President External	0936-9706045
WB Segundo Sigmundfreud Z. Barte, Jr.	Secretary	0916-6318921
Bro Danilo M. Campos, Jr.	Treasurer	0917-5351427
VW Reummel M. Sison	Auditor	0915-2042284
VW Fahad Al-Rashid Said Lucman	PRO	0917-7091925

9. KAMANAVA

OTHER ALLIED MASONIC ORGANIZATIONS

Grand Court of the Philippines, Order of the Amaranth

Honored Lady Edna C. Bacoling	Grand Royal Matron	0918-9345825
Sir Knight Angel T. Bacoling	Grand Royal Patron	0956-1706038

Supreme Council, Order of DeMolay of the Republic of the Philippines

Honorable Edison Abella	Grand Master
Honorable Everisto A. Leviste	Grand Secretary

Supreme Assembly, International Order of the Rainbow for Girls, Philippines

Sis. Eleanor Roque-Redor	Supreme Inspector in the Philippines
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Grand Guardian Council of the Philippines, Job's Daughters International

Sis. Emmalou F. Sanchez	Grand Guardian
VW Tomasito Angeles	Associate Grand Guardian

ASSEMBLY OF CUSTOMS TRAVELERS (ACT) INC.

The Assembly of Customs Travelers (ACT) Inc., an organization of regular employee of the Bureau of Customs. It was birthed in 2014 and was officially recognized by the Grand Lodge of the Philippines in the ANCOM of 2016. The Aduana Widow Sons Haven (A-WISH) was the predecessor of ACT. It was organized in the early 2000 similar to that of the BIRTH of the Bureau of Internal Revenue. Unfortunately, the organizers were not able to establish the organization due to transfer of assignments and eventually the retirement from service of most of the forerunners which resulted to its natural death.

In 2015, the Commissioner of Customs ordered all employees to return to their mother unit. It was at this time when some of the brethren were displaced and had to adjust with the new environment that the idea to form a Masonic organization in the Bureau of Customs was being considered. Thus, dream of the former organization to unify and provide assistance to the Freemasons working in the Bureau of Customs was again realized. A new set of interim officers was elected and decided to come up with a more appropriate name of the group. Thus, the name ASSEMBLY OF CUSTOMS TRAVELERS (ACT) came into existence. The interim officers did not only stop there, they worked harder to register ACT with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). The first President of ACT was VW Mel Sison, he served for two (2) years until the assembly got the GLP recognition.

In 2017, a new set of officers were elected. Elected President, was Bro Ciriaco Ugay. He urged all Masons assigned in the different ports to organized themselves and be connected with other brethren through social media and conduct their local activities if possible. Thus, the formation of the ACT Cebu Cluster was came to existence.

ASSEMBLY OF CUSTOMS TRAVELERS-CEBU CLUSTER (ACT-CEBU)

The ACT-Cebu Cluster or ACT-CEBU was organized three weeks after the election and oath taking ceremony of the new sets of officers was conducted. Its aimed was to maintain camaraderie among Masons working and transacting in the Bureau of Customs without prejudice to the law. Bro. Jan Adam Mose, the Senior Warden of Mt. Moriah Lodge No. 252 was chosen by the group to be the President. The ACT-Cebu spearheaded the "FREE CIRCUMCISION" activity of the Bureau of Customs Sub-Port of Mactan last April 2017. It was the first such activity in the port. Attended by the brethren of Cebu who assisted the doctors from the private hospitals and medical team of the Philippine Air Force. About 289 boys from the neighboring barangays were circumcised. The activity was attended by the ACT President Bro. Ciriaco Ugay and DDGM VW Douglas Tan.



The Bureau of Customs employees and the medical teams from the Philippine Air Force and Gullas College of Medicine



The brethren Masonic District R7 with Customs Collector Gerry Campo and DDGM VW Douglas Tan.



DDGM of Masonic District R7 CBS VW Douglas Tan in action



Some ACT-CEBU members L to R: Bro. Jan Adam Mose, Bro. Atty. Kenneth Kern Sesante, WB Irvin Ho, ACT Pres. Bro. Ciriaco Ugay and Bro. Ronald Montilla



Port of Subic Deputy Collector of Customs and ACT President Bro. Ciriaco Ugay reading the citation of Plaque of Appreciation for Port of Mactan Customs Collector Gerardo Campo

289 boys from the neighboring barangays benefited from the free circumcision

Another activity that will be spearheaded again by ACT-CEBU on September 23, 2017 is the “BLOOD-LETTING” activity of the Bureau of Customs Sub-Port of Mactan in cooperation with the Philippine Red Cross Lapu-Lapu-Cordova Chapter. There are already almost 300 volunteers from different organizations who signified their intention to donate their blood. According to the Philippine Red Cross Lapu-Lapu-Cordova Chapter,

it will be the first time in the history of their chapter that they will be conducting a bloodletting activity that will reach 100 or more volunteers, because they never reach more than 50 volunteers in a single bloodletting activity. The former ACT President VW Mel Sison and current ACT President Bro. Ciriaco Ugay already signified their intention to attend.

CBS Vibrant and Dynamic As Ever with Young Lodges and Young Leaders

By Bro. Ian Anthony P. Sapayan
Siquijor Lodge no. 418

Masonic District R-VII is now more vibrant and dynamic as before with the addition of three new lodges and the successive appointments of young Masons as district officers.

The past three years have been very significant in the development of brotherhood and camaraderie among Masons in the islands of Cebu, Bohol and Siquijor (CBS).

The institution of Siquijor Lodge No. 418 in the mystic Island of Siquijor, the Crescent Lodge No. 419 in the Island of Mactan and Talisay Sugbu Lodge No. 422 in the City of Talisay, Cebu has undoubtedly perked up membership and attendance in Masonic activities in the CBS District.

With the appointments of VW Janby Earl H. Yu in 2015, VW Douglas S. Tan in 2016 and currently VW Basil B. Ting as District Deputy Grand Masters successively in the last three years, the CBS lodges have gained renewed vigor and vitality.

For this year alone, DDGM Basil B. Ting with Junior Grand Lecturer Janby Earl H. Yu, PD-DGM and District Grand Lecturers Assalym B. Aurita, Julian Yap, Jr., Paul Ong and Doni D. Piquero led the CBS lodges in posting record attendance in the following activities:

June 11, 2017 Mangrove Planting at Barangay Kalawisan Sitio Lato, Lapu-Lapu City.

June 12, 2017 Independence Day Celebrations simultaneously in front of Cebu City Hall and the Municipality of Enrique Villanueva, Siquijor.

June 21, 2017 Charter Celebration of Siquijor Lodge No. 418 in Larena, Siquijor.

June 22, 2017 Distribution of School Bags

& School Supplies in Barangay Pangan-an, Olango Island, Lapu-Lapu City, Cebu with no less than MW Abraham N. Tolentino as benefactor.

July 29, 2017 the Plumb and Level Club, Inc. Third Leg (Visayas) Golf Tournament at Mactan Island Golf Club with special guest RW Romeo S. Momo.

The CBS Lodges have blossomed into a cohesive and harmonious family. They are expected to do more in the next years to come with the recent incorporation of Masonic District R-VII CBS (Cebu, Bohol, Siquijor), Inc. whose principal purpose is “to organize and facilitate the activities of the Masonic Lodges in the Islands of Cebu, Bohol and Siquijor under Masonic District R-VII and to raise and hold funds for such activities.” This is the brainchild of PDDGM Douglas S. Tan which has been wholeheartedly supported by current DDGM Basil B. Ting.

CBS Shows Strength in District Activities

The bonds of family and brotherhood were renewed and made even stronger these past two quarters with several activities attended by a sizeable number of brethren and their families.

Mt. Moriah Lodge No. 252 under the leadership of WM Gilbert A. Suribas took the forefront in hosting some of the events such as the Fun Shoot at the Cebu Pistol and Rifle Association's International Firing Range in the Island of Mactan and the family outing also in the said Island.

The Fun Shoot brought together more than one hundred Mason shooters from lodges not just in the CBS area but also from as far away as Cotabato and Bicol. Even children of Masons took part in the event.

The district likewise hosted sports activities such as bowling and badminton. In the

(continued on page 31)



R7 CBS- DISTRICT BOWLING @ Gaisano Bowling Complex, Brgy. Banilad Cebu City



DISTRICTHOOD PACT BTWN MD-R7 CBS & MD-NCR-F @ Parklane International Hotel, led by Vw Basil Ting, DDGM MD-R7 & Vw Gerald A. Caballos, DDGM of MD-NCR-F.



BRETHREN'S DAYS



MASONIC INVESTIGATION - FIRST LINE OF DEFENSE AGAINST ENEMIES OF THE CRAFT

by: WB IGNACIO E. DOMINGO
Past Master, Cabanatuan Lodge 53
Retired First Assistant City Prosecutor
Cabanatuan City

When I was the Worshipful Master of this Lodge, a certain "Matias" filed a petition for admission to our fraternity, necessarily, I assigned a committee of investigators composing of our three (3) brethren for the purpose of evaluating the petitioner's qualification to become one of us.

I was then anticipating a smooth sailing process for the said petitioner to hurdle the investigation, after all, he is a relative of one of our respected brothers in this lodge.

To my surprises, however, the investigating committee filed a report rejecting the petitioner based on the grounds stated in the report.

I then realized that the committee of investigators is virtually powerful regarding the fate of every petitioner, even powerful than the collective membership of our lodge who was deprived of the right to admit or not to admit a candidate thru balloting.

The constitution of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines provides, thus:

ARTICLE VI

DEGREE AND AFFILIATIONS

A. QUALIFICATIONS AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS

"X X X X X

SEC 10. All petitions for degrees and affiliation shall be referred to a committee of there (3) who shall make a strict examination of the petitioner and report thereon to the master at the next stated meeting unless further time be granted.

SEC 11. The report shall recite in detail the facts ascertained with respect to the petitioner and must be returned to the master. The conclusion of the committee shall be read to the lodge. The facts ascertained shall be read when directed by the master, or when requested by any member of the lodge. The names of the members of the committee shall not be made known.

SEC 13. If the report of the committee or any member thereof be unfavorable, no balloting shall be had. Instead, the master, upon the reception of such report, shall declare the petitioner rejected."

As can be cleaned from the foregoing provisions of our constitution, masonic investigation is one of the most important aspects in the accept. Acne or rejection of a prospective petitioner for membership in our distinguished fraternity.

We have to bear in mind that the members of the investigating committee are the first line of defense against of the craft as well as those who, through indifferent character, might be prone to bring discredit upon the craft.

Our fraternal security depends in great part on the ability of the investigating committee and their findings.

Each member of this vitally important committee should ever bear in mind that he may be investigating a petitioner who might one day become worshipful master of the lodge or who may sometime wear the

purple of the fraternity, or may even rule and govern grand jurisdiction.

The members of the committee should satisfy themselves that the petitioner is indeed worthy of consideration for membership. They should never restrict their inquiries by just contacting the recommender (sponsors) and asking them for evaluation. The committee members should try to obtain the full picture of the petitioner and not to rely on what the recommender would tell them about the said petitioners. Much less, at the last minute before time to report contact the other committee members, ask for the result of their discoveries and, if favorable, to go along with their report.

Each investigator should make an independent and separate inquiry and file his report, regardless of what the others may do.

QUALIFICATIONS OF COMMITTEE INVESTIGATORS:

The master should bear in mind that not all brethren are skilled or adept at investigative work. It is advisable for the worshipful master, wherever possible, to select those who have investigative experience or talent for such. If available the worshipful master might appoint those who are lawyers, law enforcement officers, private investigator, and the like.

Being members of a political affiliation or religious denomination, if they differ from that of the investigations have no bearing on the evaluation of petitioner's qualification.

If the investigator entertains doubt as to the petitioner's qualification, he should always resolve his doubt in favor of the lodge and freemasonry and not in favor of the petitioner.

SOME OF THE QUALIFICATIONS OF THE PETITIONER TO BE CONSIDERED:

1. He should be a man who first has freemasonry in heart.
2. Man of unimpeachable character who enjoys a good reputation among his friends, neighbors, acquaintances and associates wherever he is known.
3. It should be clear to him and possible to his wife, that if he is accepted into the fraternity, he must sacrifice time and energy which call for evenings away from home.
4. He should be a man who has a record of paying his just debts and living up to his words.
5. Who has no record of living a dissolute life or having immoderate habits.
6. He should have no criminal record.
7. He should have sufficient education to be able to grasp and retain precepts of freemasonry as taught him in the lodge.
8. He must be literate and sufficiency fit physically to participate in the degrees.
9. He must have find the petition of his own free will and accord and not from any improper solicitation of friends.
10. He should not view the craft lodge as being nothing more than a stepping stone for what he thinks is something more desirable.

It is not acceptable to file a favorable report because the investigator talked to a member or persons who said, "I never heard anything against him".

NOTE: Lest I be accused of plagiarism, I wish to inform the brethren that portions of my foregoing lecture were lifted from the report of William C. Councill, 32o KCCH, Grand Lodge of the Philippines.

LOVE TRIBUTE TO SISTER EVA ESTRADA KALAW

by: VR Samuel P. Fernandez, PP
Kalaw Chapter No. 9, Order of the Eastern Star

Non omnis moriar (not everything in me will die).

Sister Eva has gone to her reward, but she is very much alive in our hearts. Three weeks shy of her 97th natal day, she responded to God's summon. Brothers and Sisters of Kalaw Chapter No. 9, Order of the Eastern Star, were set to celebrate her gift of life; but alas, the call from above was much stronger than our mundane wish. We can only say with Beloved John: "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit that they may rest from their labors; and their works doth follow them." (Rev. 14:13)

Sister Eva's labor of love and concern extended several decades. Tireless, preserving, indefatigable, she was the epitome of a wife of a Grand Master whose sustaining support never ended even after MW Teodoro Kalaw's demise. She inspired the Masons, Brothers and Sisters of Kalaw Chapter No. 9, OES; the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls, and the DeMolays with her wisdom and presence.

Born in Murcia, Tarlac on June 16, 1920, the Honorable Eva Estrada Kalaw has outlived many of her contemporaries. Born to Dr. Salvador Q. Estrada and Demetria T. Reynada, she was

the wife of a prominent Mason, Teodoro V. Kalaw, Jr., Grand Master of Masons in 1975. As a wife of a Brother Mason, she was an active member of the Order of the Eastern Star. Known to be the only active survivor of the founders of Kalaw Chapter No. 9, OES, she helped nourish and encourage members to be faithful to their allegiance to the Order.

Sis. Eva Estrada Kalaw is not a stranger to the academe. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Education and Master in Science in Social Work at the University of the Philippines. She pursued her Doctorate in Education at the same university, short of defending her dissertation. The Philippine Normal University honored Sis. Eva E. Kalaw with a Doctor of Education, Honoris Causa and the Angeles University with a Doctor of Humanities, Honoris Causa degrees.

Sis. Eva Estrada Kalaw is truly an academican. She put to use her academic training in teaching at the Far Eastern University, National University and Centro Escolar University. She was a visiting professor on Education at the Harvard University, USA in 1969; and in Bangkok, Thailand in 1970. A member of the Board of Directors of 27 State Colleges and Universities, she honed her expertise in education by being the principal author and sponsor of the following legislations: "An Act Providing for the Magna Carta for Private School Teachers," "An Act Providing Educational Financing for Students," "An Act Creating the Local School Boards," "An Act Providing for the Participations of the President of the Student Council to the Board of Regents of all 27 State Colleges and Universities," "An act

Creating the Ministry of Tourism, converting the quasi-government Bureau of Tourism Industry (BTI and Philippine Travel and Tourism Administration (PTTA) into a Department,” and “An Act Transferring the National Museum to the former Legislative Building.”

Sis. Eva Estrada Kalaw is a recipient of several awards. To name a few: Mahatma Gandhi Peace Award; University of William and Mary, Virginia, U.S.A.; Professional Award in Public Service on Human Rights, U.P. Alumni Association; and Most Outstanding Volunteer Social Worker of the City of Manila by then Mayor Arsenio Lacson.

Sis. Eva Estrada Kalaw was a political leader whose track record can be an envy of many a politician. She was President of the Liberal Party, 1984-1988; one of the founders and Vice President, UNIDO; one of the founders, Grand Alliance for Democracy (GAD); Secretary-General, Nationalista Party, 1966; and Executive Vice President, Nationalista Party, 1997-1998.

Sister Eva Estrada Kalaw was a political icon who weathered political challenges. On August 21, 1979, Sis. Eva sustained serious injuries from the Plaza Miranda bombing. Twice imprisoned by the Marcos regime, she never was cowed into submission to support Martial Law.

Sis. Eva was the first woman Senator to be reelected in the Senate.

Sis. Eva Estrada Kalaw is an indefatigable organizer. She introduced and organized the first confetti revolution with yellow as its color; founder of Jayceettes of the Philippines, 1951; founder of the National Organization of Women; organized the First Women March during the Marcos Martial Law years; organized the Samahang Pilipino for Women to participate more in political action; first and only woman to head a national party during the two-party system; and organized the First Women’s March against militarism in 1983.

Sis. Eva Estrada Kalaw is a standout in any endeavor. Her view of life and social events and her political analysis has a ring of wisdom. She is not wanting on invitations on topics concerning Masonry and its appendant bodies. Being a wife of the Grand Master of all Masons in the Philippines, she has imbibed

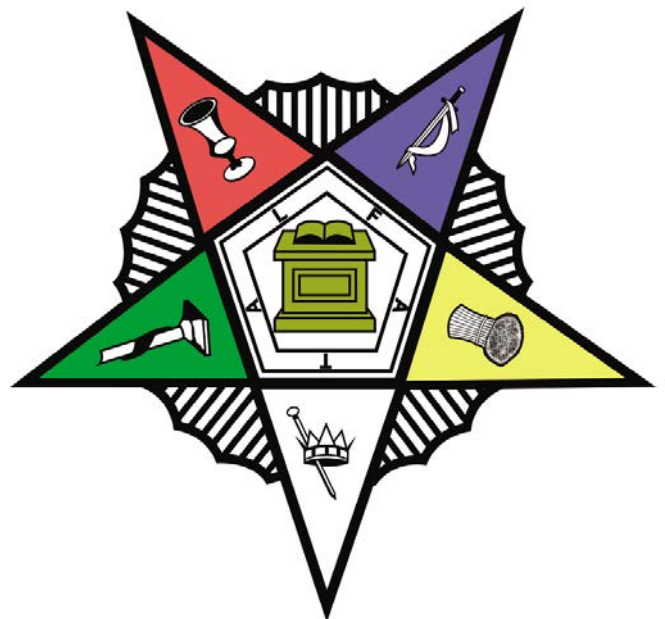
the tenets of the Craft that many a Brother Mason appreciates her sisterly admonitions and insights.

Sister Eva understood the essence of the Order of the Eastern Star’s lasting values of Fidelity, Constancy, Light, Purity and Joy, Immortality and Fervency. God Almighty gifted her with a longer life to witness the Golden Anniversary of Kalaw Chapter No. 9, when all the founding charter members had crossed the Great Divide. She celebrated the occasion with her Brothers and Sisters with joy and jubilation, happiness and high spirit.

Farewell Sister Eva, Dominus vobiscum (the Lord be with you). Virtus junxit mors separabit (virtue has united, death shall not separate).

Farewell, Sister Eva. Till we meet again.

Farewell, dear Sister Eva, we love you.



EDICTS FROM THE GRAND LODGE



The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines

PLARIDEL MASONIC TEMPLE

1440 San Marcelino Street, 1000 Ermita, Manila, Philippines

Tel. Nos.: +63 2 524 3263 / +63 2 522 2232 / Fax: +63 2 522 2218 Website: www.grandlodge.ph

MW ABRAHAM "BAMBOL" N. TOLENTINO

Grand Master

DANILO D. ANGELES, PGM

Grand Secretary

EDICT NO. 312

EDICT ENJOINING LODGES TO DISPLAY THE OFFICIAL PORTRAIT OF THE GRAND MASTER AND THE INCUMBENT WORSHIPFUL MASTER IN ALL MASONIC TEMPLES

WHEREAS, the government of the fraternity by a presiding officer is called a Grand Master and a lodge by a Worshipful Master who are both elected from the body of the Craft;

WHEREAS, the Grand Master is the Supreme Power and Authority, possessing all the attributes of sovereignty and government within the Grand jurisdiction while the Worshipful Master is the Supreme Authority in his lodge, both limited only by a strict adherence to the Ancient Landmarks, Constitution and By-laws, Edicts and the General Regulations of Masonry;

WHEREAS, reverence and respect shall at all times be accorded to the Grand Master and the Worshipful Master of the Lodge as they represent the leadership and authority of the Grand Lodge and the subordinate Lodge;

WHEREAS, it is just befitting that the images of the Grand Master and the Worshipful Master are displayed in every temple and offices of appendant bodies announcing the present leadership of the Grand Lodge and the Lodge;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ABRAHAM N. TOLENTINO, Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers in me vested by the Constitution, do hereby promulgate and decree:

All Subordinate lodges who have their own temples are enjoined to display the official portrait of the incumbent Grand Master and Worshipful Master in a conspicuous space in all Masonic Temples beginning the first stated meeting of every Masonic year.

Lodges who are sharing one temple including those using the Plaridel Masonic Temple shall designate an ample space to accommodate the portraits of all the incumbent Worshipful Masters of Lodges using the same temple.

“By your Grip, we are here to serve, and not be served even beyond the Cabletow. ‘

2 Page

Edict No. 312 - MW Tolentino

This Edict shall take effect immediately and shall be read in open lodge at the Stated Meeting next following its receipt, which fact of reading shall be recorded in the Minutes of the stated meeting of the Lodge.

Given under my hand and the seal of this Grand Lodge in the City of Manila, this 18th day of August 2017.



ABRAHAM N. TOLENTINO Grand Master

Attest:



DANILO D. ANGELES PGM □ Grand Secretary

ANT/DDA/MATA/ vangie





The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge
of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines

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www.grandlodge.ph

MW ABRAHAM "BAMBOL" N. TOLENTNO

Grand Master

DANILO D. ANGEIES,
PGM

Grand Secretary

EDICT NO. 313

SYMBOL OF POWER AND AUTHORITY SHOULD ALWAYS BE WITH THE MASTER SITTING
IN THE EAST

WHEREAS, the gavel is an emblem of the authority and an implement of the Master in the East in governing the Lodge;

WHEREAS, the gavel is placed in the hands of the Master to help remind him to give proper instruction, to lead the Craft where they should go, and to set them on the path to contemplate higher things.

WHEREAS, the Constitution and Ordinances of the Grand Lodge expressly delegate full authority to the Master to govern the Lodge in accordance with our Masonic laws. There is only one Master of a Lodge, only one authority and only one leader, hence only one with the gavel;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ABRAHAM N. TOLENTINO, Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers in me vested by the Constitution, do hereby promulgate and decree:

The gavel is an emblem of the authority and an implement of the Master in the East in governing the Lodge. Thus, the gavel should always be in the hands of the Master sitting in the East;

When the Master sits in the East, the gavel lies on the table to be readily used to direct and govern the lodge and to make declarations and pronouncements;

But when the Master leaves the Oriental Chair, the gavel should be placed and tucked in with the apron to signify that the power and authority stay with the Master wherever he goes inside the Lodge to continue preserve and maintain order and subordination among the assembled brethren.

This will apply to the Grand Master, District Deputy Grand Master (DDGM), Grand Master's Deputy or Representative, Worshipful Master and whoever sits in the East.

This Edict shall take effect immediately and shall be read in open lodge at the Stated Meeting next following its receipt, which fact of reading shall be recorded in the Minutes of the stated meeting of the Lodge.

Given under my hand and the seal of this Grand Lodge in the City of Manila, this 18th day of August 2017.



ABRAHAM N. TOLENTINO Grand Master

Attest:



DANILO D. ANGELES, PGM
Grand Secretary

ANT/DDA/MATA/vangie (from page 21))

district bowling tournament, close to 200 Masons competed in the one-night event.

Another family day was held at the IPI Sports Center where the kids enjoyed the swimming pool and the parlor games prepared by the district officers led by DDGM Basil B. Ting.

The district officers also co-sponsored PAGCOR's Bingo Shower of Millions at the Waterfront Hotel's Casino Filipino outlet attended by hundreds of participants, Masons and non-Masons.

The brethren of R-VII CBS likewise actively participated in their respective Balik Eskwela Programs and a few Operation Tuli Outreach Programs.

Kind-hearted brethren contributed to the Grand Lodge's Marawi Relief Fund and were able to raise a significant amount in support of

the troops fighting in Mindanao.

To top these activities, Masonic District R-VII CBS signed a districthood pact with Masonic District NCR-F. This simple yet significant signing was witnessed by over fifty brethren at the Cebu Park Lane Hotel.

The first three quarters of the year were thus fully packed with activities that allowed the brethren not only to display their Masonic bonds but also to introduce their families to each other's families.

The district officers are looking forward to another full line-up of activities in the last quarter of the year. This includes the district activity on September 30 in Bohol to be hosted by Dago-hoy Lodge No. 80 under WM Lord "Cocoot" R. Marapao V.

Indeed, in all these activities showed the camaraderie and strength of the brethren and families of Masonic District R-VII CBS.



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Website: www.grandlodge.ph

MW ABRAHAM "BAMBOL" N. TOLENTINO

Grand Master

EDICT NO. 314

EDICT ON AMENDING THE TERM OF THE ELECTORAL COMMITTEE

(ELECOM)

WHEREAS, Section 6 Article VI of the Constitution provides that the members of the Electoral Committee (ELECOM) of the Grand Lodge shall serve for a term of three (3) years expiring on December 31st of the third year of the term;

WHEREAS, the said provision of the Constitution in essence deprives the sitting Grand Master to personally choose the members of the ELECOM who shall perform the powers and functions of the Committee during his term of office;

WHEREAS, the ELECOM becomes difficult to convene by the Grand Master as the members thereof tend to be committed to work during the term of the Grand Master who appointed them;

WHEREAS, it is just but reasonable that the sitting Grand Master be given the free hand to choose the Chairman and Members of the ELECOM who will work during his term of office;

WHEREFORE, the term of office of the Chairman and Members of the ELECOM should only begin three (3) months before the Ancom up to the election and proclamation of the Junior Grand Warden during the Annual Communication;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ABRAHAM N. TOLENTINO, Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers in me vested by the Constitution, do hereby promulgate and decree:

Section 6, Article VI of the Constitution, shall thus read as follows;

“The Electoral Committee (ELECOM) of the Grand Lodge shall be composed of Chairman and four (4) members appointed by the Grand Master from among the members of the Grand Lodge not earlier than three months before the Annual Communication who shall have the same qualifications as provided for in Section 4, Article V and whose term of office shall automatically cease or become functus officio at the end of the election and proclamation of the Junior Grand Warden during the Annual Communication. Appointment to any vacancy caused by the death, resignation or incapacity of any member of the Committee shall be before the unexpired portion of the term of the Committee member.”

All provisions of the Constitution, edicts, circulars and other issuances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

This Edict shall take effect immediately and shall be read in open lodge at the Stated meeting following its receipt and shall be recorded in the Minutes.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines in the City of Manila on this 18th day of August 2017.



ABRAHAM N. TOLENTINO Grand Master

Attest:



DANILO D. ANGELES, PGM
Grand Secretary

ANT/DDA/MATA/vangie



The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge
of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines

PLARIDEL MASONIC TEMPLE

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Website: www.grandlodge.ph

MW ABRAHAM "BAMBOL" N. TOLENTINO

Grand Master

EDICT NO. 315

AN EDICT HARMONIZING, REVISING, SYNCHRONIZING ALL EDICTS PERTAINING TO IMES

This Edict shall be referred to as the "IMES EDICT OF 2017".

WHEREAS, Edict No. 86 (Puno) was enacted establishing the Center for Continuing Masonic Education whose purpose is to "conceptualize, concretize and institutionalize the most useful and progressive ideas on the subject". It identified Masonic History, Masonic Law and Jurisprudence, Masonic Symbol and Rituals, Masonic Research and Publication, and Lodge Management as areas of concern for Masonic Education;

WHEREAS, Edict No. 185 (MW Demonteverde) provides for the establishment of the Institute of Masonic Education and Studies (IMES) as a permanent institution replacing the Center for Continuing Masonic Education contained under Edict 86-Puno. It also provides for the organizational structure of IMES, administrative jurisdictions, methodology and reportorial requirements;

WHEREAS, Edict No 185-A (MW Galvez) was issued strengthening IMES through the involvement of the Past Masters of Lodges to augment the permanent officers thereof;

WHEREAS, Edict No.185-B (MW Ebdane) created the Board of Regents of IMES composed of the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Senior Grand Warden, Junior Grand Warden, Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary and the President of the Institute and empowered it to promulgate policies on the management and operation of IMES. It also created the Office of the President of the Institute to serve for a term of five (5) years;

WHEREAS, Edict No. 239 (MW Aniag) was issued decreeing that effective April 2011, prospective appointees for the positions of Junior Grand Lecturers and District Grand Lecturers must be an IMES Diploma Course holder;

WHEREAS, the following Edicts (MW Espino) were issued in 2013:

Edict No 264 (MW Espino) decentralizing the IMES operation by creating Regional IMES Centers and devolving certain IMES functions and activities;

Edict No. 265 (MW Espino) establishing the Wardens' Academy Course of the IMES;

Edict No. 266 (MW Espino) directing IMES to provide Training Courses for Lodge Secretaries, Treasurers and Auditors;

Edict No. 267 (MW Espino) providing for the imposition of annual fees for the IMES to fund its programs;

WHEREAS, Edict No. 283 (MW Rentoy) deferred the Implementation of the Wardens' Academy Courses and The Training Courses for Secretaries, Treasurers and Auditors and Providing for a Substitute Therefor. Re-calibrating The IMES Schedule of Fees, Providing for an Additional Requirement for the Appointment To The Position of District Deputy Grand Master, amending for these purposes the above-mentioned Edict Nos. 265 (MW Espino), 266 (MW Espino), 267 (MWV Espino) and 239 (MW Aniang);

WHEREAS, Edict No. 185-C (MW Gazmin) was issued amending certain portion of Edict No. 185-B (IMES) reducing the term of office of the President of the Institute to a period of one (1) masonic year, or co-terminus with the term of the Grand Master who appointed him;

WHEREAS, Edict No. 185-D (MW Tolentino) was issued providing for an On-Line Method of Instruction and Learning thereby amending the methods of instruction as provided for under Edict 185 (MW Demonteverde);

WHEREAS, Edict No. 311 (MW Tolentino) was further issued streamlining the Organizational Structure of IMES;

WHEREAS, the IMES plays a very important and vital role in Freemasonry by educating and enlightening the members thereof of the rich history of the fraternity, the philosophies and values taught by the organization and the laws, regulations and ancient usages of the Craft which all contributed to change and shape the history of our country and the world:

WHEREAS, it becomes necessary therefore to harmonize all existing Edicts and issuances relative to IMES and the same be integrated with our Masonic Law Book as one topic under Part II of the Ordinances in order for the brethren to familiarize themselves on the existing laws and regulations pertaining to IMES;

NOW THEREFORE, I, ABRAHAM N. TOLENTINO, in consideration of the foregoing premises, and by virtue of the authority in me vested as Grand Master of Masons in the Jurisdiction of the Philippines, do hereby promulgate and decree.

IMES shall become a separate topic as the new Article XX under Part II of the Ordinances.

The following shall be the provisions of IMES under Article XX Part II of the Ordinances to read as follows:

*“ARTICLE XX
INSTITUTE OF MASONIC EDUCATION AND STUDIES (IMES)*

Section 1. Name *The official name of the body is the Institute of Masonic Education and Studies (IMES) of the Grand Lodge of the Philippines.*

Section 2. Purpose *The purposes for the establishment of the Institute and which shall at the same time constitute its authority to function like a college of*

the Institute in a university setting are, as follows:

- a) *To serve as a permanent body in the Grand Lodge of the Philippines that shall care of, and be responsible for, the continuing Masonic education of the Craft;*
- b) *To formulate or establish a syllabus or outline of a course common to all regions and districts in this jurisdiction, and to review, revise or amend the same from time to time;*
- c) *To obtain, prepare and reproduce such instructional and teaching materials and manuals as shall be required for the study course(s) of the Institute;*
- d) *To train the teaching staff of the Institute.*

Section 3. Structure and Composition of the Institute

- a. **Board of Regents.** *The Institute of Masonic Education and Studies (IMES or the Institute) shall have a Board of Regents numbering seven (7) that shall be composed of the following:*

- (1) *The MW Grand Master,*
- (2) *The RW Deputy Grand Master,*
- (3) *The RW Senior Grand Warden,*
- (4) *The RW Junior Grand Warden,*
- (5) *The MW Grand Treasurer,*
- (6) *The MW Grand Secretary, and*
- (7) *The President of the Institute*

- b. **Chairman.** *The MW Grand Master shall be the Chairman of the Board of Regents and shall preside at all meetings of the Boards, provided that in his absence, the Deputy Grand Master shall preside, and in the absence of both, the most senior member present shall preside.*
- c. **Quorum.** *The presence of the Grand Master or the Deputy Grand Master or the most senior member and any three (3) other members shall constitute a quorum.*
- d. **Meeting.** *The Board of Regents shall meet regularly every quarter on a date to be set by the Chairman, provided that notice shall be sent to each Board Member. Special Meetings may be called as often as necessary by the Chairman.*
- e. **Powers of the Board of Regents.** *The Board of Regents shall exercise the following powers:*
 - (1) *To promulgate policies on the management and operation of the IMES;*
 - (2) *To exercise supervision and control over the IMES, its officers and staff;*
 - (3) *To approve the Budget of the IMES as recommended;*
 - (4) *To exercise such other powers as by tradition and practice belong to the Board of Regents of an Academic school.*

Head of the Institute. *The Head of the Institute of Masonic Education and Studies shall be appointed by the Grand Master and shall be known as the "President" of the Institute. He shall serve as such for a period of one (1) masonic year, or co-terminus with the term of the Grand Master who appointed him, unless sooner replaced on account of voluntary resignation or other valid causes, but without prejudice to the renewal of his term of office by the succeeding Grand Master.*

The President should be a Past Grand Lodge Officer with recognized competence in Masonic Laws and Jurisprudence.

Duties and Responsibilities of the President. *The President of the Institute shall have the following duties and*

responsibilities, among others:

- a. *To organize the IMES and to recommend to the Grand Master the appointment of the members of his faculty and staff who shall serve as such with the approval of the Grand Master.*
- b. *To develop or cause to be developed the Courses to be taught by the Institute.*
- c. *To exercise executive and supervisory functions over the Institute and its faculty and staff, and to perform such other acts as by nature and tradition belong inherently to heads of schools or universities.*

Removal from Office. *The President may be removed from office on any of the following grounds.*

- a. *Voluntary resignation, death, or permanent incapacity.*
- b. *Conviction after due trial of any crime involving moral turpitude, or conviction for a Masonic offense where penalty imposed is suspension or expulsion.*
- c. *Suspension from his Blue Lodges for non-payment of dues.*
- d. *Upon the expiry of his term of office unless another appointment is extended to him in accordance with Section 2 hereof.*

Executive Directors. *The President will be assisted by two (2) Executive Directors to implement the plans and programs for the two (2) Methods of Instruction. One Executive Director is hereby created for the Classroom method of instruction and another one for the On-line method of instruction;*

The President thru the Executive Directors may appoint lecturers as members of the faculty from among the qualified Junior Grand Lecturers (JGLs), District Deputy Grand Masters (DDGMs), District Grand Lecturers (DGLs) and/or Grand Lodge Inspectors (GLIs). Former IMES lecturers may still be appointed to continue as lecturers.

The officers authorized to give lectures and examinations on all subjects shall likewise first secure a clearance from the IMES President before the scheduled classes for them to be equipped with the necessary materials needed for the lecture, examination and certification;

The Executive Directors shall have the authority to appoint their respective technical assistants and/or staff.

Administrative Jurisdictions. *The IMES shall in due course provide for the implementation of its programs throughout the Jurisdiction of the Philippines and administer the same in accordance with such rules and guidelines as it shall establish and deem appropriate and necessary.*

Section 4. Syllabus

The following shall be the syllabus of the course in Masonic Education and Studies to be implemented by the Institute until revised and amended by the Institute.

1. MASONIC HISTORY

1. ORIGIN(S) OF FREEMASONRY

a. The Regius Poem or Haliwell Manuscript

- 2. THE TRANSITION FROM OPERATIVE TO SPECULATIVE MASONRY (PRIOR TO AND AFTER 1717)**
- 3. DEVELOPMENT OF SPECULATIVE MASONRY AND IT'S RELEVANCE TO SOCIETY**
- 4. MASONRY IN THE PHILIPPINES**

II. MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE OR LAWS & REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE CRAFT

1. *THE ANCIENT LANDMARKS*
 - a. *The Regulations of 1712*
 - b. *York Constitution of 1726*
 - c. *Mackey's Landmarks*
2. *THE GENERAL REGULATIONS compiled by George Payne*
3. *OTHER ANCIENT CONSTITUTIONS AND REGULATIONS*
4. *THE CONSTITUTION OF THE GRAND LODGE OF THE PHILIPPINES*
5. *THE BY-LAWS OF THE LODGE (UNIFORM CODE)*

III. MASONIC PHILOSOPHY

1. *DEFINITION OF MASONRY. ITS PURPOSES AND GOALS*
2. *THE CRAFT'S DOCTRINE AND PRINCIPLES*
3. *ITS ROLE IN SOCIETY*

IV. MASONIC SYMBOLISM AND LITURGY (OR RITUAL)

1. *THE ENTERED APPRENTICE DEGREE*
 - a. *Lessons*
 - b. *Philosophy*
 - c. *Symbolism*
2. *THE FELLOWCRAFT DEGREE*
 - a. *Lessons*
 - b. *Philosophy*
 - c. *Symbolism*
3. *THE SUBLIME DEGREE OF MASTER MASON*
 - a. *Lesson*
 - b. *Philosophy*
 - c. *Symbolism*
4. *A. THE IMPORT OF THE INSTALLED PAST MASTER'S DEGREE*

B. ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF THE CRAFT IN THE PHILIPPINES

- a. *York Rite Freemasonry*
- b. *Scottish Rite Freemasonry*

Section 5. Methods of Instruction

- A. *The basic methods of instruction to be implemented by the Institute are the classroom and on-line methods.*

B. *The following Masonic subjects shall be covered by the on-line course:*

- a) *Masonic History*
- b) *Masonic Philosophy and Symbolism*
- c) *Masonic Lodge Governance and Jurisprudence*
- d) *Major Lectures that any incumbent Grand Master may instruct the Senior Grand Lecturer and the IMES President to conduct in accordance with the program thrust that the sitting Grand Master may pursue.*

C. *The course on Liturgy, Rituals and Ceremony shall be taken up in a lodge where the Brother is a member or at any lodge within the Masonic District that has jurisdiction over him. The lecture and examination may be administered by any of the following Grand Lodge Officers:*

Junior Grand Lecturer;

District Deputy Grand Master; District Grand Lecturer; or Grand Lodge Inspector.

D. *A certification to this effect, in accordance with the form provided by the IMES President, shall be issued to those who shall pass the examination and the same shall form part of the requirements, together with the completion of all the IMES courses, for the issuance of diploma. "*

E. *The officers authorized to give lectures and examinations on Liturgy, Rituals and Ceremony shall first secure a clearance from the IMES President before the scheduled classes for them to be equipped with the necessary materials needed for the lecture, examination and certification;*

F. *The course provided for under Section 3 hereof, may be availed of by any Master Mason in good standing, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of the Philippines;*

G. *The traditional classroom method shall continue, provided the same will meet the minimum number of thirty five (35) enrollees in any given class. All given in the on-line classes shall continue to be offered by the classroom method, including, but not limited to the course on Liturgy, Rituals and Ceremony;*

Section 6. IMES Diploma Course Qualification for Election and Pre-requisite for Appointment

- a. *Appointees for the positions of Junior Grand Lecturers and District Grand Lecturers must be an IMES Diploma Course holder;*
- b. *Masters and Wardens, Secretaries, Treasurers and Auditors of all subordinate Lodges are directed to take the IMES Diploma Course as a qualification for election; and*
- c. *The same requirement is likewise imposed for the appointment to the position of District Deputy Grand Master.*

Section 7. Regional Centers

- a. *There shall be created an initial eight (8) IMES Regional Centers to be established and supervised by the IMES-GLP in the following locations:*
 - (a) *Cagayan de Oro City (Northern Mindanao)*
 - (b) *Davao City (Southern Mindanao)*
 - (c) *Cebu City (Visayas Region)*
 - (d) *San Jose City, Nueva Ecija (Central Luzon)*
 - (e) *Clark-Angeles City, Pampanga (South West Central Luzon)*
 - (f) *Santiago City, Isabela (North Eastern Luzon)*

(g) *Baguio City (North Western Luzon)*

(h) *Legaspi City (Bicol Region and Quezon)*

- b. *The initial number of IMES Regional Centers may subsequently be increased or reduced based on the need and redundancy of some of the initial eight (8) centers.*
- c. *Two (2) overseas IMES Centers may also be created: One based in South Korea to serve the need of continuing masonic education for our lodges in South Korea and Japan and the other based in Guam, to serve the need of continuing masonic education for our Lodges in Guam and Saipan.*
- d. *The IMES Regional Centers shall be provided by the host district with a permanent office in a lodge or masonic center to serve as the administrative and logistical center of operations for the region. All other districts within the region shall provide support and assistance to their respective IMES Regional Centers.*
- e. *The IMES Regional Centers shall maintain a pool of qualified and duly-accredited brethren by the IMES-GLP, who are willing to serve as duly-accredited lecturers for the various courses of IMES.*
- f. *The IMES-GLP shall supervise, coordinate and monitor the activities of the IMES Regional Centers; train the lecturers; and prepare and provide uniform syllabus of masonic education for each masonic subjects taught by the IMES Regional Centers;*
- g. *The IMES-GLP shall continue to provide IMES courses directly to the National Capital Region, Southern Tagalog Region including Mindoro and Cavite and all other districts not included in the eight (8) IMES Regional Centers.*

Section 8. Fees *The current IMES fee in the amount of THREE HUNDRED PESOS (P300.00) is hereby decreased to ONE HUNDRED FIFTY PESOS (PI 50.00) effective January 2018;*

Section 9. Collection and Disbursements. *Collections and disbursements of funds shall be under the responsibility of the Grand Lodge and subject to the budget of the Institute as approved by the Board of Regents.*

This Edict shall take effect immediately and shall be read in open lodge at the Stated meeting following its receipt and shall be recorded in the Minutes.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Grand Lodge on this 18th day of August 2017 in the City of Manila, Philippines.



ABRAHAM N. TOLENTINO Grand Master

Attest:



DANILO D. ANGELES, PGM
Grand Secretary

ANT/DDA/MATA/vangie



The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge
of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines

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1440 San Marcelino Street, 1000 Ermita, Manila, Philippines
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MW ABRAHAM "BAMBOL" N. TOLENTINO
Grand Master

DANILO D. ANGELES, PGM
Grand Secretary

EDICT NO. 316

AN EDICT ESTABLISHING MASONIC COMPOUND

WHEREAS, it is inevitable for the Grand Lodge of the Philippines to own a Masonic compound in the future;

WHEREAS, it has been the dream of the Grand Lodge of the Philippines to own a Masonic compound like those of the Grand Lodge of California, Australian Grand Lodges and European Grand Lodges where there is enough space for the Grand Lodge Temple, temples for appendant bodies, recreational and sports facilities, Masonic hospitals and Colleges, home for the aged for Masons, offices for various accredited Masonic Clubs and Organizations, events place and other Masonic facilities;

WHEREAS, the present Masonic compound has no more space for further improvements for being too crowded in view of the tremendous and continuing increase in membership thereby resulting to lack of Masonic facilities and difficulties in parking compromising the safety of the brethren and their vehicles;

WHEREAS, there is now an available 10 Hectare property in Indang Cavite where the Shrine for the Capture of Bro. Andres Bonifacio is located conducive and appropriate for a Masonic compound and the Province of Cavite as the Cradle of Freemasonry in the Philippines;

WHEREAS, the said property has long been visited and acquisition thereof proposed during the term of MW Alan La Madrid Purisima and approved during the meeting of the Board for General Purposes;

WHEREAS, time will come that the value of the property will no longer be affordable or there will be no more site available that is suitable to a Masonic Compound;

WHEREAS, the earlier acquisition of the property in Indang, Cavite for a Masonic compound is a long-term advantage and a form of a non-depreciating investment of the Grand Lodge as the value of the property in the area continues to appreciate;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ABRAHAM N. TOLENTINO, Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers in me vested by the Constitution, do hereby promulgate and decree:

The Grand Lodge of the Philippines shall use all possible resources in order to acquire and establish a Masonic compound.

The property to be acquired shall be used for further improvements and construction of Masonic facilities and such other proprietary endeavors beneficial to the Grand Lodge of the Philippines.

The Grand Treasurer is hereby directed to apprise the Grand Master of the availability of financial resources of the Grand Lodge and to implement this Edict after its approval during the Special Communication.

This Edict shall be read in open lodge at the Stated meeting following its receipt and shall be recorded in the Minutes.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines in the City of Manila on this 18th day of August 2017.



ABRAHAM N. TOLENTINO

Attest: Grand Secretary

ANT/DDA/MATA/vangie



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MW ABRAHAM "BAMBOL" N. TOLENTINO

Grand Master

DANILO D. ANGELES,
PGM

Grand Secretary

EDICT NO. 317

OFFICIAL DELEGATES TO DISTRICT AND MULTI-DISTRICT CONVEN-
TIONS, SPECIAL AND ANNUAL COMMUNICATIONS

WHEREAS, it has been the practice in the past that during Annual Communications (ANCOM), that any Past Master can just approached the microphone, speak and express his personal views on any matter subject of discussion in the plenary;

WHEREAS, more often than not, these brethren tend to filibuster or engage in extended or prolonged debate over any subject of deliberation during the plenary session which tend to delay the voting on the subject matter;

WHEREAS, while it is true that Past Masters are members of the Grand Lodge, however not all members of the Grand Lodge are official delegates to ANCOM;

WHEREAS, under Section 3, Article IV Communications Part I Constitution, in the determination of quorum, the presence of the Past Masters is not even considered for the Grand Lodge to transact any business validly, either at an Annual or Special Communication;

WHEREAS, under Section 1, Article VI Voting, Representation and Electoral Committee, Part I Constitution, Past Masters are not qualified voters during the election of officers of the Grand Lodge during the Annual Communications;

WHEREAS, the consideration and inclusion of Past Masters as official delegates for the transaction of business will result to uneven or unequal voting powers of lodges;

WHEREAS, under Section 3 par w Article II, Part I Constitution, the Lodge exercises its power to instruct its delegates to the Annual Communication as to how to vote on any matter except on the election of Grand Lodge Officers;

WHEREAS, during District and Multi District Conventions, Special and/or Annual Communications therefore, only the official delegates of the lodges are empowered to speak and vote on any matter as instructed by their respective lodges except on the election of Grand Lodge Officers;

Edict No. 317 - MW Tolentino

WHEREAS, if the practice in the past will be allowed to continue, the discussion and deliberations of any matter during the Special and/or Annual Communications will continue to be chaotic, lengthy, extended, prolonged, divisive and disharmonious;

WHEREAS, for the sake of order and clarity it becomes necessary therefore to define clearly and in accordance with the Constitution who are the official delegates who can speak and vote during discussions and deliberations during Special and/or Annual Communications including District and Multi-District Conventions;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ABRAHAM N. TOLENTINO, Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers in me vested by the Constitution, do hereby promulgate and decree:

A new section as Section 6 of Article IV Communications, Part I Constitution is hereby added which shall read as follows;

“The Official delegates during District and Multi-District Conventions, Special and Annual Communications:

The only official delegates of lodges who can speak, comment, object, move, second, manifest and/or participate in any discussion and deliberation and vote on any matter during the District and Multi-District Conventions and Special and/or Annual Communications are the following:

1. Incumbent Worshipful Masters;
2. Incumbent Wardens;
3. Immediate Past Masters representing the Past Masters of Chartered Lodges;
4. Past Grand Masters; and
5. Incumbent Grand Line Officers except the Grand Lodge Inspectors; or
6. In the absence of the delegates of the Lodge, Representative as defined under Part II, Ordinances.

All other members of the Grand Lodge who are not included in the above enumeration of official delegates may be present during the Conventions, Special and/or Annual Communications as mere observers. Others may be recognized to speak and participate during the discussion and deliberation only if they are directly involved or part of the cases or matters decided by a Committee and/or by the Grand Master at the will and pleasure of the Grand Master.

Official delegates may only speak and participate in any discussion and deliberation in accordance with the resolution or instructions of their respective lodges on matters in the plenary.

Edict No. 317 - MW Tolentino

Members of the Committees but are not official delegates may speak and participate only if the subject matter subject of the discussion in the plenary is the report of their respective Committees. “

All provisions of the Constitution, edicts, circulars and other issuances inconsistent here-with are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

This Edict shall take effect immediately and shall be read in open lodge at the Stated Meeting next following its receipt, which fact of reading shall be recorded in the Minutes of the stated meeting of the Lodge.

Given under my hand and the seal of this Grand Lodge in the City of Manila, this 31st day of August 2017.



ABRAHAM N. TOLENTINO Grand Master

Attest:



DANILO D. ANGELES, PGM
Grand Secretary

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**The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge
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MW ABRAHAM "BAMBOL" N. TOLENTINO

Grand Master

DANILO D. ANGELES, PGM

Grand Secretary

EDICT NO. 318

EDICT ON RESTORATION OF EXPELLED BROTHER

WHEREAS, Section 1 Article IX The Grand Master, Part I Constitution states that:

"Section 1. The Grand Master, between Annual Communications of the Grand Lodge, shall exercise all its executive powers, except the granting of Charters, all its judicial powers, and such legislative powers as may provide needed legislation that shall be harmoniously complementary to this Constitution. His actions are effective immediately."

WHEREAS, Section 6 Article III, Powers, Authority and Jurisdiction, Part I Constitution states that:

"Section 6. All actions of the Grand Lodge are final and immediately executory."

WHEREAS, the pertinent provisions of Edict No. 271 (MW Purisima) expressly provides that:

1. *This jurisdiction shall adopt the doctrine of finality of judgment on decisions approved by the Annual Communications for all cases reported by the Grievance Committee;*
2. *Once a report on a particular case has been reported and approved by the ANCOM, the decision shall acquire finality, and may no longer be modified to correct erroneous conclusions of fact and law at (the) behest of any party to the dispute;*
3. *Provided, however, that upon approval by the Grand Master of a favorable endorsement by a subordinate lodge, a final decision rendered by the ANCOM maybe reconsidered strictly on the following grounds:*
 - a) *To correct clerical errors;*
 - b) *To correct denial of due process; and*
 - c) *When demanded by the highest interest of masonic justice."*

WHEREAS, in the exercise of judicial powers, Grand Masters issue Orders of expulsion of a brother due to serious unmasonic conducts and infraction of Masonic laws, rules and regulations;

"By your Grip, we are here to serve, and not be served even beyond the Cabletow."

WHEREFORE, in order that decisions of expulsion shall not be disturbed during the succeeding Masonic years, restoration of an expelled brother is hereby prohibited except under the following circumstances herein below provided:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ABRAHAM N. TOLENTINO, Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers in me vested by the Constitution, do hereby promulgate and decree:

Another section as Section 59 is hereby added under H. Reversals and Restorations, Article XVIII Charges, Trials and Procedures, Ordinances, which shall read as follows:


"Sec. 59. Any brother expelled upon a decision of expulsion made by the Grand Master duly approved during the past and succeeding Annual Communications (ANCOM) except expulsion under Edict No. 303 (MW Tolentino), is not subject to restoration within a period of five (5) years. In case of restoration after the said period of five (5) years pursuant to a petition duly made to the Grand Lodge by the expelled brother and upon showing remorse, the penalty of expulsion originally imposed shall only be commuted to a penalty of suspension for no less than a period of ten (10) years inclusive of the five (5) year expulsion period duly served.

The Masonic records will continue to reflect the penalty of expulsion imposed notwithstanding any restoration. The restored brother even after serving completely the commuted penalty shall no longer be eligible for any appointive and/or elective positions in the Lodge or the Grand Lodge."

All provisions of the Constitution, edicts, circulars and other issuances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

This Edict shall take effect immediately and shall be read in open lodge at the Stated meeting following its receipt and shall be recorded in the Minutes.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines in the City of Manila on this 17th day of October 2017.


ABRAHAM N. TOLENTINO
Grand Master

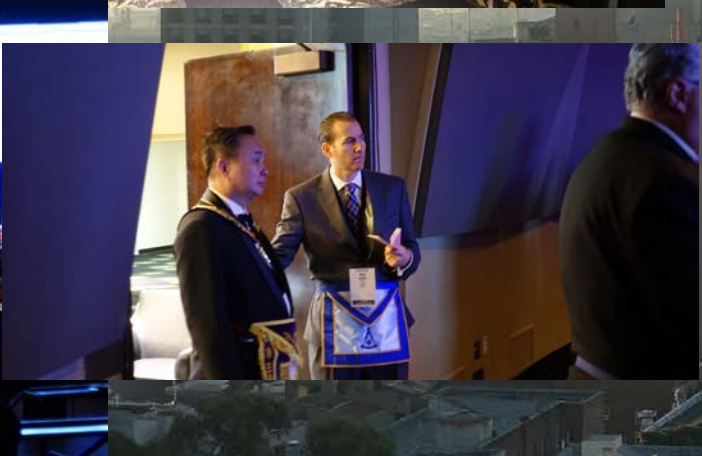
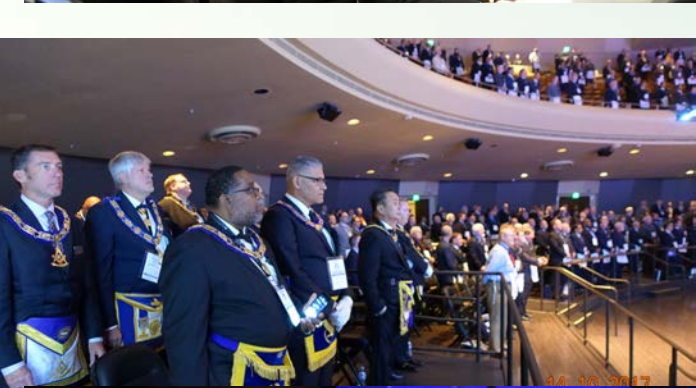
Attest:


DANILO D. ANGELES, PGM
Grand Secretary 

ANT/DDA/MATA/vangie

THE GRAND MASTERS' ACTIVITIES IN PHOTOS

The Grand Master in California for the 300 years Celebration



Reception of Dignitaries

With MW Bruce Galloway



Our GM accompanied by his wife,
Mayor Agnes Tolentino



Tender of Token
to the new Grand
Master



With MW John R. Heisner, IPGM





In lighter moments, the Grand Master paid a visit to Benicia Lodge No 5, the Oldest Lodge in California where Bro. Jose Rizal, affixed his signature in attendance
The Grand Master also visited the Golden Gate for a pose with the bridge and a 1969 Buick skylark which he owns in his younger years, a visit to Grace Cathedral and the Mission Dolores de San Francisco de Asis,





FREEMASONRY PHOTOS SPEAKS OUR HEARTS

MDR7-CBS Mangrove Planting @Brgy. Kalawisan Sitio Lato, Lapu-Lapu City



Plumb and Level Club, Inc. Third Leg (Visayas) Golf Tournament @ Mactan Island Golf Club with special guest RW Romeo S. Momo.



The flag ceremony regularly happens every first Monday of the Month



Imus Bodies with the Grand Master



Constitution of Alaminos Lodge No. 428



Constitution of Perpetual Masonic Lodge
and Taguig Masonic Lodge 431





Constitution of Unang Sigaw Lodge No. 430



RITE OF CONSTITUTION
Gen. Miguel Malvar Lodge no. 427
May 26, 2017, Plaridel Masonic Temple

Officers: WM Fernando S. Cruz, SW Reynaldo R. Estrella, JW Carlito O. Peralta, Jr. Treasurer Joel T. Manuel, Secretary Edgardo S. Dela Cruz, Auditor Emmanuel C. Bustamante, Chaplain Roger T. Manuel, Marshal Sandee C. Hilario Sr. Deacon Pablo D. Quibilan, Jr. Deacon Ericson N. Pangilinan, Orator Elizer S. Abundo, Almoner Wilson M. Nimenzo Lecturer Primo Dario C. Sabado, Sr. Steward Edgardo C. Cajucom, Jr. Steward Joel P. Hipolito, Organist Edmond L. Balmeo, Tyler Reynaldo L. Encarnacion, and Harmony Officer Edgardo R. Constantino



RITE OF CONSTITUTION OF SAN JOSE LODGE NO. 429
Friday, May 26, 2017, 9:00 A.M., Plaridel Masonic Temple

**Officers: WM Manuel D. Castillo, SW Ruel S. Rivera, JW Eric C. Manalo, Treasurer Marvin G. Marasigan
Secretary Placido B. Chavez, Auditor Arman T. 'Arias, Chaplain Virgilio Nolasco Aguila, Marshal Gregorio G. Paduganan
Sr. Deacon Ric Manalac, Jr. Deacon Rafaelito C. Gualberto, Sr. Steward Martiniano S. Ozaeta, Jr. Steward Dondon Perez
Almoner Oliver B. Eborra, Orator Servando V. Lara, Lecturer Silverio F. Montalbo, Organist Felimon M. Mercado
Tyler Patricio B. Marasigan, and Harmony Officer Romulo E. Torio, Jr.**





Paying tribute to our Hero Bro. Marcelo H. del Pilar



Visitation from San Jose Del Monte Masonic Lodge



Supreme Council Visit to MW Abraham N. Tolentino





Visitation of Trece Martirez Masonic Lodge



File Photo of the Washington Visit

CIRCULARS FROM THE GRAND LODGE

CIRCULAR NO. 13-B – MW TOLENTINO

TO : ALL GRAND LINE OFFICERS, DDGMs, DGLs, GLIs,
MASTERS, WARDENS AND OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE SUBORDINATE LODGES OF THIS
JURISDICTION

SUBJECT : REFERRAL OF ALL EDICTS TO THE COMMITTEE ON
REVISION ON THE CONSTITUTION

Pursuant to Edict No. 295, the Special Communication is set on 19 December 2017.

One of the objectives of the Special Communication is to deliberate and vote upon the Edicts amendatory of the Constitution and/or Ordinances issued by the Grand Master before the Special Communication.

In compliance with the requirements of the Constitution and Ordinances for the amendments thereof, the following Edicts are hereby submitted to the Grand Secretary for the referral to the Committee on Revision of the Constitution for study, report and recommendation and thereafter copies of which should be circulated among the Grand Lodge Officers and members present during the Special Communication:

1. Edict No. 312 - Enjoining Lodges to Display the Official Portrait of the Grand Master and the Incumbent Worshipful Master in All Masonic Temples
2. Edict No. 313 - Symbol of Power and Authority Should Always be with the Master Sitting in the East
3. Edict No. 314 - Edict on Amending the Term of the Electoral Committee (ELECOM)
4. Edict No. 315 - An Edict Harmonizing, Revising, Synchronizing All Edict Pertaining to IMES
5. Edict No. 316 - An Edict Establishing Masonic Compound
6. Edict No. 317 - Official Delegates to District and Multi-District Conventions, Special and Annual Communications

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

Given under my hand and the seal of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines in the City of Manila this 22nd day of September 2017.

CIRCULAR NO. 19 - MW TOLENTINO

TO : ALL GRAND LINE OFFICERS, DDGMs, DGLs, GLIs,
MASTERS, WARDENS AND OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE SUBORDINATE LODGES OF
THIS JURISDICTION

SUBJECT : GENERAL DISPENSATION TO EXTEND THE PERIOD FOR
THE ELECTION OF NOMINEES IN THE DISTRICT AND
MULTI- DISTRICT CONVENTIONS

Pursuant to Edict No. 268-B, the qualified nominees of the District shall be voted upon thru secret ballot by the voting members of the District during their District Meeting scheduled between July 15 and August 15 of each year while the Multi-District Convention to elect the Multi-District's nominees for the position of JGW shall be held from September 1 to November 30 of each year.

Dispensation is hereby issued to extend the election of the qualified nominees of the District to September 2017 and the Multi-District's nominees to December 2017. Nominees elected within the extended period are considered validly elected.

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

Given under my hand and the seal of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines in the City of Manila this 31st day of August 2017.

CIRCULAR NO. 20 - MW TOLENTINO

TO : ALL GRAND LINE OFFICERS, DDGMs, DGLs, GLIs,
MASTERS, WARDENS AND OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE SUBORDINATE LODGES OF THIS
JURISDICTION

SUBJECT : REFERRAL OF WORKING DRAFT TO THE LODGES FOR
DELIBERATION AND EVALUATION

Pursuant to Edict Nos. 295 and 295-A, the "working draft" prepared by the Joint Committee incorporating all approved Edicts by Past Grand Masters beginning with MW Gabionza which shall serve as point of reference of deliberation shall be circulated amongst the subordinate lodges on or before 19 October 2017 for their own deliberation and evaluation and be the subject of the deliberations, amendments or proposals by the delegates in the Special Communication.

The following findings and recommendations of the Joint Committee regarding the integration are hereby approved:

"Our current revised edition of the Constitution (Masonic Law Book Centennial Edition) was completed

in 2012. Numerous Edicts have already been approved by the Grand Lodge in the subsequent years leading up to the present, some of which have the effect of amending, revising or even repealing the existing written provisions of the Constitution and Ordinances;

The Joint-Committee finds the following approved Edicts of the following Past Grand Masters to be amendatory of or somehow affect the following provisions of the Constitution:

1. Edict No. 254 - Appropriately Commemorating the Centennial Term by Recognizing the Centennial Grand Lodge Leadership Team (MW Gabionza) as it amends Section 5, Article II Members, Officers, and Titles of Officers, Part I Constitution;
2. Edict No. 268-B - Amending Edict No. 268 (MW Espino), Edict No. 268-A (MW Purisima) and the Provisions of the Constitution Governing the Nomination Process for the Position of Junior Grand Warden (MW Rentoy) as it amends Sections 4 and 5, Article V, Election, Qualifications and Nominations and Section 7 par d, Article VI, Voting, Representation and Electoral Committee, Part I Constitution;
3. Edict No. 282 – Amending Edicts 187-B-Rentoy, 268-B-Rentoy, 273-Rentoy, 275-Rentoy, 276-Rentoy, and 277-Rentoy Insofar as its Penal Provisions are Concerned (MW Rentoy) as it adds a new paragraph Section 5, Article V, Election, Qualifications and Nominations, Part I Constitution;
4. Edict No. 253 – Exemption from Pre-Audit Procedures (MW Gabionza) as it amends Section 1 Standing Committees, Par b, sub par 3 and adds new paragraphs, Article VII Standing and Other Committees, Part I Constitution;
5. Edict No. 256 – Creating an Additional Standing Committee on Masonic Associations and Clubs and Providing the Duties and Functions Thereof (MW Gabionza) as it amends Section 1 Standing Committees and adds a new Committee, Article VII Standing and Other Committees, Part I Constitution;
6. Edict 256-A – Amending Edict 256 (MW Gabionza), Revising and Re-Organizing the Composition of the Committee on Masonic Associations and Clubs (MW Rentoy) as it amends Section 1 Standing Committees, Article VII Standing and Other Committees, Part I Constitution;
7. Edict No. 293 – Creation of a Special Committee on Preliminary Investigation (MW Gazmin) as it amends Section 1 Standing Committees and adds a new Committee, Article VII Standing and Other Committees, Part I Constitution;
8. Edict No. 291 - Increasing the Grouping of Masonic Regions and for this Purpose Appointing one Junior Grand Lecturer for Each Grouping and Proposing the Amendment of Section, Article XXVII, Part I of the Constitution of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Philippines (MW Gazmin) as it amends Section 2 Junior Grand Lecturers, Article XXVII The Grand Lecturers, Part I Constitution;
9. Edict No. 255-A – Delegating to the Proper Masonic District the Approval and Monitoring of all Fund Raising Activities of its Constituent Lodges and Directing the Remittance to the Masonic District of Certain Share of the Proceeds thereof and for other Related Purposes (MW Gazmin) as it amends Section 2 Powers and Section 3 Duties, Article XXXII District Deputy Grand Masters, Part I Constitution;
10. Edict No. 275 – Further Strengthening the Guard of the West Gate by Prescribing Additional Powers and Duties to the Grand Lodge Inspector and Providing Penalties for Violation Thereof (MW Rentoy) as it amends Section 2 Powers and Section 3 Duties and adds Prohibited Acts, Article XXXIV Grand Lodge Inspectors, Part I Constitution;

Without changing, altering, tampering or amending the original words of the previously approved Edicts, the same

were integrated with the affected and appropriate provisions of the Constitution.

On the other hand, Joint-Committee also finds the following approved Edicts of the following Past Grand Masters to be amendatory of or somehow affect the Ordinances:

1. Edict No. 294 – Further Strengthening the Cornerstone of Lodges Formed Under Dispensation in our Grand Jurisdiction (MW Gazmin) as it amends Sections 2,6 and 7 and adds new provisions, Article I Organization of a Lodge, Part II Ordinances;
2. Edict No. 269 - Providing for Disposition of Properties of Lodges under Dispensations which Fail to be Constituted (MW Purisima) as it amends Sections 6 Article I Organization of a Lodge, Part II Ordinances;
3. Edict No. 255-A - Delegating to the Proper Masonic District the Approval and Monitoring of all Fund Raising Activities of its Constituent Lodges and Directing the Remittance to the Masonic District of Certain Share of the Proceeds thereof and for other Related Purposes (MW Gazmin) as it amends Section 3, Article II, Powers of a Lodge, and adds new provisions Article V, Funds and Properties of Lodges, Part II Ordinances;
4. Edict No. 187-B – Requiring All Subordinate Lodges Having Their Own Temples to Identify and Designate an Appropriate Area for Fellowship; Reclassifying Aguinaldo Hall of the Grand Lodge as Non-Masonic Premises and Designating the same as Fellowship Area (MW Rentoy) as it amends Section 2 par j, Article IV Prohibitions on a Lodge, Part II Ordinances;
5. Edict No. 260 – Regulations Governing the Appropriate Use of the Centennial Monitor and Subsequent Revisions Thereof (MW Gabionza) as it amends Section 2 par j, Article IV Prohibitions on a Lodge, Part II Ordinances;
6. Edict No. 270 – Requiring written notification of the Masonic Lodge/s exercising Jurisdiction over the Place of Residence of Petitioners (MW Purisima) as it amends Section 2 A. Qualifications and Other Requirements, Article VI, Degrees and Affiliations, Part II Ordinances;
7. Edict No. 186-A – Limiting Plural Lodge Membership to not more than Three (3) including the Mother Lodge (MW Purisima) as it amends Section 7 A. Qualifications and Other Requirements, Article VI, Degrees and Affiliations, Section 6, Article XVII, Individual Masons (Membership, Rights and Obligations) and Section 4 par r Plural member, Article XX, B. Definitions, Part II Ordinances ;
8. Edict No. 275 - Further Stenghtening the Guard of the West Gate by Prescribing Additional Powers and Duties to the Grand Lodge Inspector and Providing Penalties for Violation Thereof (MW Rentoy) as it amends and adds new provisions Section 10 B. Referral to Committee on Investigation, Article VI Degrees and Affiliations and Section 2 Article XI, The Master, Part II Ordinances;
9. Edict No. 258 – Assessment to Provide Standby Fund For Assistance During Natural Calamities (MW Gabionza) as it amends Section 2 par a, Article VII, Duties and Fees of Lodges and Individual Masons, Part II Ordinances;
10. Edict No. 267 – Imposition of Annual Fees for the Institute of Masonic Education and Studies (MW Espino) as it amends Section 2 par a, Article VII, Duties and Fees of Lodges and Individual Masons, Part II Ordinances;
11. Edict No. 293 – Creation of a Special Committee on Preliminary Investigation (MW Gazmin) as it amends Article XVIII, Charges, Trials and Procedures, Part II Ordinances;

12. Edict No. 271 – Establishing the Doctrine of Immutability of Decisions Recommended by the Committee on Grievance Approved by the Grand Master and Affirmed by the ANCOM and Enjoining the Strict Observance Thereof (MW Purisima) as it amends Section 52, Article XVIII, Charges, Trials and Procedures, Part II Ordinances;

13. Edict No. 284 – Defining What is the Proper “Masonic Attire” under Section 1, Article XIX of the Masonic Law Book and Prescribing Additional Elements Thereof (MW Rentoy) as it amends Section 1, Article XIX, A. Clothing, Part II Ordinances

Again, without changing, altering, tampering or amending the original words of the previously approved Edicts, the same were integrated with the affected and appropriate provisions of the Ordinances.

However, in the course of the process of integration, the Joint-Committee finds that there are other approved Edicts of other Past Grand Masters contained in the present Masonic Law Book that also need to be incorporated or integrated. Notwithstanding the mandate of the Joint-Committee to integrate only the approved edicts starting the term of MW Gabionza, the Joint-Committee without changing, altering, tampering or amending the original words of the Edicts, hereby recommends the integration of the same with the affected and appropriate provisions of the Constitution and/or Ordinances.

The following edicts of the following Past Grand Masters are hereby recommended to be integrated also with the following provisions of the Constitution and/or Ordinances:

1. Edict No. 85 – District Deputy Grand Master shall have the power to close in short and ample form a Lodge (MW Puno) as it amends or adds the word ample under par i Section 2 Powers, Article XXXII District Deputy Grand Masters, Part I Constitution;

2. Edict No. 248 – To Increase the Degree Fee and Petition to Form a New Lodge (MW Abergas) as it is a new provision under Article I Organization of a Lodge, Part II Ordinance;

3. Edict No. 235 – No Gambling shall be Allowed within the Premises of All Masonic Lodges through this Grand Jurisdiction (MW Gonzales) as a new provision under Section 2, Article IV Prohibitions on a Lodge, Part II Ordinances;

4. Edict No. 236 – Reading of Circular and Balloting (MW Gonzales) as it amends Section 15 C. Balloting, Article VI Degrees and Affiliations, Part II Ordinances;

5. Edict No. 248 – To Increase The Degree Fee and Petition to Form a New Lodge (MW Abergas) as it amends par b sub par 1 Section 2, Article VII Due and Fees of Lodges and Individual Masons, Part II Ordinances;

6. Edict No. 65 – Newly Raised Master Masons and Their Relationship to the York and Scottish Rite Bodies (MW Councill) as it adds a new provision Section 23 under Article XVII Individual Masons (Membership, Rights and Obligations), Part II Ordinances.

The Committee likewise finds that in order for the Brethren to easily understand the Masonic Law Book, there is a need to cluster the approved edicts of other Past Grand Masters contained in the present Masonic Law Book into various topics.

Thus, the Joint-Committee hereby recommends the following clustering:

1. All edicts pertaining to the creation of other Committees and/or Masonic Offices are clustered together in a sub-topic Edicts on Other Committees under Article VII Standing and Other Committees, Part I Constitution;
2. All edicts pertaining to Degrees and Affiliations are likewise clustered together in a sub-topic Edicts on Degrees and Affiliations under Article VI Degrees and Affiliations, Part II Ordinances;
3. All edicts on Conciliation, Mediation, Temple of Harmony and Alternative Dispute Resolution are clustered together as a sub-topic under Article XVIII Charges, Trials and Procedures, Part II Ordinances;
4. All edicts on Rituals and Ceremonies are clustered together as one sub-topic as Rituals and Ceremonies under the new Part IV grouped according to the use of Lodges, District, Grand Lodge or in General;
5. All other existing Masonic Rituals and Ceremonies are included in the Part IV;
6. All edicts on Awards are clustered as another sub-topic as Edicts on Awards under the new Part IV;
7. All edicts on Masonic Celebrations are likewise clustered together in another sub-topic as Masonic Celebrations under the new Part IV;
8. All other edicts with various topics are clustered together as Others;

With the recommended clustering, the Committee recommends that the Part IV in the present Masonic Law Book becomes the new Part V of the Masonic Law Book Miscellaneous which shall contain the following topics:

- a. Regulations;
Rules of Order and Order of Business – Grand Lodge;
Rules of Order
- b. The Ancient Laws;
- c. The Landmarks or the Unwritten Law;
- d. Various Forms

Finally, the Committee further recommends that the various ceremonies contained in the present Manual of Various Ceremonies for the use of The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines be integrated with the topic on Rituals and Ceremonies under the recommended new Part IV of the Masonic Law Book.”

As early as now, the “working draft” therefore is hereby referred to the subordinate lodges for their own deliberation and evaluation in order to arrive at a resolution or consensus which their official delegates can present for discussion, deliberation, amendment or proposal during the Special Communication.

Subordinate lodges are hereby enjoined to calendar and allocate a sufficient time during their stated meetings beginning September 2017 for their own deliberation and evaluation and to exercise their expressed power to instruct their delegates to the Special Communication as to how to vote on the matter.

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

Given under my hand and the seal of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines in the City of Manila this 8th day of September 2017.

CIRCULAR NO. 21 - MW TOLENTINO

TO : ALL GRAND LINE OFFICERS, DDGMs, DGLs, GLIs, MASTERS,
WARDENS AND OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE SUBORDINATE LODGES OF THIS JURISDICTION

SUBJECT : PARTICIPATION OF THE MEMBERS OF THE JOINT
COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL COMMUNICATION DURING
THE SPECIAL COMMUNICATION ON DECEMBER 19 AND THE ANNUAL COMMUNICATION IN
DAVAO

Pursuant to Edict No. 317, the only official delegates of lodges who can speak, comment, object, move, second, manifest and/or participate in any discussion and deliberation and vote on any matter during the District and Multi-District Conventions and Annual and/or Special Communications are enumerated therein.

The members of the Joint Committee on Special Communication constituted under Edict Nos. 295 and 295-A whether official delegates or not are hereby authorized to speak, comment, object, move, second, manifest and/or participate in any discussion and deliberation on any matter in the plenary during the forthcoming Special Communication and on the Annual Communication in Davao on subject matters involving the report of the Grand Master.

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

Given under my hand and the seal of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines in the City of Manila this 13th day of September 2017.

CIRCULAR NO. 22 - MW TOLENTINO

TO : ALL GRAND LINE OFFICERS, DDGMs, DGLs, GLIs,
MASTERS, WARDENS AND OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE SUBORDINATE LODGES OF THIS JU-
RISDICTION

SUBJECT : MAINTENANCE OF MASONIC STRUCTURES

It has been observed that Masonic structures situated in public places are often neglected. In view thereof, all District Deputy Grand Masters are directed to ensure that physical landmarks, markers, obelisks, and other similar Masonic structures are properly preserved and maintained in their respective areas of responsibility.

A report appertaining to the compliance of this Circular shall be submitted to the Grand Lodge every first week of March of every year.

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

Given under my hand and the seal of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines in the City of Manila this 3rd day of October 2017.

CIRCULAR NO. 23 - MW TOLENTINO

TO : ALL GRAND LINE OFFICERS, DDGMs, DGLs, GLIs, MASTERS,
WARDENS AND OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF SUBORDINATE LODGES OF THIS JURISDICTION

SUBJECT : RAFFLE DRAW FOR THE 102ND ANNUAL COMMUNICATION

RW Romeo S. Momo, the Deputy Grand Master and his team are now in the process of preparing for the 102nd Annual Communication (ANCOM). In preparation thereof, the Host District MD RXI-A is spearheading a raffle draw to generate funds for the different events during the ANCOM 2018 in Davao.

The raffle tickets shall be distributed to all the Lodges in the Jurisdiction and the proceeds the ticket sales thereof shall be divided between the Subordinate Lodges and the Host District with the former getting forty (40%) percent share and the latter, sixty (60%) percent. The mechanics of the raffle draw is attached hereto for the perusal of the brethren.

To ensure that all lodges will be part of this initiative, lodges are hereby enjoined to cooperate and extend assistance to RW Momo to this fund raising activity to help him and his team prepare for the ANCOM 2018 in Davao.

This Circular shall be read in open lodge at the Stated Meeting next following its receipt and action thereon duly recorded in the Minutes of the said meeting.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines in the City of Manila, Philippines, this 9th day of October 2017.



**The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge
of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines**

PLARIDEL MASONIC TEMPLE

1440 San Marcelino Street, 1000 Ermita, Manila, Philippines
Tel. Nos.: +63 2 524 3263 / +63 2 522 2232 / Fax: +63 2 522 2218
Website: www.grandlodge.ph

MW ABRAHAM "BAMBOL" N. TOLENTINO
Grand Master

DANILO D. ANGELES, PGM
Grand Secretary

JUDICIAL PRONOUNCEMENT No. 01. - MW TOLENTINO

TO : ALL GRAND LINE OFFICERS, DDGMs, DGLs, GLIs, MASTERS,
WARDENS AND OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE
SUBORDINATE LODGES OF THIS JURISDICTION

SUBJECT : EXPULSION FROM THE CRAFT OF VW FRANCISCO
LOVERO OF NOLI ME TANGERE MASONIC LODGE NO. 42

WHEREAS, the Landmark Fourth states that:

*"The government of the fraternity by a presiding officer called a Grand Master who is elected from the body of the Craft, is a Fourth Landmark of the Order. Many persons ignorantly suppose that the election of the Grand Master is held in consequence of a law or regulation of the Grand Lodge. Such, however is not the case. The office is indebted for its existence to a Landmark of the Craft. **Grand Masters are to be found in the records of the institution long before Grand Lodges were established; and if the present system of legislative government by Grand Lodges were to be abolished, a Grand master would still be necessary. In fact, although there has been a period within the records of history, and indeed of very recent date, when a Grand Lodge was unknown, there never has been a time when the Craft did not have its Grand Master."***

WHEREAS, Section 1 Article IX The Grand Master, Part I Constitution states that:

"Section 1. The Grand Master, between Annual Communications of the Grand Lodge, shall exercise all its executive powers, except the granting of Charters, all its judicial powers, and such legislative powers as may provide needed legislation that shall be harmoniously complementary to this Constitution. His actions are effective immediately.

WHEREAS, the Brethren should extend utmost due respect and honor at all times to the Grand Master;

WHEREAS, in the very recent past, the Grand Master's actions, exercise of prerogatives, administration and governance of the Craft were criticized and bashed in the social media by some brethren in a disrespectful manner and with the use of offensive words, to which the Grand Master chose to be silent and extended maximum tolerance to the brethren;

WHEREAS, after due investigation and based on sworn statements of numerous witnesses, on or about 06 September 2017 after the stated meeting of Saigon Masonic Lodge No. 188 and during the fellowship at the meeting room of Aguinaldo Hall, Plaridel Masonic Temple, VW Francisco Lovero of Noli Me Tangere Masonic Lodge No. 42 committed unmasonic conducts against the person and/or good name of a brother and against the brethren of Saigon Masonic Lodge 188 and uttered disrespectful and offensive words against the Grand Master, the exact words are hereby quoted as follows:

"Bro. De Mesa: Kuya Kiko, bawal mag yosi sa loob ng building.. sa labas na lang."
Bro. Lovero: "Sinong nagbabawal" Si Grand Master, Putang Ina nya..walong (8) taon akong naging building administrator.. bawal bawal.. leche."

WHEREAS, the words uttered by VW Lovero is a direct affront and deliberate and willful insult to and verbal attack against the Grand Master of all Masons in the jurisdiction of the Philippines;

WHEREAS, the Grand Master will no longer tolerate deliberate and willful disrespect, insult, attack and affront against the person and/or the office of the Grand Master in order to bring back and maintain the time honored respect and courtesy to a Grand Master;

WHEREAS, the Grand Master cannot and will no longer allow that in the future, any brother can just simply utter disrespectful words or bash our next and future Grand Masters or even Past Grand Masters;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ABRAHAM N. TOLENTINO, Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers in me vested by the Constitution, do hereby render this Judicial Pronouncement:

For a direct affront, deliberate and willful disrespect with the use of foul and offensive words against the person and/ or office of the Grand Master and the commission of other unmasonic conducts, **VW Franciso Lovero** of Noli Me Tangere Lodge Masonic Lodge No. 42 should suffer the penalty of **EXPULSION as he is hereby expelled** from the Craft effective immediately.

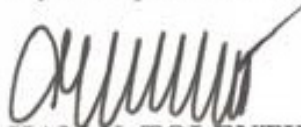
This is to serve as an example to all the Brethren in order to maintain utmost respect, honor and courtesy at all times to the Grand Master of all Masons.





This Pronouncement shall be read in open Lodge at the Stated Meeting next following its receipt and action thereon duly recorded in the Minutes of the said Stated Meeting.

All Appendant Bodies are likewise furnished copies of this Pronouncement for their information thereof and appropriate actions thereto.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines in the City of Manila this 11th day of September 2017


ABRAHAM N. TOLENTINO
Grand Master

Attest:


DANILO D. ANGELES, PGM
Grand Secretary 

VISIT TO THE UNITED GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND

Our Grand Master at the Westminster Cathedral in London with Sis Mayor Agnes during the visit to the United Grand Lodge of England



with the Grand Master of Alberta, Canada



With the Grand Masters of China and Japan and Ladies



With the GM of Russia



The Home of Masons in the Philippines

Special Mason Rate

Superior Room
w/ Breakfast
Single Php 4,300 net
Twin Php 4,800 net

Club Room
w/ Breakfast
Single Php 4,800 net
Twin Php 5,300 net

Club Perks:

- Exclusive access to Club Lounge
- Express check-in and check-out
- Butler service
- Business and concierge services
- Two-hour complimentary use of the meeting room
- Complimentary broadband internet access
- Discounts on food & beverage, laundry, dry clean & minibar consumption

*Valid upon presentation of Lodge I.D.



W. Bro. Eddie Yeo, P.A.D.G.D.C., P.D.G. Tyler

District Grand Lodge of the Eastern Archipelago

Noli me Tangere Lodge #42

Manuel A. Roxas #152

General Manager

The Heritage Hotel Manila

Roxas Boulevard corner EDSA Pasay City, 1300 Philippines

Telephone: (632) 854 8888

E-mail: reservationsmanager@heritagehotelmanila.com