Volume 99, No. 1 - Grand Master's Edition

THE CABLE TOW

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

MW Johnny Ty Pimentel

Anno Lucis 6022 - 6023

HARMONY for ONE & ALL:

THE FOUNDATION OF GENUINE MASONIC FRATERNITY

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My Dear Brethren:

I am pleased to present to you the first issue of the Cable Tow under my watch as the Grand Master. As usual, we shall follow the twin modes of circulating the news throughout the jurisdiction and that is through the traditional printed version of the magazine and likewise through the digital format which can be instantly accessed by the brethren.

I begin my term with COVID-19 protocols still prevailing but with face-to-face gathering now possible. This means that our stated meetings, degree works, masonic conventions and prescribed ceremonies can now be done in the usual fashion, albeit with a certain degree of caution for health and safety reasons. As of writing, the state of national health emergency has not been formally lifted by the government. As a consequence, some of our rules related to attendance remain suspended for the time being, notably: the Six Stated Meeting Rule, the minimum 3 stated meeting attendance in a year, and suspensions related to non-payment and failure to comply with minimum attendance in the lodge.

As you all know, I have adopted HARMONY FOR ONE AND ALL: THE FOUNDATION OF GENUINE MASONIC FRATERNITY. It carries with it the strong focus for all of us to inwardly and outwardly become true and capable Brothers among each other, towards our families, and for our Nation.

Among others of equal importance, I intend to eliminate the backlog in masonic dispute cases pending before the GLP. Unresolved disputes hamper our strides to attain the desired level of harmony and this ugly state of affairs should totally end in my term. A vigorous conciliation policy will be adopted. If the parties could not agree to settle their differences amicably or continue to violate Masonic laws, then the Grand Lodge shall come in with decisive resolve. Let the ax fall where it should. We shall decide one way or the other and swiftly.

I have prevailed upon VW Joseph Harold W. Santiago, to once again head the Cable Tow team and I am confident that his fresh and select crew will maintain the same proven dedication to bring about quality, relevant and informative articles happening throughout the entire jurisdiction and in a very timely manner. I expect them not only to publish the minimum issues required for the Cable Tow but to be also in the forefront in producing and disseminating all other useful news and publications for the craft.

And to all brethren, know that you are the very source of worthy news so please continue to perform your roles as good and true men should and let the outside world know that Freemasonry truly makes a difference in turning good men to become even better.

Grand Lodge of the Philippines
City of Manila
July 12, 2022

JOHNNY T. PIMENTEL
Grand Master

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Editor's Page

This Maiden Issue of The Cable Tow - Vol. 99 features MW Johnny Ty Pimentel, our 104th Grand Master elected and installed during the 105th Annual Communication. A seasoned Filipino Leader with a myriad of experience both inside and outside the lodge. Most of the Brethren knew him as the Congressman from Mindanao. But he is more than that.

An adventurer in his youth, he applied and was accepted as an exchange student to an American Highschool in Los Angeles, California back in the day.

A Mason first before becoming a politician, MW Brother Johnny travelled the rough and rugged road as all brothers and fellows have done, but his petition was initially – rejected. When raised to the sublime degree in 1989, he labored not just for his Mother Lodge but his Masonic District, being one of the few brethren who can lecture in all Three Degrees of Masonry. He later went on to serve his beloved Red Mountain Masonic Lodge No. 241 as its Worshipful Master for two consecutive terms in 1993 and 1994. Later he was appointed District Deputy Grand Master by two separate Grand Masters – first by MW Percival Adiong for MY 1996 – 1997, then by MW Leon Angel Bañez, Jr. for MY 1997 – 1998.

He is a business man, engaging commercially as a Building Contractor.

Coming from a Political Family, it didn't take long before he became involved in local politics as well. Becoming a Vice-Governor of Surigao del Sur from 1995 to 1998. He later served as Governor from 2010 to 2016. Elected as Congressman since 2016, our brother is now on his 3rd Term as Representative of the 2nd District of Surigao del Sur.

In his first two terms, he has authored and co-authored 602 bills of which 72 were enacted into law. The most famous of these laws are RA 10928 – Extending the validity of Philippine Passport to 10 years and RA 10930 – Extending the validity of Professional and Non-Professional Driver's License to Five Years.

What we have mentioned are but the tip of a tall iceberg that is our Grand Master.

Also in this Issue is an overview of his plans and programs which is centered firmly in HARMONY. In our 45-minute recorded interview with MW Johnny, his honest explanation as to the choice of the theme was so inspiring that we had it included in the teaser video

for this Grand Master's Edition so that it can touch the hearts of more Masons withersoever dispersed.

On the 110th Year of the Grand Lodge, the Cable Tow Magazine will feature the five (5) concurrent areas of our Masonic Jurisdiction – NCR, Luzon, Visayas, Mindanao, and Overseas; focusing on a specific territory in each installment of our official publication. Mindanao is highlighted for this issue as a homage to the land from whence came our Grand Master.

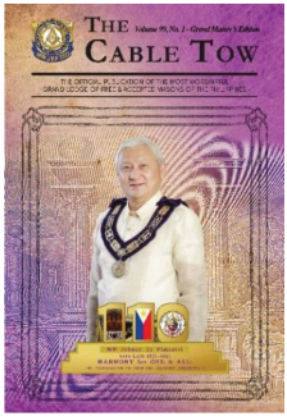
And so we're back, together with an assembly of sundry brethren from different lodges throughout the jurisdiction. Our current Team is ready to cover the activities of our Most Worshipful Institution as well as inspiring stories from the Brethren.

Despite this being my second Tour of Duty here at the Cable Tow, several adjustments have to be made as we transition back to near normal operations at the Grand Lodge. Although no longer a newbie to the inner workings of our official publication. My introduction to the editorship back in 2020 – 2021 during the extended term of then Grand Master, MW Agapito S. Suan, Jr. was oriented more on online releases, thus we are currently "learning the ropes" when it comes to producing printed copies which require bidding, sampling, printing, and distribution.

But all is well, and we can assure our Grand Master and the Brethren that the succeeding issues of our 99-year-old publication will come out sooner in the succeeding months. In the meantime, Enjoy these Pages, SALUD!

Pasig City, 13 October 2022

VW Joseph Harold W. Santiago, GSc
Editor-In-Chief / TCT Vol. 99



About the Cover:

MW Johnny Ty Pimentel is the 104th Grand Master on the 110th Year of the existence of our Grand Jurisdiction. We therefore see it fitting to present the First Edition of Volume 99 of the Cable Tow dedicated to him. Presented as if he is Hiram Abiff inspecting the work at King Solomon's Temple by entering the West Gate, it reminds us that a Grand Master's duty to the Craft is always fraught with danger and sacrifice. We strongly believe that as our Grand Master, MW JTP will not back down from any challenges facing the fraternity today. - Art D Gene

THE CABLE TOW is a quarterly publication of the Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of the Philippines. Main Office: Plaridel Masonic Temple, San Marcelino St., Ermita, Manila, D 2801, Philippines. Members of Blue Lodges in this grand jurisdiction are regular subscribers thereto. Brethren in other grand jurisdictions are invited to subscribe to it at US $30 a year plus postage. Send check payable to the Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of the Philippines, with complete mailing address, to **THE CABLE TOW** at the address given above. Subscribers are advised to notify **THE CABLE TOW** of address changes. Share your stories with The Cable Tow. We welcome written articles in MS Word Format. Photos should be sent as separate attachments. Kindly indicate your complete name and masonic title (use Bro ONLY IF from the floor), your Mother or Parent Lodge and contact numbers. Then send to **cabletow@grandlodge.ph** / Original articles are subjected to editing and, when published, become Cabletow property. Any article in **THE CABLE TOW** may be reprinted in full, or excerpts thereof reproduced, provided proper attribution to the author is made, the source is given due credits, and the Cabletow office is furnished with a courtesy copy of the reprinted material.

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Lodge Secretarial 101

by VW Anthony Tan, PDGL

THE GRAND MASTER

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 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 Order. Grand Masters are to be found in the records of the Institution long before Grand Lodges were established.
In between Annual Communication, the Grand Master is the Supreme Authority in the Philippine Masonic Jurisdiction limited only by a strict adherence to the Ancient Landmarks, Constitution and By-Laws, Edicts and the General Regulations of Masonry. This title applies only to him who has been elected and installed as such.

ARTICLE IX - THE GRAND MASTER

Sec. 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.

Sec. 2. The Grand Master shall have the authority to exercise generally all such powers as by ancient general masonic usage are given him by virtue of his office, among which are;

a) To grant dispensations:
1) For the organization of new Lodges and to extend or continue dispensations until the next Annual Communication;
2) For a Lodge to hold the election of an officer or officers at any date other than that of the stated meeting prescribed by the By-Laws of the Lodge for the election of officers;
3) For a Lodge to receive and act on the petition for degrees of a person whose previous petition was rejected by that Lodge within less than twelve (12) months;
4) For a Lodge to receive and act on the petition of a petitioner for degrees of a person belonging to or serving in the Armed Forces of the Philippines or a Diplomatic Agency in the Philippines who satisfies partially of the qualifications of residence;
5) For a Lodge to confer degrees upon more than five (5) candidates at any meeting and to confer degrees upon more than one (1) candidate collectively;
6) For a Lodge, in an emergency, to transact business with less than seven (7) members present; and
7) For a Lodge to meet for the transaction of business and/or to confer degrees in a place and at a time other than those fixed by its By-Laws, Charter, or Dispensation.
b) To convene any Lodge, preside therein, inspect its proceedings and compel its conformity to the Constitution and Masonic Usages,

Ordinances, Rules and General Regulations;
c) To open a Lodge when the Master and Wardens are absent from the territorial jurisdiction of said Lodge, or to delegate such power to a duly qualified Brother;
d) To open or close the Grand Lodge or any Lodge in short form provided that the opening and closing prayers are given;
e) To accept the voluntary surrender of the Charter of a Lodge;
f) To entertain proceedings on the forfeiture of the Charter of a Lodge;
g) To arrest, withdraw or revoke for good reasons the Charter or Dispensation of any Lodge until the next Annual Communication;
h) To reactivate any Lodge in accordance with Masonic Law and procedure;
i) To suspend the Master, or any officer of a Lodge from office until the expiration of his terms or until Annual Communication;
j) To transfer the trial of an accused Brother to another Lodge, upon the request of the Master to whom the charge of unmasonlc conduct has been presented, whenever such transfer Is In his opinion necessary and expedient and to direct that the charges and the order of transfer be transmitted to the Master of the Lodge to which such transfer shall be made;
k) To require the attendance of and information from any Grand Lodge Officer respecting matters appertaining to the duties of his office;
I) To appoint representatives near recognized Grand Lodges, and to receive and accredit representatives therefrom;
m) To create Regional Grand Lodges and to appoint the Regional Grand Master;
n) To require the attendance of, and information from, any Grand Lodge Committee respecting matters appertaining to the duties thereof;
o) To divide the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge into Districts, and to appoint his official representative, to be known as District Deputy Grand Master, for each District;
p) To appoint one or more District Grand Lecturers for each Masonic District;
q) To appoint a Grand Lodge Inspector for each Lodge in this jurisdiction;
r) To make use of the Board for General Purposes as a consultative group, an advisory body, a planning group and/or an implementing agency;
s) To fill any vacancy in any elective office of the Grand Lodge by appointment and the officer so appointed shall hold office for the unexpired term;
t) To approve By-Laws of Lodges and any amendments thereto; □
u) To suspend the Charter of any Subordinate Lodge whenever it has any indebtedness to the Grand Lodge unpaid for the period of one (1) year from the date of the earliest unpaid indebtedness and to reinstate the Charter of the Lodge after the Lodge shall have completely settled every indebtedness to his complete satisfaction; and
v) To hear and decide on the expulsion or grant of pardon to an expelled brother pursuant to Edict on Abandonment (Edict No. 303 MW Tolentino).
Sec. 3. It shall be the duty of the Grand Master:
a. To exercise careful supervision over the Craft, and to see to it that the Ancient Landmarks, the Uniform Code of By-Laws, Ordinances, Edicts, Rules, and Regulations of the Grand Lodge are obeyed;
b. To institute Lodges under dispensation and constitute chartered Lodges, in person or by a representative, in accordance with the ancient usages and regulations;
c. To discharge all duties and perform all functions of the Grand Lodge between communications;
d. To preside at all Grand Lodge Communications;
e. To present at the Annual Communication a written message setting forth all his official acts during the year, the state and general condition of Masonry within the Jurisdiction, and recommend such legislation as he may deem necessary, proper or expedient for the welfare of the Craft;
f. To submit a copy of his Annual message to the Committee on Grand Lodge Officers' Re-

ports two (2) weeks before the Annual Grand Communication; and

g. To choose, with the Deputy Grand Master and the Grand Wardens, a bank or banks where the moneys belonging to the Grand Lodge shall be deposited.

ARTICLE XVIII - CHARGES, TRIALS AND PROCEDURES

A. Relative to the Grand Master

Sec. 1. Charges may be preferred against the Grand Master for violation of the Ancient Landmarks of the Order, the Constitution, Edicts, Rules or Regulations and Ordinances of the Grand Lodge, or of the By-Laws of his Lodge or for unmasonic conduct or abuse of power.

Sec. 2. The charges shall be accomplished in writing with at least seven (7) copies of the original, and be preferred over the signatures of incumbent Worshipful Masters representing at least ten percent (10%) of subordinate Lodges in good standing.

Sec. 3. The original and all seven (7) copies of the charges shall be addressed to the Grand Lodge, but coursed through the Grand Secretary, who shall transmit a copy thereof to the immediate Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge who may be within the Philippines and is member of a Lodge in this jurisdiction, or in his absence or incapacity, to the next immediate available qualified Past Grand Master.

Sec. 4. The Past Grand Master concerned shall, within ten (10) days upon receipt from the Grand Secretary of his copy of the charges, organize a Trial Commission which shall be composed of five (5) members, with himself as the Chairman and not more than four (4) other Past Grand Masters in this Jurisdiction, in the order of their reverse seniority, as his associates. He shall furnish his associates with a copy of the charges filed against the respondent and request them to assemble with him at a designated place, date and time. The Grand Secretary shall be the Secretary of the Commission, but it may utilize the services of an assistant Secretary or stenographer who shall be a Master Mason in good standing.

The GRAND MASTER'S SEAL

As per Circular 10 – MW RENTOY III

Subject: Grand Master's Seal

The Grand Master's Seal, hereto attached, is a graphic rendition, which is hereby adopted, as the official Seal of the Grand Master of Masons in the jurisdiction of the Philippines. The design is in consonance with Article XIX, B, Sec. 8 of the Ordinances.

The Seal shall be circular in outline and shall contain the square, compasses, arc, sun, laurels and the words, in capital letters and written in the upper portion "GRAND MASTER'S SEAL" and in the lower portion, also in capital letter "GRAND LODGE OF THE PHILIPPINES", Two (2) dots separating the phrases.

The laurels located on both sides of the square and compasses represent the highest status of the Grand Master.

The color of the square, compasses, arc, sun and laurels is gold with white as the background, while the words, GRAND MASTER'S SEAL" and "GRAND LODGE OF THE PHILIPPINES" is white with navy blue as background.

The Grand Master may use the Seal and hang the same at the podium during his speaking engagements.

The Grand Master who Walks Tall and Means It

VW Edgar S. Bentulan, PDGL
Senior Associate Editor

(As interviewed by EIC Harold W. Santiago and this author.)

First a Mason, then a politician

Many a grand master would have made easy, unbridled successes in their younger days pursuing either their business or professional career, transacting in cool, air-conditioned hubs and cubicles, or put it, in field works or dealings on the ground, as they likewise would advance and transition into serious pursuit of gradual preferment in the Craft, until their final ascension through the hallowed portal of that Grand Oriental Chair. But staying in that hallowed pedestal, however its social price, we imagine, can be different as far more challenging, especially if one is also saddled with other responsibilities, like in government function. And, what about his loved ones? He will be constrained by two roles to be in Manila and other places but home. So, we focus the inquisitive eye of our pen to feature the Man of the Hour in this issue of The Cable Tow, one, we say, of a different genre to have assumed that highest post in Philippine Freemasonry, with a wonder of discernment, succeeding: Most Worshipful Johnny Ty Pimentel, Grand Master of Masons in the Philippines. Born as the fifth of six siblings on March 29, 1956 in the lighthouse-coast of the Philippine Deep - Tandag, Surigao del Sur. He is now Congressman in his third term representing the 2nd District of his province, but he became a Mason first before he joined politics.

Now, how is it for one in a social class of affluence by business and political blood of family line who idiomatically goes with the flow, through the hazards of public service in his home province affected for some time now by countryside anti-establishment insurgency, and now in the urban terrain of the rambunctious hall of Congress -- still be situated not betwixt and between, but be decisive in fortitude, serving as well in the challenging labors of the ancient fraternity of mostly well-off members, as its sublime overall Master?

For the record, he is first a Mason for 33 years now, then a politician for 27.

In his absence from home, like others who have gone this way before, he is confidently backed morally and in spirit by his formidable pillars in life: his strong, beautiful wife, Sister Rosalinda Cabreros Cruz Pimentel (Ateng Lelis), and their marvelous children who are all successful in their respective fields, namely, John Patrick, 45 years in age; John Paul, 41; Jana Patricia, 37; Joanna Pauline, 35; and, John Vincent, 33.

The Secret Negotiator

After he served twice as Deputy Grand Master and then Junior Grand Lecturer, in the break from Masonic labors, he chanced the luxury of time walking the talk with the hoi polloi, mostly his constituents,

in the poor boondocks of his province, Surigao del Sur. In here, 2010-2016, he in the epicenter, himself at 5'11" in height that he got from his mother, literally had to walk tall in double meaning but sans the bat, daring the "rough and rugged roads" by the imminent dangers given in the territory.

Year 2011: The precious life of a family man, Mayor Henry Dano, town of Lingig, Surigao del Sur, who was just doing his job to keep his place peaceful and quiet for his constituents to live normal life, albeit scrounging against the hardships of the time lulled after decades of logging buzz in economy. This was his primordial concern in mounting the dangerous hands-on initiative of the Provincial Peace and Order Council for the freedom of the mayor and his two police security escorts from New People's Army captivity.

With the police and military already in progress in their rescue pursuit of the NPA rebels, his team (PPOC) was in the crossroad of resolutely finding ways to obtain 'proof of life' and open talks with the rebels. It was sort of a tightrope mission, so petrifying, so uncertain, our Bro. Johnny confessed.

It was pursuing in simile 'Ja-Jo-Jm' in a Mt. Morriah of rocky, thick and deep foliage of jungles to save a living Hiram Abiff from those precipitous, crisscrossing mountain ranges of Agusan del Sur, Davao Oriental, Surigao del Norte and Surigao del Sur. This, except that the ruffians here were always mobile, somewhat always on the move for vantage position to monitor possible movements of a posse behind -- of course, there were no seafaring men to meet them but only constant huge trees and grotesque boulders.

"Pirme sila galakaw... " he recalled about the rebels' constant movements when he and his negotiating group on foot, scaled the strange, slippery mounts and hills pointed to them by nearby residents as possible rebel hideouts.

"Muhunong lang magluto ug mangaun... Dayun pahulay . . . itaud lang sa kasangahan ang hammock." (They were always on the move, stopping only to cook their food, eat, then rest for a while on the hammocks they hang through tree branches.) "It's a conducive life for guerrilla warfare."

The lead negotiator, the sublime brother, only now shared this experience after keeping his sensitive, major involvement and his group's subterfuge under wraps to everybody for more than a decade already. One hush-hush, arrangement that was considered to ensure the speedy and safe release of the mayor and his security men held hostage then, confided MW Johnny Pimentel, was the go-between of a high-ranking NPA revolutionary chieftain in Mindanao (deceased George Madlos a.k.a. Kumander Uris).

"This was so critical and delicate a mission causing my own family left at home sleepless nights," he recalled.

The mayor and his security men had been more than two months hidden somewhere in those forbidding mountains. They were snatched at around 6:30 a.m. that Aug. 6, 2011 by suspected elements of the NPA disguising as NBI operatives, from the executive's residence in Lingig.
Just the previous year, in the early morning of May 5, 2010, Mayor Dano's predecessor of same town of Lingig, Mayor Roberto Luna Jr. together with his four police and military escorts were flagged down by suspected NPA rebels in Pasion, Monkayo, province of Compostela Valley en route to Davao City to visit a sick child. MindaNews reported, after more than a week of negotiation, Mayor Luna and his escorts were released to the Provincial Crisis Management Committee somewhere in the mountain range of Mt. Diwata (also Mt. Diwalwal), Compostela Valley at around 6 p.m. that May 17.

Then VW Bro. Johnny Pimentel, twice a Past District Deputy Grand Master and Junior Grand Lecturer in the Region before the former abduction, was yet Provincial Administrator of Surigao del Sur under his older sibling, Governor Vicente "Baby Boy" Pimentel Jr. that 2010, and he was already serving as chairman of the PCMC when he was soon elected governor of the province vice his older brother, Gov. Baby Boy.

They were in practically the same crisis situation as before, except this ordeal was longer. But at last, after more than two months, at past 2 o'clock p.m. on Oct. 9, 2011, Mayor Dano was freed and received by already Governor Johnny Pimentel, heading the Provincial Peace and Order Council, near the mountainous boundary of Agusan del Sur and Monkayo town,

Compostela Valley. According to local news reports, around this time, likewise, which he also concurred in the interview, there were other NPA abductions and releases of three CAFGU personnel to the Surigao Sur Peace and Order Council, ditto, to the governor's heavy credit of intercession.

Queried now if he will give in to any request to negotiate again, he said it is his duty as a public servant to acquiesce to the freedom and safety of his people, no matter the risk.

A leader, risk-taker, shall we say, a persona somewhat beyond the grasp of our rhetorics, eligibly good for folklore derring-do's.

A Scholar, Waiter in Russian Resto, and Howard Hughes

In his earlier days, if we may, in his adventurous adolescence at age 16, he applied for the 'Youth for Understanding' scholarship screening to be a grantee under the US-Philippine Exchange Program to try a feel of independence for the American dream, and made it. He finished his secondary education as a scholar under this program in Ulysses S. Grant High School, Valley Glen, Los Angeles, neighborhood of California, USA.

He fondly remembered in this interview his happy moments there, receiving his modest pay in US dollars every Saturday, plus the tips from customers, from a nighttime job as waiter in a Russian restaurant.

"Enjoyed na kaayo ko. Na, wala na ko'y plano katong panahuna mubalik diri . . . for good." He already enjoyed his life then and with the extra-financial perks that he didn't anymore think of coming back, he said, for good.

In those budding days, he complemented his solace of independence from home to

read books in his vacant time. Mostly fiction. But he clearly had his nose in one particular book titled, "The Lonely Billionaire" about Howard Hughes.

"Nalingaw kaayo ko sa iyang eccentricity." The young student from Surigao Sur was fascinated by the eccentricity of the superrich Hughes.

Have you heard of this name, who made waves in the news for his eccentric quirks and became one of the richest business magnates in this world? He is recognized as the man principally behind what is legitimately Las Vegas now. It was in the '50s, he was an aero plane inventor and Hollywood mogul from Humble, Houston, Texas, whose "feverish perfectionism," according to his biography, was even applied from the salacious underwear to the voluptuous bra of curvaceous actress Jane Russell (1940s-1950s), to the minutest rivets on the wing of his airplane.

An eccentric recluse but one of the most influential billionaires, who according to legend, was crippled with "obsessive-compulsive disorder in his final years." According to many biographers, his OCD contributed a lot to his success long before he died airborne, for kidney failure in 1976.

Legacy for Generations

Quick by his savvy from experience as leader, he immediately congratulated President-elect Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr. and Sister VP Sara Duterte Carpio, wife of VW Manases R. Carpio, our Senior Grand Deacon, after their proclamation in the election, and expressed support to the call for promotion of Unity which coincidentally rhymed exactly with his administration's theme of harmony. He ran under

the PDP-Laban UniTeam ticket, in last May 9 election in almost simultaneity with the AnCom election with earlier a hesitation of ambivalence, but smoothly won in both. One such charisma of one so amiable and down-to-earth, if you have talked to him, easy to converse with, is one quality of leading, enabling one to do what Confucius had in mind of "coming together of things, persons, or actions in a process of unification that preserves differentiation. . ." This to the Chinese philosopher is harmony.

So, how was this politician Brother to be that bold and outreaching and be sure of himself -- and be that effective in getting what he wants done? In even a life-or-death negotiation?

A political Scion of Admiration

Emmanuel B. Lumanao, incumbent Regional Chairman of PDP-Laban in Caraga, newspaper publisher and editor in Mindanao, also from Tandag City, confided in a phone interview that he was not surprised that Cong. Johnny Pimentel is now on the "top post" of Masons in the Philippines.

Manny Lumanao intimated; he has known him since "long ago when I served as Executive Assistant to his Governor-mother Felicidad Pimentel during President Cory's government." He mused, "He is smart and brilliant. More so later that we became family as I got married to the niece of Johnny's wife, Lily. But the chaotic world of politics divides us. But this did not dampen my admiration and respect to my uncle-in-law," assured Lumanao.
VW David C. Espancho, also from Tandag City, happily has this memory to share of him likewise: "Of all the Pimentel brothers I know, Most Worshipful Johnny is the most accommodating and receptive. Di ka mataha magduul niya, tubagun gyud ka niya sa imong tuyo." VW Dave Espancho is an incumbent JGL for Northern Mindanao, member of Leonardo T. Panares Lodge No. 220. You will not hesitate to approach him, he will always attend to your purpose, he said. VW Bro. Espancho knows him from childhood but says he was closer to his other brothers in those times.The unorthodox, perfectionist idiosyncrasy by which super-rich Hollywood mogul Howard Hughes was known and for which this Grand Master became a fan of the man, might have reaped his successes in life to become a legend -- could have amused and fascinated him (this GM) to enjoy reading his aberrant life in those younger days. Definitely, nonetheless, his strong character and his rather audacious predisposition now as a political scion, must have come from no one and nothing else, most probably, but they: his parents.

His father, Vicente Pimentel Sr., was known to be a headstrong lawyer, an orator, and served as the first governor and later as congressman in those times when there was only one Surigao Province. Similarly, the mother, Felicidad Ty Pimentel, a philanthropist and also became governor of the province, was a strong woman who was reputed to have earned the moniker 'Iron Lady' of the still unsplit province for her strong-mindedness and uncompromising sense of justice.

What political pedigree! From this upbringing, where else could he learn the value of hard work amid the life of simplicity and practical independence intimately disclosed in his biography?

A lawmaker with legacy

True to his sterling role in Congress, Representative Johnny Pimentel served twice already as House Deputy Speaker, 2019 and 2020. He was elected as Congressman in

2016, to be re-elected in 2019. Designated as spokesperson of the PDP-Laban in the Lower House, he was appointed as chairman of the House Special Committee on Strategic Intelligence. This special committee deals with all matters relating to strategic intelligence initiatives of the government, "including but not limited to counter-intelligence, counter-terrorism, foreign intelligence, and economic intelligence," according to House source.

Now in his third term, do you know, this legislator should already be credited for several laws which usefulness and impact will be commonly enjoyed for life by many a citizen in this republic? His immortal legacy, yes. We should know he authored some 73 house measures (Bills) which were passed into law. Of these, Honorable Cong. Johnny Pimentel himself claims these pieces of legislation originally crafted by him, his most favorite so far, as approved by President Rodrigo Duterte into law, as follows:

1. RA 10928 - Extending the Validity to Philippine Passports to ten (10) Years. This amended RA 8239 or the Philippine Passport Act of 1996 which limited the passport validity to only five (5) years.

2. RA 10930 - Extending Validity of Drivers' License to five (5) Years. This was improved further when finally passed into law as approved by the President stretching the validity longer, provided the holder of professional and non-professional driver's license who has not committed any violation of RA 4136 as amended and other traffic laws during the five (5) year period, shall be entitled to a renewal of such license for ten (10) years. This amended RA 4136 or "Land Transportation and Traffic Code" limiting the validity of driver's license to three (3) consecutive years. The harrowing inconveniences entailed in acquiring these very important pieces of documents from government, needless telling, make these more than a welcome development to Filipinos for genera-

RA 10930

Extending the validity of
Professional and Non-Professional
Driver's License to Five Years

tions. According to Senator Sonny Angara, now Worshipful Master of Pangarap Masonic Lodge No. 448, who co-authored the bill in the Upper Chamber, almost 1.5 million OFWs will be benefitted yearly in renewing their passports early by the new passport law.

Reaping Awards

He entered the contentious domain of politics in 1995 when he was already in his segue of second term as Worshipful Master of Red Mountain Lodge No. 242, phasing in to be DDGM, to serve as vice governor of Surigao del Sur up to 1998. From 2001 to 2010 he served the province as its Provincial Administrator under his brother Governor Vicente "Baby Boy" Pimentel. He became governor himself in 2010 to 2016. As local executive in his province Surigao del Sur, he garnered various awards, among most significant of which are:

- Outstanding Civil Servant in 2008
- Galing Pook Award in 2010 for his "Income Retention Scheme" that improved health services delivery.
- Top Rice Achiever Award in 2011 for increasing palay yield production within a year, making Surigao del Sur the second largest producer of rice in the entire Caraga Region.
- PDEA Award for creating "JYES Kontra Droga" program which made significant arrests of identified drug trade personalities.
- BAYAN KA Award given by DSWD for his strong financial support for the delivery of basic needs of indigents, rape victims, battered husbands and wives, abused women and children.
- TESDA Kabalikat conferred by no less than Sen. Joel Villanueva for vigorously promoting skills development trainings especially for out-of-school youth.

THE GRAND MASTER'S MASONIC APP FOR THE BRETHREN

By VW Alberto C. Dumlao, DGL / TCT Multi-Media Editor

Following the launch of several Masonic Applications during the first years of the Corona Virus Pandemic such as the TCTReader, GLProceedings, GLADKit, and LSTools, the inauguration of the current Masonic Year was accompanied with the introduction of another software application to assist the administration of MW Johnny Ty Pimentel and his Team.

In line with their Technology Programs of Team JTP, the Cable Tow Magazine in cooperation with App Developer Bro. John Paul Narisma and his Mother Lodge Shangri-la Masonic Lodge No. 196, have developed a specialized App for MW Johnny Ty Pimentel which will provide the Brethren electronic access to selected GLP Communications for Masonic Year 2022 – 2023.

Dubbed MW JTP App, it aims to provide an immediate refence or road map to all of the Grand Master's plans and programs at the palm of the Brethren's Hands.

Found inside are the Grand Master's Term Manual, GLP Communications like Circulars & Edicts, the latest Cable Tow Issues, and other useful contents like the Masonic Education, Quick References, and even a Masonic Calendar.

The App can be downloaded for free in both Google Play Store and the Apple App Store for the enjoyment of all Android and iPhone Users respectively. As these app sources can be accessed by the public, the MWJTP App is password protected.

"We thank the Cable Tow Team for this initiative" said MW Johnny Ty Pimentel. "We appreciate their efforts especially the talents of Bro. John Paul Narisma and the sponsorship of his Mother Lodge Shangri-La Masonic No. 196 for their sponsorship of the Apple App Store Subscription during my Term." He added.

As of this writing the Applications known as GLProceedings and The Cable Tow Magazine App - TCTReader are both available to the Brethren through the same app sources. The former contains 105 Volumes of AnCom Proceedings (from 1912 to the present) and the latter with almost 800 Issues of the Official Publication for the Brethren's intellectual consumption.

TCTReader can be accessed by everyone, both Masons and non-Masons alike.

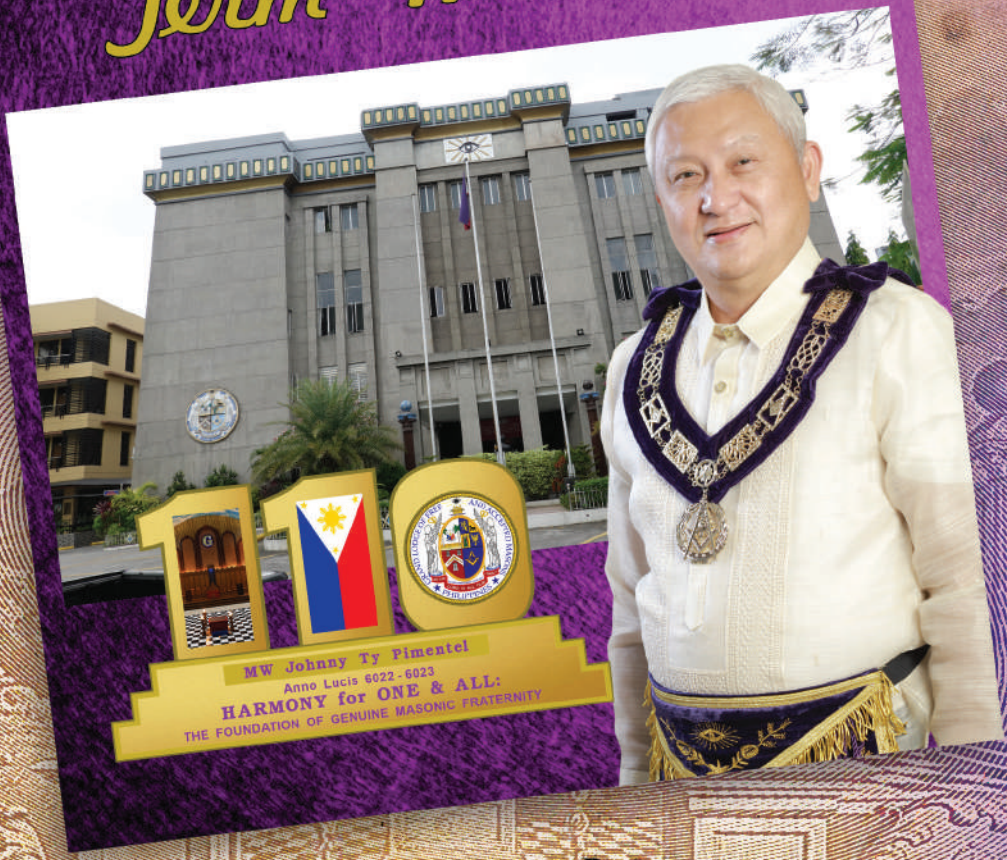
For Security reasons, both the MWJTP App and GLProceedings are password protected. To be invested with the Application's Password, the brethren can contact the ff access channels:

thecabletow@grandlodge.ph

THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE
OF FREE & ACCEPTED MASONS
OF THE PHILIPPINES

MW JTP 2022

GLP @ 110
Term Manual



BE A PART OF THE
GRAND MASTER'S HARMONY PROGRAM
VIA THE MW JTP APP - AVAILABLE THRU
GOOGLE PLAY STORE & APPLE APP STORE

GRAND MASTER'S MESSAGE

GLP @ 110 - TERM MANUAL

My dear co-workers in the craft:

I am pleased to address you for the first time as I start to fulfill the mandate which God and the brethren have charged me with – that of serving as your Grand Master for the Masonic Year 2022-2023.

Each Grand Master brings his own style of management and leadership, together with a new set of carefully crafted plans and programs to implement during his term. I have watched and observed what my predecessors did during their time. I noted the challenges they faced, their successes as well as setbacks and struggles, and the constant refinements made to suit the changing conditions of the times. I have observed what really works and what doesn't, all the while taking note of our core strength and also of our apparent weaknesses. And as a politician by choice, I am always on the lookout for the best options and best services I can offer for the benefit of the constituents I serve. Now, as the incumbent Grand Master, my constituents are all masons in all the far reaches of this jurisdiction. And to them, I offer what I think are the best course of actions to take as honed by careful study of the lessons learned from those who have served before me as well as some acquired wisdoms of my experiences as a public servant in my continuing mission to provide better life for the people.

And my biggest focus and emphasis is on Harmony! For this reason I have adopted the theme *"HARMONY FOR ONE AND ALL: THE FOUNDATION OF GENUINE MASONIC FRATERNITY"*.

The pursuit of harmony is the very core of Freemasonry. Without it, all carefully laid programs of our fraternity will go to waste or will miserably fail. Without it, the core teachings and values of Freemasonry will be lost. What does it profit a lodge with many members proficient in the rituals,, with many good projects, with much assets in its name, if the men who compose it are engaged in silly private piques and quarrels among themselves? Or if the leaders do not see eye-to-eye with the governed? Of course, they cease to become a lodge of good and true men. We come into this world rational and intelligent beings and our immersion in Masonic concepts and teachings are supposed to teach and convert us into becoming so much better than before. Let us not be lost in our journey.

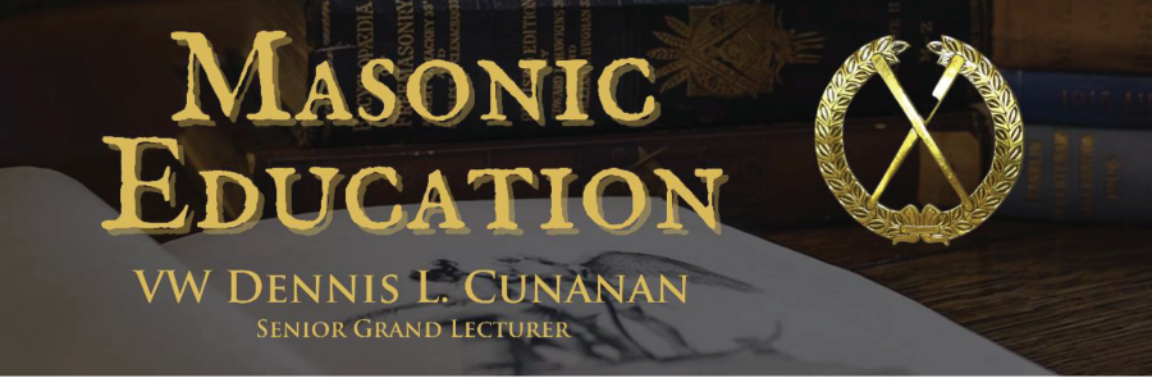
To my dear Grand Lodge Officers and to all brethren at large, in the following pages you will read and be guided by what I believe will enable us to become true and capable brothers - men worthy to be called Masons. They are designed to attain improvements in all our doings – whether in our lodges, in the Grand Lodge, in the family, in the community or in ourselves. Your job is to assist me in imparting them to the brethren in your respective jurisdictions. Your duty is to become exemplars yourselves in the fine art of Freemasonry. Whether whispering good counsel or rendering masonic lectures to better contextualize our plans and programs within our rituals, or simply helping relieve the distresses of brothers in need, and whatever helpful initiatives you can provide in your own ways to preserve friendship and understanding, you will in the process contribute to the achievement of our ultimate goal – a genuine masonic fraternity moving as one because peace and harmony truly prevail among all brothers.

My dear brethren, give me harmony and I will show you the beauty of Freemasonry and what this Fraternity can really achieve.

Thank you for your help and confidence.

Grand Lodge
of the Philippines
City of Manila
May 2, 2022

JOHNNY T. PIMENTEL
Grand Master



Outline of our Masonic Education for Masonic Year 2022-2023

Chapter Four of our Term Manual is the Guide for our Corps of Grand Lodge Lecturers where specific topics of the Masonic Lecture for each Month is provided together with the probing title and the Senior Grand Lecturer's insight to each topic with emphasis on a strategic Pillar: Institutional Harmony, National Harmony, and / or Fraternal Harmony, from the Grand Master's Theme:

Harmony for One and All – the Foundation of a Genuine Masonic Fraternity

District Grand Lecturers with the guidance of the Junior Grand Lecturers are to expound on these topics by answering a series of questions related to each topic. Most of the answers to these questions are to be drawn from personal experiences of the Lecturers themselves or from other brethren that they knew. Their individual answers shall be a part of the Masonic Education Lecture, thus making every session unique for each Lecturer. References to reading materials appertaining to specific topics are also provided to help enrich the educational experience of Lecturers and subordinate Lodges alike. This System of Masonic Education aims to empower our Lecturers in imparting both masonic knowledge and wisdom to the brethren.

To help improve their teaching methods, an evaluation form shall be provided monthly to the Worshipful Masters of each Lodge (thru the Junior Grand Lecturers) as a feedback mechanism on the effectiveness of every lecture session. The said forms are to be collected by the JGLs, and a copy of which shall be provided to DGLs concerned to further improve their effectiveness. The same evaluation shall help Senior Grand Lecturer in rating the Outstanding and Most Outstanding JGLs and DGLs at the end of the Masonic Year:

Caution against False News: In imparting Masonic knowledge, lecturers should be cautious in sharing facts and information. Before citing anecdotes, stories should be verified if true (e.g. Why are there no Mercury Drug Stores at SM?).

Heroes or Persons who have no records of being masons (e.g. Emilio Jacinto, Gregorio del Pilar, et al) should NOT be cited NOR included as one.

The myth that Speculative Masons came from the Knights Templar when the generally accepted fact as taught in our Grand Lodge Literature (Tried & Proven, and A Lodge System of Masonic Education) is that Speculative Masons came from Operative Masons. It is true that Knights of the said Order are included in Appendant Bodies like the York & Scottish Rites, but the Degrees in Masonry should not be confused with the History of Freemasonry – they are not the same.

The twelve topics of the Masonic Education aims not just to educate the brethren but to reinforce the Harmony Theme for the Masonic Year by putting thrust on a particular pillar for each month:

1. The Month of May – being the first month of the Masonic Year shall introduce the Grand Master's Theme, giving equal emphasis on all 3 Pillars – **Institutional, National, and Fraternal Harmony**.
2. **Institutional Harmony** are cited five times in the Masonic Education for the Months of September (Appendant Bodies), November (Masonic Educational Institutions), and December

(GLP @110) in 2022; as well as for 2023 in the months of January (Masonic Leadership) and March (GLP & the Youth).

3. **National Harmony** are to be tackled thrice in the Masonic Education in 2022 for the Months of June (Heroism, Patriotism, & Nationalism) and August (Citizenship); and in April 2023 (Masonry & Society).
4. **Fraternal Harmony** shall be the thrust of the Masonic Education for the Months of July (Fraternal Assistance) and October (Death, Widows, & Orphans) 2022; as well as February 2023 (Charity & Brotherly Love).

MONTHLY LECTURES & TOPICS

No. 01 – May 2022 Why is HARMONY the Foundation of Genuine Masonic Fraternity?
Topic: Masonry and its Concept of Harmony
Introducing the Grand Master's Theme for MY 2022 – 2023
Thrust: Institutional Harmony, National Harmony, & Fraternal Harmony

No. 02 – Jun 2022 What is HEROISM, PATRIOTISM, and NATIONALISM?
Topic: Masonry and its Concept of NATIONHOOD
Thrust: National Harmony

No. 03 – Jul 2022 How long is the Cable Tow?
Topic: Masonry and the practice of HELP, AID, RELIEF, & ASSISTANCE
Thrust: Fraternal Harmony

No. 04 – Aug 2022 How can MASONS be good CITIZENS?
Topic: Masonry and its Concept of CITIZENSHIP
Thrust: National Harmony

No. 05 – Sept 2022 Why do Masons join Appendant Bodies and other Allied Organizations?
Topic: Masonry and further light
Thrust: Institutional Harmony

No. 06 – Oct 2022 How do Masons remember the departed Brethren and take care of their Widows and Orphans?
Topic: Masonry and its belief in DEATH & the AFTER-LIFE
Thrust: Fraternal Harmony

No. 07 – Nov 2022 What are the Systems of Masonic Education in our jurisdiction?
Topic: Masonry and its SYSTEM of EDUCATION
Thrust: Institutional Harmony

No. 08 – Dec 2022 Whence and wither are we going?
Topic: 110 years of GLP Masonry
Thrust: Institutional Harmony

No. 09 – Jan 2023 Who are the Master, the District Deputy, and the Grand Master?
Topic: Masonry and its Concept of LEADERSHIP
Thrust: Institutional Harmony

No. 10 – Feb 2023 What is Charity & Brotherly Love?
Topic: Masonry and its Concept of Helping
Thrust: Fraternal Harmony

No. 11 – Mar 2023 How do Masons help develop the Youth?
Topic: Masonry & its Role in molding the YOUTH
Thrust: Institutional Harmony

No. 12 – Apr 2023 How can Masons promote Harmony in the Society?
Topic: Masonry and SOCIETY
Thrust: National Harmony

DISTRICT GRAND LECTURER ASSESSMENT FORM

GRAND LODGE OF F.&A.M. OF THE PHILIPPINES

_____ Lodge No _____ MD _____

Meeting for the month of _____

DGL Name _____

RATINGS: NA – Not applicable 2 – Unsatisfactory 4 – Very Satisfactory
1 – Non-compliance 3 – Satisfactory 5 - Excellent

I. PEDAGOGY		
1.	Promotes critical thinking .	
2.	Ties in primary objectives of lecture with theme.	
II. CLARITY		
1.	Explains concepts clearly.	
2.	Uses concrete examples of concepts.	
3.	Gives multiple examples.	
4.	Points out practical applications.	
5.	Stresses important concepts.	
6.	Repeats difficult ideas.	
III. INTERACTION		
1.	Encourages questions and comments.	
2.	Answers questions clearly/correctly.	
3.	Facilitates discussion during lecture.	
IV. TASK ORIENTATION		
1.	Proceeds at good pace for topic.	
2.	Stays on theme of lecture.	
3.	States lecture objectives.	
V. ORGANIZATION		
1.	Gives preliminary overview of lecture.	
2.	Signals transition to new topic.	
3.	Explains how each topic fits in.	
VI. PRESENTATION STYLE		
1.	Projects confidence.	
2.	Speaks expressively or emphatically.	
3.	Uses extemporaneous delivery.	
4.	Gestures while speaking.	
5.	Shows facial expression.	
6.	Uses humor.	
7.	Uses multi-media slides.	
	AVERAGE RATING	0.00

REMARKS: _____

DATE: _____

_____
District Deputy Grand Master

Copy furnished:

WM _____ GLI _____

JCL _____ DGL _____

Distribution: DDGM, WM, GLI, JGL, DGL

Note: The JGL will be responsible for submitting to the SGL, copies of all the assessment reports of the DGLs within their respective Regions.

To be filled up by attending Brethren from the floor.

Welcome Brethren to the start of a new Masonic Year!

To some of our brothers sitting now in open lodge, this may sound like just another Masonic Term with a new Grand Master and a Masonic Theme, a new line-up of Grand Lodge Officers in their proud set of purple Collars & Aprons; and another series of Masonic Education Lectures that most of the Brethren will just drowse through half-way between side-talks (some we can hear right now), SMS messaging, day dreaming, and downright sleeping.

And you are correct Brethren – we are JUST another set of Grand Lodge Officers. The 105th set to be exact as we approach GLP's 110th Founding Anniversary this December 19. Some may ask: Why does the year and the set do not match? It is because, the age of the Grand Lodge is a continuing travel upon the Level of Time from 1912 to 2022 – a duration of 110 years and it will continue to age as long as this society of ours continue to exist.

But how assured are we of our continued existence beyond a decade and a century?

The survival of Philippine Masonry depends on how strong and supporting is our foundation as an Institution, and that BRETHREN as reminded us by our Brother in the West at the opening and closing of each lodge is HARMONY.

The First Lecture for Masonic Year 2022 – 2023 aims to introduce the Theme of our Grand Master Johnny Ty Pimentel: Harmony for One and All – the Foundation of a Genuine Masonic Fraternity:

HARMONY - has three different meanings by the Oxford Learner's Dictionary:

In the social – racial context, it is a state of peaceful existence and agreement or concord. If people are living in harmony with each other, they are living together peacefully rather than fighting or arguing.

In music, it is the way in which different notes that are played or sung together combine to make a pleasing sound. Such combination of simultaneously sounded musical notes produce chords and chord progressions with pleasing effect.

Its third definition is that it is a pleasing combination of related things. The quality of forming a pleasing and consistent whole.

In our rituals, this seven-letter word is mentioned no less than six times in each lodge meeting be it for Entered Apprentices, among Fellow Crafts, and those of Master Masons. In all these degrees, it is one of those invoked from the Great Architect of the Universe. The word is uttered more than once from the west as a reminder of its importance in all societies. Before the Brethren separate and return to their respective places of abode, it is invoked once again from the Supreme Grand Master that all be influenced both in heart and mind to practice out of the lodge, those great moral duties – among them this sacred word.

In our fraternity - HARMONY is tempered further with our Obligations, Working Tools and Degree Lectures, and Ancient Masonic Charges. This particular Masonic Education is being delivered as another supplemental teaching on the same.

Given the emphasis Masonry has invested on HARMONY:

Why then does disharmony exist in some of our brethren, lodges, and districts?

How come that some of a Grand Master's time is spent in settling disputes among those who are supposed to best work and best agree?

As this Masonic Year progress in the next twelve months, we invite all Brethren in our jurisdiction to observe the condition among the Brethren, Lodges, and Districts and help provide the answer to these two sad questions. By November of 2022, your JGLs and DGLs shall be collecting your written answers, and by your assistance, help the Grand Lodge solve these perplexing problems in Philippine Masonry.

In the meantime, the main thrust for this Masonic Year shall focus on three Pillars, namely:

INSTITUTIONAL HARMONY

– a collective term for several GLP initiatives that will strengthen the harmony within Masonic Institutions. This thrust shall be tackled five times in our Masonic Education for the Months of September (Appendant Bodies), November (Masonic Educational Institutions), and December (GLP @110) in 2022; as well as for 2023 in the months of January (Masonic Leadership) and March (GLP & the Youth). In our Theme Logo this Masonic Year, this pillar is represented by the first digit with the Jose Abad Santos Temple inside number 1 figure.

NATIONAL HARMONY

– a collective term for several GLP initiatives that will signify Masonry's contribution to Harmony in the Society. We shall be discussing this thrust, three times in our Masonic Education in 2022 for the for the Months of June (Heroism, Patriotism, & Nationalism) and August (Citizenship); and in April 2023 (Masonry & Society). In the Theme Logo, this pillar is represented by the second digit with the Philippine Flag enshrined inside the middle figure of 1.

FRATERNAL HARMONY

– a collective term for several GLP initiatives that will strengthen the harmony within the Fraternity and among the Brethren. Some of these initiatives shall be the thrust of the Masonic Education for the Months of July (Fraternal Assistance) and October (Death, Widows, & Orphans) 2022; as well as February 2023 (Charity & Brotherly Love). In the same Logo, this pillar is represented by the third digit with the Grand Lodge Seal marking the last figure.

Taken together, they are read as 110 – the age of our Most Worshipful Institution this Masonic Year.

In the course of 110 years, the Grand Lodge only had 105 sets of officers for even as our Institution age regularly with the passage of time, there are five years in our history when our Grand Line Officers have to extend their tour of duty.

The 29th Set of Grand Line Officers in 1941 have to hold on to their respective positions in the next four years until 1945 during the chaos of the Second World War. Both Grand Master – MW John R. McFie, Jr. and Deputy Grand Master – RW Jose P. Guido almost made it to Liberation but fell victim to the unsparing ravages of barbarous force.

In 2020, MW Agapito S. Suan, Jr. and the 103rd set of Grand Line Officers by force of circumstance were required to serve another year due to the Corona Virus Pandemic. Despite the suspension of Masonic Activities in seven (7) out of the twelve (12) months, their extended term for Masonic Year 2020 - 2021 continued to be equally if not more productive than their initial term in 2019 – 2020.

These two Past Grand Masters - MW John R. McFie, Jr. and MW Agapito S. Suan, Jr. deserve the respect and admiration of all Masons especially in our jurisdiction for leading our fraternity in the maelstrom of uncertainties during their respective terms.

Equally deserving of both respect and admiration of all Masons is MW Rolen C. Paulino, who led the 104th set of Grand Lodge Officers, in the trying year of 2021 – 2022 amidst five months of lockdown.

LECTURER INSIGHTS
GUIDE QUESTION FOR LECTURERS

Note: DGL's answers to these questions shall be among their contributions to the Lecture:

Cite an example of disharmony you have witnessed among the Brethren, Lodge, District, or in other settings.

How was it resolved? If un-resolve, how could Harmony be restored?

How could such dis-harmony have been prevented?

As we are about to end the first of our Masonic Education, and before we complete the answer as to why does the year and the set do not match, we have to ask:

How are the Brethren present?

Are those making side-talks still talking?

How is the SMS messaging and day dreaming doing?

Are those dozing off still sleeping?

CONCLUSION

Among the keywords for the fulfillment of our Masonic Theme is found in our Monitor particularly in one of our Masonic Prayers, and that word is HARMONIZE. It is the verb equivalent to HARMONY.

If the latter is a noun that defines a state of peaceful existence, in agreement or concord; or the way musical notes are played or sung pleasantly; or simply a condition wherein related things are combined into a consistent whole; the former is an action word that intends to bring about the ideal state or condition of things be it in agreeing with one another, producing music, or combining several parts to make a complete whole.

Harmony therefore is the result of the concerted actions of several if not all brethren, done to produce an ideal situation, and ideal product, or an ideal activity.

As one of the Corps of Grand Lecturers of MW Johnny Ty Pimentel, allow me to relay his most important quote this Masonic Year:

"Let us aim to dedicate this Masonic Term to being true and capable Brothers among each other, towards our families, and for our Nation."

Together Brethren, let us HARMONIZE and enrich our hearts with the Great Architect's own love and goodness – so that our country and the world (not just our Lodge) at this time may humbly reflect that order and beauty which reign forever before His throne. Amen

Brethren to reply: SO MOTE IT BE

MW Johnny Ty Pimentel

Anno Lucis 6022 - 6023

HARMONY for ONE and ALL

The Foundation of Genuine Masonic Fraternity

TERM LOGO

Our current theme is supported by Three Strategic Pillars which shall carry the Key Projects for Masonic Year 2022 - 2023

MY 2022 - 2023 Theme: Strategic Pillars

INSTITUTIONAL HARMONY

NATIONAL HARMONY

FRATERNAL HARMONY

THE TEAM SEAL

Team Johnny Ty Pimentel
Masonic Year 2022 - 2023

MASONRY IN MINDANAO

The Cable Tow Walkabout Series – First of Six (6) Parts

By: VW Joseph Harold W. Santiago, GSc

Unang Bahin

Editor's Note:

As mentioned earlier, on the 110th Year of the Grand Lodge, the Cable Tow Magazine will feature the five (5) concurrent areas of our Masonic Jurisdiction – NCR, Luzon, Visayas, Mindanao, and Overseas; focusing on a specific territory in each installment of our official publication. Mindanao is highlighted for the Grand Master's Edition as it complements the first issue while simultaneously giving tribute to our brethren in the southern part of the Philippine Archipelago.

The initial leg of our jurisdictional tour kicks-off in MINDANAO, our country's 2nd largest island with a land area roughly 97,350 square kilometers (37,660 square miles) and a population of more than 26 million (2020 Census).

The island is divided into six administrative regions: the Zamboanga Peninsula (Region IX); Northern Mindanao (Region X); Davao Region (Region XI); SOCCSSKSARGEN (Region XII); CARAGA (Region XIII); and the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM).

The regions encompass a total of twenty-seven (27) provinces, with an aggregate of thirty-three (33) cities, and 422 municipalities. The total number of barangays in the island group is 10,084.

According to the 2020 Census, Davao City is the most populated city having 1,776,949 people; Zamboanga City is next with its population of 977,234); followed by Cagayan de Oro (pop. 728,402); General Santos (pop. 697,315); Butuan (pop. 372,910); Iligan (pop. 363,115); and Cotabato City (pop. 325,079). About 70% of residents identify as Christian and 24% as Muslim. Majority of Filipino Muslims live in parts of Mindanao, Palawan, and the Sulu Archipelago – an area known as Bangsamoro or the Moro region.

As per the latest GLP Statistics, the Land of Promise is the home to **4,674 Master Masons** of which, **3,643 are Active Members** and **1,031 Life Members by Longevity**. These Brethren are affiliated with **88 Masonic Lodges** in the Island clustered into **14 Masonic Districts**.

The 10 Mindanao Lodges with the highest membership are:

Sarangani : : 50	106	Davao : : 149	84
Macajalar : : 184	101	Agusan Valley : : 160	83
Mt. Apo : : 45	100	Timberland : : 219	81
Makahambus : : 315	96	Carmen Valley : : 250	77
Maguindanao : : 40	89	Mt. Matutum : : 156	76
Leonardo Pañares : : 220	88		

There are 11 Lodges in Mindanao with the most Life-Members by Longevity:

Sarangani : : 50	58	Davao : : 149	28
Macajalar : : 184	53	Datu Bago : :197	28
Mt. Apo : : 45	38	Kutang Bato : : 110	28
Mt. Malindang : : 130	49	Toril : : 208	26
Maguindanao : : 40	32	Leonardo Pañares : :220	26
Dadiangas : : 225	32		

It is interesting to note that in Sarangani No.50, Macajalar No.184, and Mt. Malindang No.130, the LML Brethren outnumber the regular members.

The twenty (20) oldest Mindanao Masonic Lodges are:

Lodge Name & No.	Charter Year	Charter Master
1. Maguindanao 40	1917	WB Apolinar Velez
2. Mt. Apo 45	1919	WB James J. Wilson
3. Sarangani 50	1919	WB Celestino Chaves
4. Bud Daho 102	1927	WB Julian Pilares
5. Kutang Bato 110	1934	WB Dionisio Gutierrez
6. Maranaw 111	1935	WB Ubaldo Laya
7. Mt. Malindang 130	1952	WB Pascual Caoile
8. Juan S. Alano 137	1952	MW Juan S. Alano
9. Davao 149	1958	WB Carlos Inigo Sr.
10. Dr. Jose Hofileña 153	1959	- - -
11. Gregorio O. Calit 154	1960	WB Leoncio Abella
12. Mount Musuan 155	1960	- - -
13. Mt. Matutum 156	1960	WB Jesus Quintillan
14. Agusan Valley 160	1961	WB Manuel D. Cab
15. Antonio G. Lim 162	1962	- - -
16. Apo Kahoy 166	1963	WB Narciso T. Reyes
17. Kidapawan 170	1964	WB Buenaventura Sabulao
18. Macajalar 184	1967	WB Clemente G. Batan
19. Mati Aurora 190	1969	WB Patricio Cunanan
20. Rio Grande 192	1969	WB Benjamin J. Guiang

On the opposing end, the Benjamin Lodges in Mindanao for 2022 are: Omar Manabilang No. 471; Tani U. Tellow No. 473; and Agusan Marsh No. 474.

Edict No. 228 issued by MW Romeo Yu near the end of his term in 2006, offered the first naming system of the Masonic Districts that follow the Administrative Regional Numbers of their location. Each of the Districts in the same Region were differentiated with an assigned letter and Mindanao Masonic Districts were initially arranged as:

R – IX - A	Zamboanga Del Sur
R – IX & X – B	Zamboanga Del Norte, Misamis Occidental
R – IX & ARMM-C	Zamboanga City, Jolo, Basilan, Tawi-Tawi
R – X – A	Misamis Oriental
R – X – B	Misamis Oriental, Camiguin
R – X – C	Misamis Occidental
R – X & ARMM – D	Lanao
R – X – E	Bukidnon North
R – X – F	Bukidnon South
R – XI – A	Davao City, Davao Del Sur
R – XI – B	Davao Province, Davao Oriental
R – XII – A	Cotabato City, North Cotabato
R – XII – B	South Cotabato, Saranggani, Sultan Kudarat, General Santos City
R – XIII – A	Agusan, Butuan, Surigao

A decade later, MW Gazmin released Edict No. 287 in 2016, renaming Masonic Districts into their actual political names and boundaries, even when districts shall have become bigger and broken down into smaller ones. This system removed the alphabet differentiation introduced in the Edict of MW Yu and is what is in use by GLP today.

Thus, Circular No.1 of MW Johnny Ty Pimentel listed the Masonic Districts of Mindanao as follows:

R - IX	Zamboanga del Sur and Sibugay
R - IX & X	Misamis Occidental & Zamboanga Del Norte
R - IX & ARMM	Zamboanga City, Sulu, Basilan, & Tawi-Tawi
R - X	Misamis Oriental and CDO
R - X	Misamis Oriental & Camiguin
R - X	Misamis Occidental
R - X & BARMM	Lanao Province
R - X	Bukidnon (North)
R - X	Bukidnon (South)
R - XI	Davao del Sur & Davao City
R - XI	Davao del Norte & Oriental
R - XII	N. Cotabato & Cotabato City
R - XI	SOCKSARGEN
R - XIII	Agusan & Surigao

These fourteen (14) Masonic Districts gather annually in three separate assemblies - Western, Northern, and Southern Mindanao Multi-District Conventions to help settle important matters, forward lodge and district Resolutions, and nominate Candidates to be elected for the position of Junior Grand Warden in each Annual Communication (AnCom) of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of the Philippines.

MINCOM, A TRADITION OF MINDANAO MASONS

According to TCT Senior Associate Editor VW Edgar S. Bentulan, PDGL, unique in the Grand Jurisdiction, Mindanao Communication is being maintained in this southern island. And it will be the 65th iteration should the leading brethren decide to call it this Masonic Year. The last MinCom was hosted by MD R - XI Davao del Norte, de Oro, & Oriental in January 31 – February 1, 2020 in Mati City, Davao Oriental, with then DDGM VW Joel Capalit and Mati Aurora Lodge No.190 in the lead. Over 700 delegates registered at A57 Techno Park.

Although not particularly mandated by GLP, MinCom is just one tradition that Mindanao Brethren have taken upon themselves to observe for more than six decades now. "This event maintains the solidarity of Mindanao Masons through one solid fellowship" said MW Agapito S. Suan Jr., PGM who was the Guest of Honor & Speaker for the 64th Communication. There was no plenary session in its program, no major resolutions passed or approved, as these are already tackled in the regular, mandated District and Multi-District Conventions. But incumbent Grand Masters and Past Grand Masters and other Grand Line officers are always invited to grace the occasion. In that communication, then SGL VW Teodoro Alejandro Y. Kalaw IV delivered a Masonic Education lecture entitled "Freemasonry is being Filipino. Our Craft is the Foundation of our nation."

... End of First Part

Warm Fraternal Greetings
from the Brethren of

Masonic District R-X Misamis Occidental

Mt. Malindang Lodge
No. 130
Chartered 1952

Gregorio O. Calit
Masonic Lodge No.154
Chartered 1960

Palilan Masonic Lodge
No. 239
Chartered 1980

Don Lorenzo Tan
Masonic Lodge No.265
Chartered 1984

Timoteo S. Uy, Sr.
Masonic Lodge No.349
Chartered 2003

VW Rey C. Urbiztondo, DDGM
District Deputy Grand Master

District Grand Lecturers

VW Regin P. Magana, DGL
VW Raymond H. Pintacasi, DGL
VW Mario Cesar R. Villa, DGL

Masonic Lodges	Worshipful Masters	Grand Lodge Inspectors
Mt. Malindang No.130	WM Salvador Behis, Jr.	WI Cupid C. Calica
Gregorio O. Calit No.150	WM Jude Gamalinda	WI Filomeno J. Cinco
Palilan Masonic No.239	WM Chester O. Mondoy	WI Roland O. Flores
Don Lorenzo Tan No.265	WM Dodge Cagaanan	WI Aldred Gawain G. Lasutaz
Timoteo S. Uy, Sr. No.349	WM Davidosn Y. Chiong	WI Noel A. Neri

HARMONY

The Quest of a Widow's Son

VW Edgar S. Bentulan, PDGL
Senior Associate Editor

(As interviewed by EIC Harold W. Santiago and this author)

UP FROM WOEFUL TRAVAIL

I persisted to stay and eagerly know more, but it was, I felt, somewhat odd to be motivated to remain after being called "eavesdropper" and be laughed at for no reason I could understand.

This was how he wanted to describe himself intrigued then by what he observed in a group of tennis players upon joining Tandag Capitol Tennis Club. (Later he became president of this club.) He thought of these players to be strange at first.

He had to come home from L.A. because his father and mother wouldn't stop calling. He wanted him to take up law at the Ateneo de Manila. So, he obeyed to enroll in Political Science subjects, at first. But, shortly, for lack of interest, the young Johnny Pimentel shifted to Business Management.

"Who are those guys?" He discreetly asked other players in the court, inquisitive of the closeness of the group, always arriving together with already pre-arranged doubles match pairing. After playing two sets or three, they would find a corner exclusive for their usual powwow. They talked as they downed some beer. Anytime soon, they would be laughing.

I was sooner informed they were Masons. And, I became more curious. So, I ventured to befriend them, MW Pimentel recalled.

"I started playing the sport when I was a student in California," he said. My American foster parents then were playing tennis too. Sport was a requirement in the school, so I chose to be taught tennis over American football and basketball, he explained.

"Pagsugod nako naamigo sila, kada abot nako," somebody would say from the group, "Psst. . . paghilom mo, duna'y eavesdropper. . ." Quiet, an eavesdropper has arrived, he recalled the behavior of his new friends each time he came. All of a sudden, there were loud laughter, as I started opening beer for them, Bro. Johnny said.

My curiosity about my 'exclusive' friends made me more desirous to really become one of them. "Ano yang Mason? How can I join that group?" soon he asked his new friends.

"It took me more than six months to get a petition form. Pinagpapasa-pasahan nila

ako. Mga loko yong mga iyon, eh!" I was given the runaround. They were crazy!

Then, I finally got the form and submitted my application for membership. After waiting for some weeks long, a member one day said to me, "Johnny, be at the lodge this Saturday. You'll be balloted already." So, I did as ask and waited anxiously outside the lodge. The meeting inside went more than two hours, then the members trooped out of the room. When they saw me, they laughed. And, my blood ran cold, he remembered.

"You were black balled," the Worshipful Master then said.

This was so disheartening. I couldn't believe it. They were my friends, and they always made me join them in fellowship. This was very disappointing to me, that I didn't show myself to them for months, he recollected this woeful travail.

But then sooner some more friendly members encouraged him not to give up. Later, when he was admitted, his journey, alas, turned to deeper and deeper involvement of engrossed reading of the Monitor and volunteering to lecture in conferral after conferral of degrees. He had this gift of sharp and retentive memory, he said, and he harnessed it consistently in his eager quest to be a widow's son.

"That's how I continued to rise in my Masonic journey. It all began out of curiosity." He got admitted to the Red Mountain Masonic Lodge No. 242, initiated on April 15, 1989, passed as Fellowcraft July 15, and sooner raised as Master Mason, August 26 of same year.
He was twice elected as Worshipful Master in MY 1993-94 and 1994-95, twice appointed as DDGM in 1996-97 and 1997-98, and then elected JGW in 2018.

In conversation over the phone, VW Benigno J. Dagani Jr., PDDGM and current Grand Standard Bearer, shared this about Grand Master Johnny Pimentel: "Despite his great political and Masonic achievements, Most Worshipful Johnny maintained his humility and being approachable as a brother." VW Nonoy Dagani, as commonly called, said that he is the most sought-after speaker in district and lodge events because "he is an eloquent and inspiring speaker."

VW Nonoy Dagani is endearingly acknowledged by MW Johnny Pimentel in our interview, as one hard-nosed promoter

of his candidacy in Region XIII - Surigao and Agusan for Junior Grand Warden in the Mindanao Convention election. "VW Dagani persisted to work out for my nomination in the convention," he said. "He did not stop. That's why I'm here - your GM now," he gratefully beamed.

THE GRAND LODGE UNDER HIS WATCH

In this ensuing period, in this station in a compound of a building complex called Plaridel Masonic Temple, nestled along 1440 San Marcelino Street, Manila, most, if not all, grand masters, virtually have to take a year-long leave of absence from family and home to occupy that Chair.

Well, built from the fine flesh and blood of parental pedigree and adequate seasoning in public service and politics, combined, what can be expected from a leader with such amalgam of working tools, running the business of managing an organization composed of sublime men with shared obligations committed in the ancient tenets and virtues of their Craft?

Isn't the profound wisdom and actualization of the principles and virtues in their noble meanings to his brethren in his jurisdiction, a matter of consequence?

Perhaps, just superficial to the esoteric value of Confucian 'differentiation' begged, preserved in the process of unification, as earlier adverted to, but this serious intention has been mulled and evolved for years in the mind of this Brother Grand Master, personally a natural advocate of unity and harmony.

HULLABALOO TROUBLING

Unity, harmony, ah, yes, in actualization his mission for this term in burning passion unfurling.

"Nakita ko ito sa AnCom in Davao kung saan magulo ang nangyari. I'm sorry. Wala nako nangayan." I saw this in the AnCom at Davao, so troubling a hullabaloo. I didn't like what happened. This was how he explained his realization of what was before his eyes when he was among the candidates shortlisted for Junior Grand Warden that 1998 AnCom in Davao City.

"Right there I firmed up my resolve," MW Pimentel said. "If given the opportunity to serve in the Grand Lodge," he said to have declared, "I will strongly give my best efforts to work for unity and harmony and this will be the centerpiece of my program of administration." He stressed this in his speech as a candidate for Junior Grand Warden among the five left, rather, he said, with evident accent of rare seriousness and vigor.

"Nang kami lima (5) na lang at pinasalita kami tungkol sa aming plans and program, sinabi ko yan. Mistulang nagbiro din ako, sabi ko: Hindi ba dapat panahon ngayon ng Mindanao? Ang pangulo ay taga Davao, ang presidente ng Senado ay taga Cagayan de Oro, at ang Speaker ng Lower House ay taga Mindanao din. Eh, sana ang mapili Junior Grand Warden nitong election ay taga Mindanao din." (When there were only five of us left for election and we were each asked to speak on our plans and program, I said that. And, I also jokingly added: Isn't this the season for Mindanao? The President of the Republic, Senate President, and Speaker of the House are all from Mindanao. I wish the next JGW elected now will also be from Mindanao.)

HARMONY, A BEGGING ENTREATY

I made this begging entreaty in my speech to the AnCom then:

"Bakit tayo nag-aaway-away? Saan na ngayon ang Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth? (Ano nang nangyari sa ating brotherhood?" Why are we fighting each other? Where is now Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth? What has happened to our brotherhood?)

I believe this struck a chord in the occasion's sobering moment, he gladly beamed. It sparked the needed signal for "ceasefire" to what was almost to be a bedlam in the convention, to the brethren present, especially the voting delegates.

This is why, he said, we have this theme, **"Harmony for One and All: The Foundation of Genuine Masonic Fraternity."** This Grand Master believes that the wisdom he acquired from his experiences as a public servant and politician will be a continuing mission to provide better life ultimately for the people with biggest focus on unity and harmony in our brotherhood, the very strength and support of our fraternity and ultimately our society. Soon will he probably realize to prepare more for the imperative that the labors in the Grand Lodge will demand over his gauge of time. The new role in GLP will surely demand from him so much time and attention.

BASIC LODGE MANAGEMENT

Very baffling already this early, GM Pimentel disclosed with lament, there are hundreds of cases and complaints filing up at the Grand Lodge now which are petty and frivolous and should not be there for its resolution. Cases involving members about minor infractions in the lodge, their prohibited treatments of petitioners or about their pecuniary practices to take advantage of petitioners, should already be handled and disposed of in the level of subordinate lodges.

These are basic, he observed, which, in the first place, should not happen given the proper background investigation and screening of petitioners by the concerned committee and, of course, the brethren's vigilant guard of the West Gate.

There is Edict No. 82-B of MW Roberto Pagotan, 2005, which amended Edicts 82 and 82-B, and Edicts 82-C and 82-D, providing the mechanism to resolve disputes through conciliation and mediation in the lodge level.

"The effective promotion of harmony and peace should be foremost in lodge management and administration to forestall divisiveness and individualism as decreed in these Edicts," MW Pimentel stressed. For this, the Lodge Harmony Officer that every Lodge is required to elect is very critical, he continued to remind.

"Another practice that must stop is the maltreatment of petitioners by Master Masons that is very degrading to the dignity of their person. There are complaints that have recently reached the Grand Lodge on this kind of violation," he revealed. "We will not condone and tolerate the lodge or lodges guilty of this transgression," the GM iterated in all seriousness.

"While we should imprint a memorable, meaningful lesson in every candidate during floor works for degree conferrals, we must not sacrifice also the spirit and morals of our obligation to human dignity," The Most Worshipful Brother emphasized.

"Harmony for One and All: The Foundation of Genuine Masonic Fraternity."

Again, we are reminding all Lodges about Edicts No. 245 and 245-A pertaining to the proper handling of candidates during degree conferrals and the penalties for "embarrassing or humiliating situations" caused upon candidates, said MW Pimen-

tel. These edicts which "probably have been lying dormant in lodges" need to be revisited and reactivated for strict observance by lodges, MW Pimentel insisted.

His watch, indeed, will obviously have to be productive as substantive with focus on priorities, given the limitations the pandemic is still causing woes to the world, Philippines in particular.

His daily activities will be "erratic," he anticipates. He will have to manage his time well to fulfill his equally critical responsibilities to his family, government and GLP with rational resiliency, he pointed out.

On foreign visitations, he said, he will have to limit his travels only to the most important ones, like Japan which was constituted by our Grand Lodge, Taiwan, Saipan, and California, USA, which is our Mother Grand Lodge. Of course, this administration coincides with the celebration of the 110th Anniversary of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Philippines, and activities are being planned now to highlight this special event and make it historically significant this December.

TCT - A SOURCE TO REMIND WHY WE ARE MASONS

Finally, when asked about **The Cable Tow** and his marching order to it, MW Johnny Pimentel declared in reminiscence its great importance to the GLP. He said, this is always his reference material whenever there is an invitation for him to speak in Masonic gathering or about the Craft. He particularly draws his guide and inspiration for his speeches from **The Cable Tow**, he said.

His candid supplication to the Editorial Staff is this:

"Through this official organ, let us embed and inculcate in the minds of our brethren a stronger sense of unity and harmony as we also always square our actions. People around look upon us as role models. We should always watch our action especially in public. . ." Institutionalizing this magazine-publication more as a credible source of not only Masonic truths but also its well spring of principles and ethics -- to remind us why we are Masons!

In his administration theme this year, MW Johnny T. Pimentel makes this aphorism as his clarion call enjoining each of the brethren in the Grand Jurisdiction: "Let us aim to dedicate this Masonic Term to being true and capable Brothers among each other, towards our families, and for our Nation."

The fervency in the plea profuse in this ensuing year's Grand Master outreaches and envisages far-out the superficiality of profane or ordinary brotherhood in society.

"Through this official organ, let us embed and inculcate in the minds of our brethren a stronger sense of unity and harmony as we also always square our actions. People around look upon us as role models. We should always watch our action especially in public. . ."

Verily, it keenly projects to its purest essence truth and sincerity and love of family and country, devoid of the trappings of hypocrisy and deceit, which should distinguish Master Masons. And separate them from plain rogues.

ROUGH & RUGGED ROAD

VW Victor A. Yu, PSGL (95)

IN OUR MIDST

Ushering in his governance, our Grand Master, MW Johnny T. Pimentel, immediately laid out the cornerstone for erecting the three pillars for a genuine Masonic fraternity in our grand jurisdiction and these are: Institutional Harmony, National Harmony and Fraternal Harmony.

In our monthly Stated Meetings, we constantly remind ourselves that harmony is the strength and support of all societies, especially of ours. However, the resolution of piques and quarrels among Masons have evolved into an increasing preoccupation of every Grand Master in the past decade while in contrast, past harmony in our mystic circle seemed to be a reality. In his 2009 letter to the Supreme Council, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction, the famous novelist **Dan Brown** wrote the ensuing words:

> *In a world where men do battle over whose definition of God is most accurate, I cannot adequately express the deep respect and admiration I feel toward an organization in which men of differing faiths are able to 'break bread together' in a bond of brotherhood, friendship and camaraderie.*

Nowadays, such battles have reached even the mundane matters in our everyday life. With easy access to both factual and false information on the internet coupled with the veil of anonymity in engagement, the spirit of intolerance has spread like wildfires around the world. Worse, "echo chambers" have become much more commonplace in people's minds as internet search engines caused one to **only encounter information and opinions that mirror and reinforce their own.**

As historian Ambeth Ocampo narrated in an interview, his students were surprised when he asked them to look for the word "spoon" in their respective devices using only the same internet search engine (Google). Surprisingly, different results were obtained by each student because such digital tool only give results based on it perceives to be the preference of the user. Instead of bringing forth further light to mankind with unequivocal access to information far and across the world; it appears that the digital age has bizarrely contributed to intolerance.

When intolerance is present, harmony amongst humans is unattainable and virtually impossible as differing ideas, opinions and positions are not valued but instead subjected to criticisms and even hateful responses in both words and deeds. Our fraternity has not been spared as we see swelling numbers of controversies and conflicts emanating from the pettiest of issues which could have easily been resolved if simple mutual respect and broadmindedness prevailed.

For this Grand Lodge year, we shall employ the three harmony pillars mentioned above and their symbolisms to better enable us to circumscribe intolerance and subdue discordant passions among the brethren.

Institutional Harmony is signified by the Jose Abad Santos Hall as we were taught that every Masonic Lodge is a representation of King's Solomon Temple whereby the allegories of Masonic rituals were centered. By such, we are ever reminded of the wisdom imparted by the late MW Raymundo N. Beltran, PGM, that our goal is to *build spiritual temples in the heart of every Mason.*

The second pillar which is National Harmony, is symbolized by the Philippine flag; an emblem of sovereignty and liberty and a symbol of the both the valor and sacrifices of its people. For us Masons, it relates to the charges we received in our path to become Master Masons.

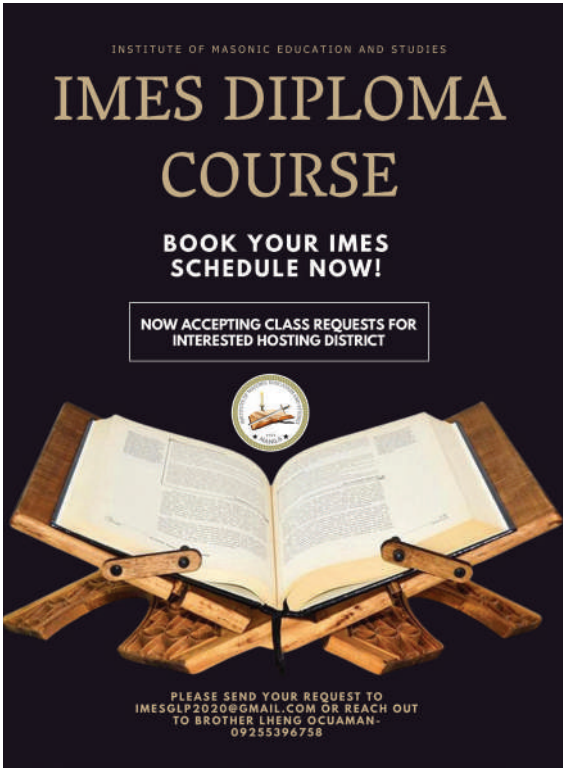
Finally, our Grand Lodge Seal was selected to represent Fraternal Harmony as the designs in such mark expresses the vital balance essential to create unanimity and accord among the brethren like the composition of beautiful melodies. The three images of the pillars together seemingly form figures resembling the number "110" and hence, it is our ardent hope that this 110th year of our Grand Lodge's existence shall be the pivotal turning point of our organization's transition from the increasingly dissonant state to a much peaceful and harmonious brotherhood lasting from generation to generation.

Inshallah, we can revisit the three pillars of harmony in my future articles in the succeeding Cable Tow issues. Let us jointly recall those valuable lessons presented to each one of us during our Stated Meetings and blue lodge degree conferrals, all of which are "in our midst" as working tools for use in our everyday lives.

May our travels together result in a better and more enduring harmony within ourselves as well as within and without our respective lodges. As we embark on this journey in pursuit of harmony, let us ponder over the following excerpt from a nostalgic song by actress and composer Jill Jackson-Miller which she wrote after being suicidal and discovering the unconditional love, joy of peace and acceptance of our Great Creator:

Let there be peace on earth
Let it begin with me;
Let there be peace on earth,
The peace that was meant to be.
With God as our Father
Brothers all are we,
Let me walk with my brother
In perfect harmony …
Together, Brethren, let us pursue

Harmony for One and All: the Foundation of Genuine Masonic Fraternity.



Warm Fraternal Greetings
from the Brethren of

Masonic District R-XII SOCSKSARGEN

Mt. Matutum Masonic Lodge No.156
Chartered 1960

Koronadal Masonic Lodge No.209
Chartered 1976

Dadiangas Masonic Lodge No.225
Chartered 1979

Daguma Mountain Range Masonic Lodge No.244
Chartered 1980

Kaduh Masonic Lodge No.278
Chartered 1987

Sultan Kudarat Lodge No.348
Chartered 2003

Maribulan Masonic Lodge No.304
Chartered 1993

VW Dave R. Arreglado, DDGM
District Deputy Grand Master

District Grand Lecturers

VW Clent Joey Cobreros
VW Richard T. Opinion
VW Rommel O. Javier
VW Mohalidin M. Suaeb
VW Eumir Ernesto P. Tiamzon

Grand Lodge Inspectors

WI Jeffrey Mosqueda (156)
WI Samuel Cadungon (225)
WI Alain Panlaque (304)
WI Raul Travilla (209)
WI Roy dela Cruz (244)
WI Marvin A. Fontalva (348)
WI Cynric Emerson T. Ang (278)

Page Sponsor - Masonic District R-XII SOCSKSARGEN

RED MOUNTAIN RISING

By VW Joel A. Capalit, PDDGM, TCT Head News Correspondent

For the brethren of the 241st Chartered Lodge in our jurisdiction, the year 2018 was extraordinary -- the Grand Master and Junior Grand Warden hailing from the same Worshipful Lodge were each elected and installed at the same ANCOM. It was indeed exhilarating to witness the historic ascension of MW Romeo S. Momo Sr. to the Grand Oriental Chair as the 101st Grand Master of our Most Worshipful Institution and along with him his lodge mate RW Johnny T. Pimentel looking well n the South after his election to Junior Grand Warden's seat. With no less than the President of the Republic, His Excellency Rodrigo R. Duterte, standing as Guest of Honor and Speaker at the 102nd Annual Communication in Davao City. Fast forward to six summers, in a journey prolonged by Covid-19 pandemic, MW Johnny Pimentel was likewise himself installed as GLP's 104th Grand Master in a hybrid Communication at the finely refurbished halls of the Plaridel Masonic Temple in the Grand Lodge.

Once again, the proud brethren of Red Mountain 241 were celebrating in that 28th day of April 2022. Its incumbent WM Rufino P. Vasquez was elated to say this: "The members are so delighted and proud that for the second time, a widow's son of Red Mountain 241 went on to become the 104th Grand Master of Masons in the Philippines.

The soft spoken MW Romeo Momo, who became its Worshipful Master in 1989 and a former DPWH undersecretary, turned politician after serving in the 18th Congress as a partylist representative, has become a hometown favorite. He convincingly unseated his rival, incumbent congressman and a dominant political figure for quite a long time.

But what has made the brethren so euphoric this time, is that Grand Master Johnny Pimentel, who served his mother Lodge as Worshipful Master in 1993 and 1994, has been chosen again by the electorate as Congressman of the Second District of Surigao Sur more than a week after his catapult to the highest post at the

Grand Lodge of the Philippines.

Masonic influence in the southeastern province has become more evident as other members of the Craft came out victors in the year's local election contest.

As we share and relish the shining moments of jubilation, let us take a glimpse of the past of this admirable Lodge, how it was carefully molded by time and their forebears, and how perfectly and squarely its cornerstones were laid upon its ground. How it got its name Red Mountain, may sound mystical. As a matter of fact, how the name appeared, has a colorful narrative. Reading through the Lodge Entry in the Book Philippine Lodges (2003), it said the first name proposed was "laterite," a name of a substance found in great abundance in Tandag, Surigao del Sur and the mountains around it. Laterite is a product or fossils of rock decay red in color and having a high content in the oxides of iron and hydroxide of aluminum. The members, however, feared that the term might be too "highbrow," so they settled for "Red Mountain," adverting to the color laterite gives to the surrounding hills and the local name of the mountain range in the eastern boundary of Surigao del Sur and Surigao del Norte. The Lodge creation is largely to its Sponsoring Lodge, Agusan Valley Lodge No. 160 in Butuan City, the oldest lodge of Masonic District RXIII-Caraga and Surigao Provinces, which traced its roots to Masonic District 17, and later District 31. From the infusion of brethren of Agusan Valley Lodge No. 160, the pioneer Lodge in the northeastern part of Mindanao, some 53 members initially comprised the Red Mountain UD, which began to officially operate on September 28, 1979. And, when it received its Charter the following year, during the Annual Communication on April 25, 1980 with the assigned number 241, the Lodge under dispensation (UD), was able to raise six (6) members. It was constituted in a ceremony held at the Tandag Municipal Gymnasium on May 17 in same year with no less than Grand Master Manuel D. Mandac presiding the rites. The team with him were: then RW Rosendo C. Herrera, deputy grand master; VW Wilfredo T. Mendoza, senior grand warden; and, VW Pedro W. Buerano, junior grand warden.

Immediately after the constitution, Bro. Prudencio A. Afalia was installed Master

of the Lodge; Bro. Teodorico B. Torotoro as senior warden; and Bro. Roberto T. Lastimoso, junior warden. Serving as installing officer was RW Rosendo Herrera, and VW Wilfredo Mendoza as master of ceremonies.

On record following local, non-Mason officials also witnessed the ceremonies: Governor Gregorio P. Murillo; Mayor Mario Serra Ty, mayor of Tandag; Judge Homero Elpa; Msgr. Daniel Orteza, vicar of Diocese of Tandag; and Rev. Enrico Baltomo of the Evangelical Bible Mission.

In the onset of its organization the Lodge was conducting its stated and special meetings, conferral of degrees and fellowships in the conference room of the DPWH-Surigao del Sur. Now, its Masonic Temple stands on a 500 square meter lot donated by a brother acquired through a Deed of Sale from the parents of Bro. Florencio Q. Pimentel. It is located in Barangay Mabua, Tandag City. The temple building was constructed through the generous and tireless efforts of some brethren in DPWH led by VW Pedro S. Giron, the late VW Emiliano T. Salang, VW Robert C. Lala and VW now MW Romeo S. Momo Sr., PGM.

Twenty-three (23) years later after its erection, the building was already "feeling its age." Major repair and rehabilitation which started in 2013 in the incumbency of WM Agustin A. Castario, had to be done which every Lodge Master had to make as his project. Through the unflinching benevolence and efforts of brethren led no less than by MW Romeo Momo, incumbent GM Johnny Pimentel and his younger brother VW and Gov. Alexander Pimentel, the temple can now be considered biggest and most presentable and comfortable throughout MD RXIII-Agusan and Surigao Provinces. When I had the chance to lead an entourage of brethren from MD RXI-Davao Oriental, Davao de Oro and Davao del Norte to sojourn in Tandag City last March 20, 2021, through the initiative of VW Joselito P. Caballero after a long lull caused by the pandemic, the first feeling that I experienced after entering the premises of the temple, was one of enthrallment and disbelief. As I was being received at the altar, I could not stop myself getting profusely awed at the back of my mind, that the hallowed ground I was standing on was a house where Grand Masters are born!

For the Brethren of Red Mountain 241, the catharsis of collective pride and pleasure is incredibly mollifying. The inspirations that the two Grand Masters have imprinted in the hearts and minds of their brethren is life changing.

"It might take a year.
It might take a day. But
what's meant to be will
always find its way."
- Anonymous

NCom
SÁLANGI KÔ PÛI
APRIL 28 2022

GRAND MASTER'S SEAL
GRAND LODGE OF THE PHILIPPINES A&AM
MW JTP 2022
110
MW Johnny Ty Pimentel
Anno Lucis 6022 - 6025
HARMONY for ONE & ALL:
THE FOUNDATION OF GENUINE MASONIC FRATERNITY

HON. JOHNNY T. PIMENTEL

Representative – 2nd District Surigao Del Sur

- Former Chairperson of the Special Committee on Strategic Intelligence
- Former Deputy Speaker
- Former Chairperson of the Congressional Oversight Committee on Tax Reform
- Former Assistant Majority Leader
- Former Chairperson of the Committee on Good Government and Public Accountability

Legislative Performance

17th to the 18th Congress
2016-2022

- Authored 266 House Measures
- Co - Authored 336 House Measures
- 73 House Measures Passed into Law

House Committee Membership

- Committee on Strategic Intelligence
- Committee on Good Government and Public Accountability
- Committee on Ways and Means

Public Service Record

- 2nd District - Surigao del Sur District Representative (2016 - Present)
- Governor of Surigao del Sur (2010 - 2016)
- Provincial Administrator of Surigao del Sur (2001 - 2010)
- Vice Governor of Surigao del Sur (1995 - 1998)

Did you know?

Rep. Johnny Pimentel is a multi-awarded public officer? As Congressman, he awarded by RP-Mission and Development Foundation Inc. as among the top 15 congressmen among all the District Representatives. As Provincial Governor, Rep. Johnny was conferred with the Galing Pook Award for the "income retention scheme" which improved all the district hospitals in Surigao del Sur.

73 House Measures Passed into Law

RA 10936 - Creating Barangay Comawas
RA 10937 - Establishing Fish Breeding Hatcheries for Bislig City
RA 10941- Establishing Fish Breeding Hatcheries for Barobo
RA 10944- Establishing Fish Breeding Hatcheries for Hinatuan
RA 10928- Extending the Validity of Passports to 10 Years

RA 10930- Extending Validity of Driver's License to 5 Years
RA 10929- Provision of Free Wifi Access in Public Areas
RA 10925- Renewing Frachise of GMA Network
RA 10923- Postponing October 2016 Barangay and SK Elections
RA 10952- Synchronizing the 2017 Barangay and SK Elections

RA 10924- General Appropriations Act for 2017
RA 10964- General Appropriations Act for 2018
HJR No. 10- Increasing Monthly Pension of SSS Retirees by P5000
HJR No. 18- Increasing the Base Pay of Military and Uniformed Personnel
RA 10969- Providing Free Irrigation for Farmers

RA 10973- Strengthening the PNP- CIDG to Issue Subpoena
RA 11035- Balik Scientist Program
RA 11054- Bangsamoro Organic Law
RA 11038- Ensuring Preservation and Management of Protected Areas
RA 11039- Institutionalizing Electric Cooperatives Emergency Resiliency Fund

RA 11135- Davao Occidental Founding Anniversary Special Day
RA 11131- Regulating the Practice of Criminology Profession
RA 11164- Increasing the Monthly Pension for Senior Veterans
RA 11232- Amending the Corporation Code
RA 11223- Providing Universal Health Care for Filipinos

RA 11210- Extending the Grant for Maternity Leaves
RA 11219- Renewal of Iglesia Ni Cristo (Church of Christ) Franchise
RA 11215 - Institionalizing the National Cancer Control Program of the Philippines
RA 11250- Increasing the Hospital Bed Capacity of Adela Serra Ty Medical Center
RA 11462- Postponing the May 2020 Barangay and Sangguaniang Kabataan Elections to October 2021

RA 11514- Granting another 25 Years for the Franchise of TETCO
RA 11467- Increasing the Excise Taxes on Alcohol and E-cigarettes
RA 11466- Salary Standardization Law of 2019
RA 11534- CREATE Law
RA 11494- Bayanihan Recover as One Law

RA 11506- Granting San Miguel Aerocity Inc. Franchise to Operate Domestic and Int'l Airport)
RA 11517- Authorizing President to Expedite Processing and Issuance of Permits, Licenses and Certifications in National Emergencies

73 House Measures Passed into Law continuation ...

RA 11525- Expediting the Purchase and Administration of Covid 19 Vaccines
RA 11214- Establishing the Philippine Training Sports Center
RA 11291- Magna Carta for the Poor
RA 11233- Upgrading Bacoor District Hospital
RA 11229- Special Protecting for Child Passengers in Motor Vehicles

RA 11228- Mandatory Coverage for PWDs in Philhealth
RA 11260- General Appropriations Funds for 2019
RA 11293- Promotion of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
RA 11292- Institutionalizing Seal of Good Government
RA 11262- Grant of Incentives for Tourism Enterprises

RA 11311- Prohibiting Collection of Fees from Passengers in Terminals for Use of Comfort Room
RA 11302- Renewal of Franchise for Penafranca Broadcasting Corporation
RA 11303- Renewal of Franchise for Delta Broadcasting Corporation
RA 11310- Institutionalizing Pantawid Pamilya Program
RA 11319- Renewal of Franchise for CBCP

RA 11353- Renewal of Franchise for Mountain Province Broadcasting Corporation
RA 11342- Renewal of Franchise for Tirad Pass Broadcasting
RA 11354- Renewal of Franchise for Southern Broadcasting Network
RA 11355- Renewal of Franchise for Radioworld Broadcasting Corporation
RA 11357- Granting Franchise for Solar Para sa Bayan

RA 11366- Renewal of Solid North Broadcasting
RA 11320- Renewal of TV5
RA 11333- Strengthening the National Museum of the Philippines
RA 11372- Establishment of the Philippine Coast Guard Hospital
RA 11350- Creating National Commission of Senior Citizens

RA 11448- Promoting the Internationalization of Higher Education
RA 11453- Strengthening the Bataan Freeport
RA 11414- Renewal of Franchise of Rajah Broadcasting
RA 11550- Dividing Maguindanao into Two Provinces
RA 11569- Extending the Estate Tax Amnesty

RA 11235- Preventing Use of Motorcycles in Commission of Crimes
RA 11055- National Identification System
RA 11590- Taxing POGO Operators
RA 11592- Placing Regulatory Framework for LPG Industry Operations
RA 11691- Creation of the Philippine Judiciary Marshals

RA 11709- Establishment of Fixed Term for AFP Key Officers Increasing the Mandatory Retirement Age
RA 11711- Amending the Contractors' License Law
RA 11683- Simplifying the Requirements for the Creation of Component Cities in the Local Government Code
RA 11695- Strengthening Tarlac State University
RA 11696- Providing Monetary Assistance to Claimants under the Bangon Marawi

ARZO
HOTELS & RESORTS

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- **Arzo Hotel Manila - situated beside the historic Paco Park, with 44 guest rooms, Some of the amenities include: swimming pool. 2 restaurants - Kusina Comfort Foods and Migoi's Resto Bar, a coffee shop and a private function room that can accommodate maximum of 100 pax**

- **Arzo Hotel Makati - opened in 2021 with 42 guest rooms. It is situated in the heart of Makati, near the corner of EDSA and South Luzon Superhighway and just a few minutes away from Ninoy Aquino International Airport and Makati Business District.**

- **Arzo Hotel Makati Premier - our premium hotel with 20 guest rooms and a Rooftop Lounge with a great view of Makati skyline.**

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+63995 988 1977
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+63915 760 6812
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GReat Experience. Lasting Memories.

Travelling in a Grand Manner

How Hundreds of Masons Linked Through

The UNITY RIDE

Bro. Ivan Jethro Balagtas
TCT Head News Correspondent

On the March stated ride of Sons of Luzon, Pilipinas, MW Rolen C. Paulino, a regular and patched member of the motorcycle club, bared his dream of seeing the SOLP share the road with the Widows Sons, another prominent Masonic Motorcycle Club, where he is an honorary member. His only request was that it would be the riding style of Sons of Luzon, Pilipinas that will be observed should the event push through.

Not long after, VW Tony Andaya, PSGL (Luzon 57), the SOPL Founding President met with Widows Sons President Bro. Marlon del Poso (San Marcelino 380) to see through MW Paulino's wish. At the furtherance of the discussion, the riding leaders agreed that the event would be more fruitful if other Masonic riding clubs can also participate. Thus the idea for the Unity Ride was conceived.

On 19 April, a final coordination meeting was convened where the following Masonic Motorcycle Riding Clubs committed to join:

Sons of Luzon, Pilipinas	- 140 members/riders
Widows Sons	- 130 members
King Solomon Riders Club	- 40 members
Mabuhay Shriners Motorcycle Unit	- 30 members
West to East	- 100 members
Non-affiliated Masons	- 50 riders

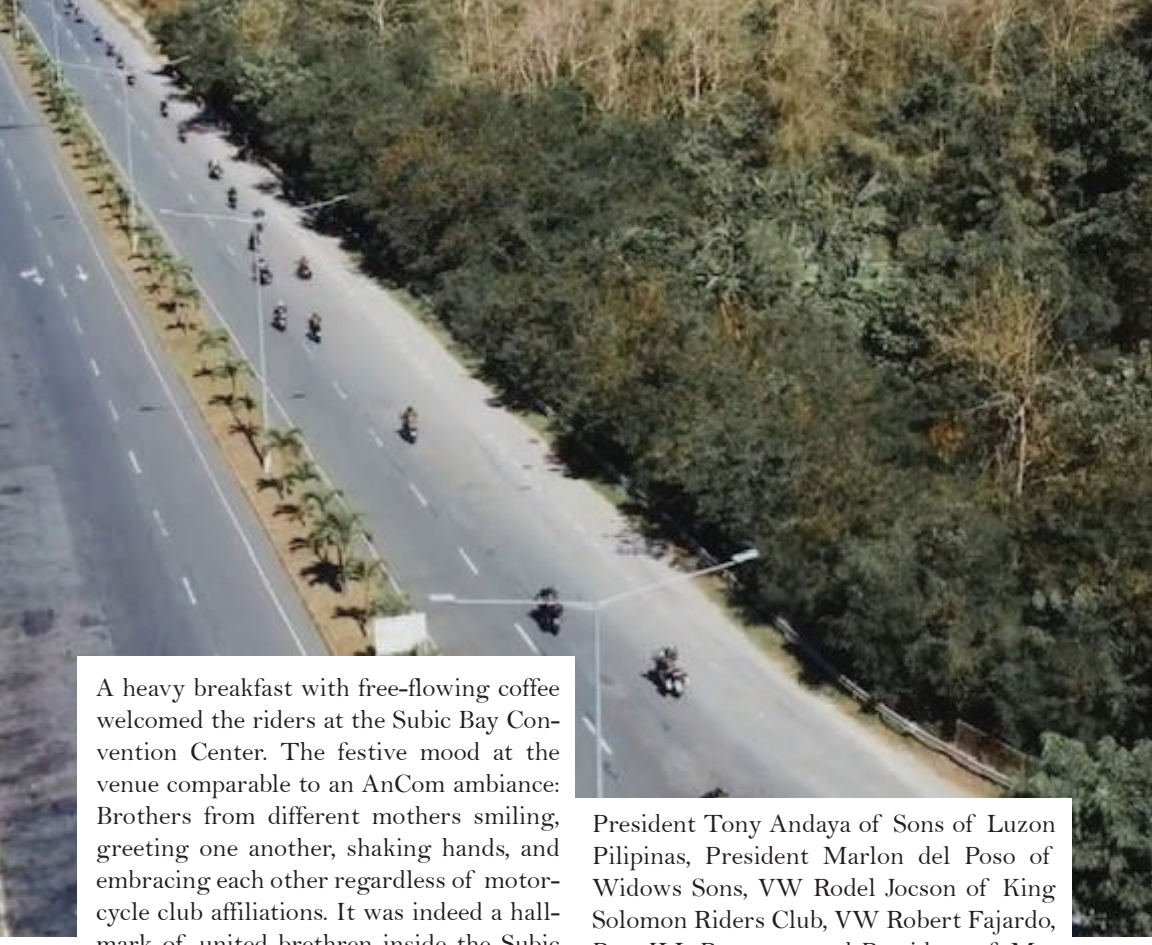
The early morning of April 25 rolled out as a historic day in the local motoring scene and a more significant hallmark for masonic unity as the North Luzon Express Way (NLEX) was stormed by hundreds of riders wearing different colors, patches, vests, and jackets - Masons ALL.

The first meet-up was at NLEX Petron KM 23 in Marilao where members of different Masonic Riding Clubs gathered. The riders then rolled-off to NLEX Total North where the second pack hooked up with the first. Passing by Petron Lakeshore, they were joined by a third group led by the Grand Master himself! The riding party numbering close to 300 Mason Motorcycle Riders traversed the long, straight, and smooth road of the Subic Clark Tarlac Express Way (SCTEX) towards Olongapo City, where they meet the West to East scooter group numbering to about 120 riders.

The long line of disciplined motorcycle riders along the SCTEX stretch gave private motorists a rare spectacle while cruising the freeway. It was as if the road was imprinted with Square & Compasses visible from the vests, jackets, and uniforms worn by the riders and the Masonic stickers and decals attached to every motorcycle. The riding mind set of the day - "no brother left behind".

About 500 Mason-riders roamed the City of Olongapo that Monday morning with the scenic views of Subic Bay as their background, making a grand entrance giving an equally grand gesture to the man behind the event, MW Rolen C. Paulino.

RAFFLE
HOG
CHAPTER



A heavy breakfast with free-flowing coffee welcomed the riders at the Subic Bay Convention Center. The festive mood at the venue comparable to an AnCom ambiance: Brothers from different mothers smiling, greeting one another, shaking hands, and embracing each other regardless of motorcycle club affiliations. It was indeed a hallmark of united brethren inside the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority (SBMA).

"There is no greater bond than that of a brother." Said an elated Pres. Tony. "This historic Masonic event proves that even when outside of the lodge, your brother is your ride or die." Added Pres. Marlon. "Even when the leather biker jacket is worn in lieu of the white leather apron, his commitment to the brethren still holds true."

The program, hosted by SOLP Riders VW Eric Duclan and VW Freddie Lilagan was opened with an Invocation delivered by a representative of West to East. While King Solomon Riders Club's Monch Tolentino led the singing of the Philippine National Anthem. Incumbent Senior Grand Lecturer Dennis Cunanan, Past ILL Potentate and a member of Sons of Luzon, Pilipinas gave the Welcome Remarks.

President Tony Andaya of Sons of Luzon Pilipinas, President Marlon del Poso of Widows Sons, VW Rodel Jocson of King Solomon Riders Club, VW Robert Fajardo, Past ILL Potentate and President of Mabuhay Shriners Motorcycle Unit, and Bro. Ira Alquiroz representing West to East each rendered their respective messages to the assembly.

Finally, MW Paulino addressed the riding brethren with an inspirational message highlighting that the Unity Ride was a dream came true for a Grand Master like him who has a passion for riding bikes, to the delight of all the Brethren present.

The Unity Ride was the first and biggest Masonic ride ever assembled in the jurisdiction. A fitting tribute to the riding Grand Master that united the Masonic Riding Clubs in the jurisdiction. With the overwhelming success, the Masonic riding community is now looking forward to making the event an annual gathering of Mason-riders.

Grand Master's Night 2022 Street Party at Olongapo City

By WB Raymond L. Wong, TCT Managing Editor

Last April 26, as part of the 105th Annual Communications of the Grand Lodge of the Philippines, a joyous festival was held along Magsaysay Drive in Olongapo City. The Evening's Festivities was in celebration of the term of MW Rolen C. Paulino, Sr. as Grand Master of Masons in the Philippine Jurisdiction.

Attended by no less than 5,000 Brethren and other personalities, among them was the Olongapo City Mayor himself, Hon. Bro. Rolen C. Paulino, Jr. Other prominent figures at the scene were Past Grand Masters MW Juanito G. Espino Jr. and MW Agapito S. Suan, Jr. Also present was the incoming Grand Master RW Johnny Ty Pimentel, along with RW Don Terng Ramas Uypitching, and RW Ariel T. Cayanan – the Senior and Junior Grand Wardens respectively. Even RW Vicente "Tito" Sotto – Honorary Junior Grand Warden was mingling with the crowd and enjoying the fellowship.

Aside from the overflowing array of food and drinks, Ten (10) LED Smart TV sets and six (6) brand new Smart phones were raffled off to the Brethren in attendance. While the Most Outstanding among the Brethren, Lodges, and Districts were awarded with

Plaques of Recognition.

Hosted by VW Wharton R. Chan and Bro Doroteo "Dhong" Roque Jr. The Grand Master's Night was a successfully executed that Tuesday Evening and was a prelude to the AnCom of 2022.

"This Event has ever been in the mind of MW Rolen back in 2019." Recalled VW Wharton, the GM's Chief of Staff. "Unfortunately, the Pandemic came and we almost thought that the Grand Master's Vision may never happen. But alas, here we are, assembled to Rock n' Roll just as he wanted it." Said the COS in triumph.

JTP National Golf Tour Tees Off to the next Masonic Term

By: Bro Ivan Jethro Balagtas / TCT Head News Correspondent

Within the craft, there are certain sports that are near and dear to the brethren. A number of brothers prefer to take on the road in motorcycles, roaming with masonic patches on their jackets. There are Masons who fancy a game of basketball during casual weekends and even during official masonic district-sanctioned events. Some go about the fun and easygoing game of bowling for both leisure and competition. But there is a sport arguably closer to the Brothers than any other, and that is GOLF. The good old-fashioned 4-lettered sport of pasture pool remain to be the medal play for businessmen, dignitaries, and like-minded brethren.

Thus the JTP National Golf Tournament kicked off the 105th AnCom with a Six-Leg Tour starting on the 7th unto the 11th of April 2022. Beginning in Northern Luzon at the Baguio Country Club. The second and third legs were simultaneously held on April 8 at Subic Golf Club and Apo Golf Club in Davao City, respectively. Catering to the handicappers of Central Luzon and Mindanao. CARAGA Region followed the next day at West Highlands Golf Club, while the remaining games for NCR and Southern Luzon Brethren were completed at Valley Golf in Rizal Province on the 11th.

The games were split into three classes – A, B, & C and trophies awarded to Low Gross and Low Net Scorers, Champions, First and Second Runners-Up.

Although not a frequenter of 18-hole courses, then incoming Grand Master Johnny Ty Pimentel, entrusted the event under the chairmanship of Bro. Tony Garcia B. Garcia – a happy brother of Magalang Lodge No. 391, knowing full well that any AnCom will not be complete without a trip to the fairway for the Golfing Afficionados among the Brethren.

AnCom GRAND E-RAFFLE 2022

By Bro. Joel S. Ferrer, TCT Business Manager

One of the highlights of the 105th Annual Communication (AnCom) was the Grand e-Raffle held during the fellowship following the Installation of the Grand Line Officers for MY 2022 - 2023. This lottery was one of the most unique sweepstakes seen in recent years. For one, it utilized online technology for the ticketing, payment, and raffle draw itself. For the distribution, the raffle tickets were sent to the lodge Secretary via their GLP-registered email addresses. Prizes included 2 cars, 1 motorcycle, 2 television sets, and 5 smartphones.

The detailed instructions, were published thru Circular 25 - MW Paulino last February 2, 2022. In consideration of the economic limitations brought about by the Pandemic, it had been decided to scale down this year's Raffle by providing only 60 raffle tickets per lodge, amounting to P500 per ticket. From the pre-pandemic quota of fifty thousand pesos worth of raffle tickets, sales this year were reduced to 30,000 php per lodge. Payment Deadline was set in March 15, 2022. All tickets given out were considered sold after said date with the usual incentive of a 20% discount given to lodges who will remit the amount before March 1.

Payments were coursed thru the China Bank Corporation (Clark Freeport Zone Branch) under the Account Name ANCOM 2022 (159100005483) were copies of deposit slips were submitted online by subordinate lodges to the ANCOM 2022 Ticket Payment Registration found at the GLP Website for validation.

League of Lucky Lodges

Bagging the Grand Price – a 2022 Toyota Corolla Cross G CVT was Camarines Sur Lodge No.382 (Bicol Region) with Winning Ticket # 10974. Recounted WM Erecto S. Caroche, *"I came to know the good news thru our lodge's chat group at 3:00 AM, the morning after AnCom but initially ignored it believing it was a joke.*

But as numerous congratulatory messages popped up at the GC of Masonic District RV-A followed by the congratulatory message from VW Erwin Verzosa - our newly installed DDGM, it finally dawned on me that our Lodge was the lucky grand prize winner." From Tarlac, the elated Master of the Lucky Lodge proceeded all the way to the GLP Compound that Friday morning (April 29) were AnCom Raffle Committee Members Bro. Jonathan Paulo, VW Joey Pangilinan, and VW Dindo Feliciano facilitated the transfer and release of the brand new SUV in just minutes after his arrival. He later drove their lodge prize all the way to Camarines Sur.

"No words can describe my emotions upon realizing that my beloved Lodge, was the lucky winner of the grand prize of the recently concluded ANCOM raffle draw. It is a gift from the Great Architect of the Universe, knowing that our Lodge is in urgent need of funding for the completion of our Masonic Temple." Added WM Caroche. After thorough deliberation during their RSM in May 2022, CamSur 383 passed a resolution, approving the disposal of the Prize Vehicle through competitive bidding. With their Temple nearing its completion but Temple funds almost depleted, the cash earnings from the sale of the Toyota Corolla Cross G CVT are a welcome solution to their temple-building dilemma.

"On behalf of Camarines Sur Masonic Lodge No. 382, we thank our Grand Master, MW Johnny Ty Pimentel, and the prime movers of the ANCOM raffle. The event was GAOTU's way in helping us convert our dream reality." Said the grateful Lodge Master.

The Second Prize - a Toyota WIGO E M/T went to the Winning Ticket # 16329 of Leonard Wood Lodge No. 105 (Angeles City). According to Lodge Sec Arnel Calaguas. They had the prize converted to its cash equivalent of 533,000 php, of which 500,000 php was earmarked as additional funds for their ongoing apartment renovation, while enjoying the 33,000 php during Summer Splash 2022 – the Lodge's yearly Summer Outing with their Families last June.

Bro. Mario P. Narag, Jr., Junior Warden of MW Leon Angel P. Bañez, Jr. Masonic Lodge No. 458 (Cagayan), also expressed gratitude on behalf of their Worshipful Master Grandee P. Dumlao and the Brethren for winning the Motorcycle as Third Prize, a Yamaha N Max 155cc under Ticket # 23582. Like Lodges 382 and 105, they likewise converted their winnings into cash, saying further *"It was a blessing that we wanted*

With the Happy Brethren of Leonard Wood Lodge 105

to use properly – a portion for our 1st Anniversary last May 10 and another part for our Team-Building last May 21 and 22 at Dipaculao, Aurora."

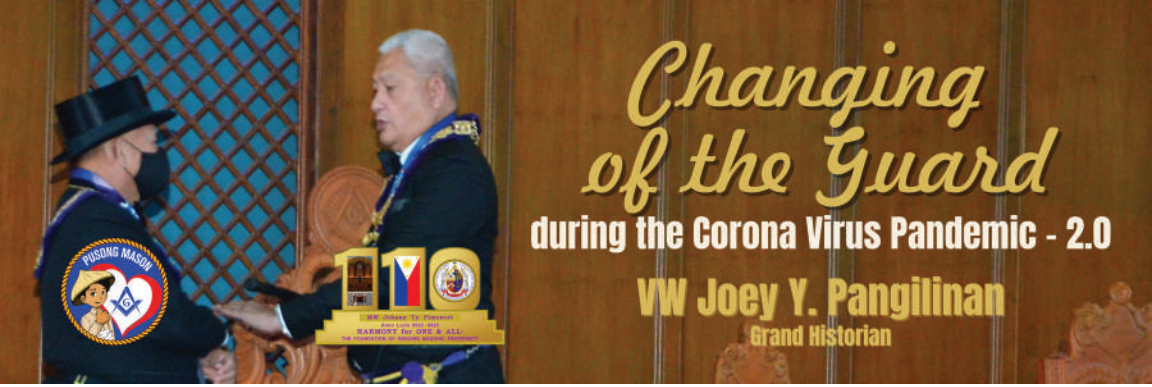
VW Edgar Sia of Hiram Lodge No.88 (Ticket # 23283), said that the Samsung 55" TV that they won would be raffled off to the brethren of their lodge. The other TV-Winning raffle ticket (# 23582) was registered under Milton Marvin Lodge No. 123 in Guam.

VW Don Canon, Lodge Secretary of Pintong Silangan Lodge No.435 of R4 Rizal (Winning Ticket # 03477), told TCT that their lodge was equally grateful for winning one of the five Samsung A54 5G phones where their Organist *"can store music"* to be played during the Opening and Closing of their lodge, as well as during Degree Conferrals. The phone shall also be used for taking pictures of lodge activities for documentary purposes.

Other Raffle Tickets winning the Samsung A54 5G Smart Phones were registered under Gonzaga Lodge No.66 – Tuguegarao, Cagayan (Ticket # 12189); Graciano Lopez Jaena 194 – Iloilo City (Ticket # 05643); Makahambus 315 – Cagayan De Oro City (Ticket # 02551); and Gualberto C. Agatep 341 - Gattaran, Cagayan (Ticket # 17152).

"Our Electronic Raffle Draw went on smoothly." Said Grand Tyler – VW Gerardo "Dindo" Feliciano, who was also the Chairman for the AnCom Raffle. "This exciting Game-of-chance, truly drew out random winners from around the jurisdiction from Cagayan in the North, through Central Luzon (Pampanga), NCR, and Southern Luzon (Rizal & Bicol), unto Iloilo and Cagayan de Oro, and further across Guam".

Sweeping Lodges by North and South, from West to East – this year's Lottery journeyed far and wide the different Masonic Districts to pick out the luckiest on the Level.



Paving the road to the 105th Annual Communication

Masonic Year 2021 – 2022 was very challenging to all Brethren throughout the jurisdiction, and the Filipino Nation as a whole. After being installed in April 23, 2021 sans fanfare nor pageantry, MW Rolen C. Paulino and his Team started their labors at the Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of the Philippines, giving priority to the constitution of 19 new Masonic Lodges who were granted their charters during the 104th AnCom.

A MORE VICIOUS 2021

In navigating through a difficult term, Team RCP furnished the brethren with several circulars instructing subordinate lodges on the conduct of masonic gatherings to be in accord with ongoing advisory of the Inter-Agency Task Force on the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-EID) at specific points in time.

These Grand Lodge Communications guided the brethren to abide by all the minimum health protocols such as the wearing of face mask, face shield, and maintaining physical or social distancing measures. Lodges were encouraged to adapt other safety measures like, but not limited to, Antigen swab testing for all attendees and disinfection of venues before and after meetings to ensure the safety of everyone and prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Four (4) months into his administration, the Grand Master was forced to issue Circular 11 suspending all Stated Meetings and other Masonic activities in the Grand Jurisdiction starting on August 6 in view of the rising cases of COVID-19 and the presence of the deadly Delta Variant of the virus. The suspension remain enforced until the end of September.

Mindful of the protection and safety of the Brethren and their respective families; and to limit, prevent, and mitigate their risk of exposure to the disease, MW Paulino discharged Circular 13 in September 27 setting rules to be observed in the conduct of Stated Meetings, District Conventions, MultiDistrict Conventions, and other Masonic activities in the Jurisdiction beginning October 1.

Following the resumption of Masonic Activities, Circular 14 – Paulino, sent out on the same month provided additional guidelines in sync with the shifting government regulations in handling the pandemic.

In a Letter dated 25 October 2021, then Deputy Grand Master Johnny Ty Pimentel wrote to the Grand Master of Masons in the Philippines, articulating certain courses of action appertaining to the governance of the Grand Jurisdiction in view of the ongoing public health emergency occasioned by the health crisis. In particular, the Deputy Grand Master recommended:

(a) extending the term of office of the Grand Master for another year, together with all elected Grand Line Officers;

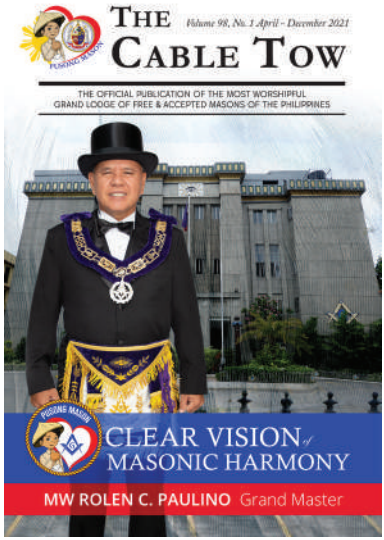
(b) extending the term of office of the Officers of Subordinate Lodges for another year; and

(c) moving the Annual Communication scheduled in April 2022 to April 2023.

According to then RW Pimentel, the recommended actions shall provide the Grand Master, as well as the Officers of Subordinate Lodges, the opportunity to execute their plans and programs, which has been interrupted by the pandemic.

Believing that out of decency and propriety, he should not act on any matter that would directly affect his tenure in the Grand East, the Grand Master referred the Letter of the Deputy Grand Master to the Board for General Purposes for consideration and appropriate action. In an emergency meeting on 26 October 2021, the Board for General Purposes considered the Letter of the Deputy Grand Master. After much discussion, the Board for General Purposes prudently resolved to refer the matter — only with respect to the proposal to extend the term of office of the Grand Master and all elected Grand Line Officers ("Subject Proposal") — to the Brethren of the Grand Jurisdiction for the conduct of discussion and consultations among Masonic Districts and Subordinate Lodges culminating in a Special Communication to be convened later that year.

It was emphasized that the Subject Proposal does not cover and shall not apply to the Worshipful Masters, Wardens, and Officers of Subordinate Lodges considering that Circular No. 14 already authorized the conduct of election of Officers of Subordinate Lodges in December 2021.



On 28 October 2021, the Grand Master convened the District Deputy Grand Masters (DDGMs) informing them of the Subject Proposal, which would have the effect of extending the term of office of all appointed Grand Line Officers, including DDGMs, Junior Grand Lecturers, District Grand Lecturers, and Grand Lodge Inspectors.

Edict No. 343 was issued in November 8 calling for a Special Communication to deliberate and resolve the proposal to extend the term of office of the Grand Master and all elected Grand Line Officers. Set to convene on December 17 at the Jose Abad Santos Hall of the Plaridel Masonic Temple at the Grand Lodge of the Philippines, the planned assembly was cancelled owing to the prevailing weather situation occasioned by Typhoon Odette (International Name: Rai) that was forecasted to affect Visayas and Mindanao. The decision to postpone and defer the conduct of the Special Communication was made, to uphold and preserve the right of all Delegates to participate and vote on the Subject Proposal.

Initially rescheduled on 07 January 2022,

the event was postponed anew and deferred to January 14. The difficulty of Masonic Districts in the typhoon-affected regions to conduct District Assemblies and connect to the Grand Lodge of the Philippines through online platforms. Again the decision to postpone and defer the conduct of the Special Communication was made to avoid the Delegates being denied their right to participate.

In January 4, MW Rolen C. Paulino, dispatched Edict 343-B cancelling the Special Communication called to deliberate upon and resolve the proposal to extend the term of office of the Grand Master and all Elected Grand Lodge Officers. The decisive communication further stated that the 105th Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines will proceed on 28 April of this year, as required under Section 1, Article IV, Grand Lodge Constitution, Part I, Masonic Law Book.

UNCERTAINTIES IN THE BEGINNING OF 2022

However, Circular 22 was discharged four (4) days later, suspending anew all Stated Meetings, Degree Conferrals, Installation of Officers and other Masonic activities in the Grand Jurisdiction beginning January 10 in view of the increasing number of cases of the Omicron variant of the COVID-19 virus, and the restrictions and/or prohibitions placed on public/mass gatherings by the National Government and by Local Government Units.

Circular 24 (dated January 25), set forth new rules for the conduct of Masonic Activities, including District Meetings, Multi-District Conventions, etc. starting February 01.

On the 2nd day of February, MW Paulino's Edict No. 344 established Modified Procedures for AnCom 2022, with the following provisions:

SECTION 1. One-Day Plenary Session – The Grand Lodge shall open the 2022 Annual Communication physically at the Grand Lodge of the Philippines, Jose Abad Hall, City of Manila. The proceedings shall be linked online and the ANCOM shall proceed to discharge its plenary business, including the election of all elective officers of the Grand Lodge and the installation of elected and appointed officers all in one day on Thursday, April 28, 2022 after which the Grand Lodge shall close the Annual Communication.

SECTION 2. Modified Program – ANCOM 2022 shall follow a hybrid program (part physical, part online) hereto attached as Annex A (MODIFIED ANCOM 2022 PROGRAM).

SECTION 3. Physical and Online Attendance – The first [400] registrants (representing 50% of venue capacity) shall be given preference. Priority are the Past Grand Masters, Incumbent Grand Lodge Officers and Electoral Committee inside the Jose Abad Santos Hall. All qualified voters who have complied with Circular 23, whether physically present or voting remotely, shall cast their votes through electronic voting system adopted and administered by the ELECOM. The procedures for the registration of voting delegates shall be dealt with under a separate circular.

SECTION 4. ELECOM COMPOSITION – The Electoral Committee shall be composed of the following:

MW Pacifico B. Aniag, PGM	**- CHAIRMAN**
VW John V. Aquino, SGL	**- Member**
VW Vladimir F. Pelaez, PDDGM	**- Member**
VW Leysander P. Aquino, PDDGM	**- Member**
VW Noel H. Yap, GCW	**- Member**

Technical Working Group

VW Don Romeo M. Garcia, VW Rogelio D. Gevero, Jr.
VW Joey Y. Pangilinan, Bro. Doroteo L. Roque, Jr.
Bro. Jonathan A. Paulo, Ms. Lara C. Medalla (Tech Support)

SECTION 5. Electronic Voting System - The ELECOM shall devise a highly credible and suitable electronic voting system for the approval of the Grand Master, to be issued and disseminated to the jurisdiction at least 30 days prior to ANCOM.

SECTION 6. Applicability Clause. – Except as otherwise provided for under this Edict, all applicable provisions of Edict No. 268-F (MW Momo), and all other relevant Grand Lodge edicts and regulations in the conduct of ANCOM shall remain applicable.

THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE OF FREE & ACCEPTED MASONS OF THE PHILIPPINES

ORDER OF BUSINESS
FOR THE 105th ANNUAL COMMUNICATION
APRIL 28, 2022
GRAND LODGE OF THE PHILIPPINES
ERMITA, MANILA
Thursday * APRIL 28, 2022

MORNING SESSION

AFTERNOON SESSION
(1:00 p.m. onwards)

(8:00 a.m to 12:00 nn)

1. **Opening of the Grand Lodge by the Deputy Grand Master**
2. **Reception of the Grand Master and turn-over of gavel to the GM**
3. **Announcement of the attendance of dignitaries by the Grand Secretary**
4. **Announcement of the attendance of Past Grand Masters on-site and on-line**
5. **Reception of the Flag, Singing of the Anthem, Panunumpa, GLP March**
6. **Opening Prayer by Grand Chaplain**
7. **Welcome Remarks**
8. **Reception and address of the Guest of Honor and Speaker**
9. **Address of the Guest Speaker**
10. **Grand Oration**
11. **Declaration of quorum by the Grand Secretary based on lodges represented at convention and delegates of lodges registered on-line (no more roll-call of lodges)**
12. **Approval of Edict on Modified Procedures for the current ANCOM**
13. **Approval of the Proceedings for the 104th AnCom at GLP, Manila**
14. **Approval of resolution that the current proceedings be adopted by the GLP as a corporate body**
15. **Acknowledgement of Grand Representatives present**
16. **Approval/Rejection/Notation of reports of GLP Officers, various attached organizations, standing and special committees for MY 2021-2022.**
17. **Turn-over of gavel to the Chairman of the Electoral Committee**
18. **Casting of Votes for the Position of Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Senior Grand Warden, Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary**
19. **Announcement of Qualified Candidates for the position of Junior Grand Warden as trimmed down by PGMs from 12 to 7**
20. **Selection of five (5) final candidates (drawn by a representative of PGMs)**
21. **Speech of Candidates (5 minutes each)**
22. **Physical voting of delegates at convention site / simultaneous on- line voting**
23. **Canvassing of Votes and Proclamation of Winners**
24. **Recess of Grand Lodge**

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS
MY 2022-2023
Evening (6:00 p.m. to 8:00 pm)

25. **Reopening of Grand Lodge**
26. **Installation Ceremonies**
27. **Closing of the Grand Lodge**

The following communications were issued to provide further guidance to the Brethren:

Circular 23 – January 24, 2022
SUBMISSION OF 2021 ANNUAL REPORT AND ELECTION RETURNS AND REMITTANCE OF 2022 ANNUAL DUES

Circular 25 – February 02, 2022
ANCOM 2022 RAFFLE TICKET

Circular 29 – March 25, 2022
105th ANCOM REGISTRATION PROCEDURES

Circular 30 – April 07, 2022
RULES AND PROCEDURES FOR THE CONDUCT OF THE ELECTION OF JUNIOR GRAND WARDEN PURSUANT TO EDICT NO. 344 (MW PAULINO) (Modified Procedures for ANCOM 2022)

Masonic District RIII- Pampanga shall be the Host District to the 105th Annual

Communication. The step-by-step procedures for the registration and payment of voting and non-voting delegates are as follows:

For clarity, Voting Delegates qualified to vote during the election of officers of the Grand Lodge shall refer to the following who should register as a group:

All the incumbent elective and appointive officers of the Grand Lodge, except Grand Lodge Inspectors;

The Past Grand Masters; The incumbent Masters, Senior and Junior Wardens of the accredited Subordinate Lodges;

The immediate Past Master of an accredited Subordinate Lodge, in representation of all Past Masters of his Lodge.

Non-Voting Delegates shall comprise of all other Past Masters of Accredited Lodges as well as all other Past Grand Lodge Officers and are entitled to vote on all other Grand Lodge matters.

Only the qualified Voting and Non-Voting Delegates duly accredited in accordance with Edict No. 344 and other existing rules and regulations, who have registered for the 105th Annual Communications and who are actually present physically or virtually during the ANCOM shall be allowed to cast their votes.

Under the current IATF Protocols of Level 1 in NCR, other Brethren desiring to attend the ANCOM face to face or via online may register through the portal provided in the GLP Website but are not entitled to vote in the proceedings.

Upon registration, proof of payment should be attached properly in the online registration link for proper validation and accounting. Absence of which might cause your registration to be invalidated and not properly accounted for.

Registration is pegged at Two Thousand Five Hundred Pesos only (Php2,500.00) which will cover the cost of hosting. The registration fee is way below the previous ANCOM registration fees and will only cover actual expenses that will be incurred in conducting the hybrid ANCOM. Expenses will cover the costs of staging the Grand Master's Night in Olongapo City including the (a) LED Set-up, (b) Food, (c) Beverages, (d) Sound System, (e) Stage and (f) Bands. For the actual ANCOM Expenses, the registration fee will settle for the (a) GLP Bond, (b) Printing and Distribution of previous ANCOM Proceedings, (c) Printing of current ANCOM reports, (d) LED Set-up, (e) Sound System, (f) Online Set-up, (g) Food, and (h) Beverages. Added to all these will be the ANCOM Installation Set-up and Food in the evening.

There will be NO On-Site Registration. All delegates should register online via GLP Website. This will help manage the preparation and efficient staging of the event projected expenses.

Edict No. 344 was issued putting in place a Modified Procedures for ANCOM 2022 for the conduct of election for the position of Junior Grand Warden (JGW) and appointment of the Election Committee (ELECOM) for the purpose. The ELECOM, pursuant to its mandate, have formulated the hereto attached Rules and Procedures for the election of the JGW for MY 2022 - 2023 (Attachment "A").

The District Deputy Grand Masters (DDGMs) are hereby mandated and instructed to convene, physical and/ or virtual District Assemblies for the Annual Communication and conducting the election for the position of JGW on April 28, 2022 from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm in their respective districts.

RULES AND PROCEDURES FOR THE CONDUCT OF THE ELECTION OF JUNIOR GRAND WARDEN PURSUANT TO EDICT NO. 344 MODIFIED PROCEDURES FOR ANCOM 2022 (MW PAULINO)

By Authority of the Election Committee (ELECOM) as provided for in the Masonic Law Book (Sections 6 and 7 of Article VI; Voting, Representation and Electoral Committee), the following Rules and Procedures are hereby promulgated for the Election of Junior Grand Warden (JGW) on April 28, 2022:

Function and Powers. The ELECOM shall exercise such Powers and Functions as provided under Section 7, Article VI of the Masonic Law Book (Voting, Representation and Electoral Committee);

Election Officers. For the purpose of conducting the election of the JGW on April 28, 2022, the incumbent District Deputy Grand Masters (DDGMs) of the sixty-two (62) districts of the Grand Jurisdiction and such other officers as maybe necessary are hereby deputized as Election Officers, acting for and on behalf of the ELECOM, with specific powers, functions and duties herein provided;

Powers and Duties of Election Officers. The deputized Election Officers shall:

Convene a District Assembly on April 28, 2022 from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm;

Provide venue for the District Assembly which should be an open space or area with sufficient ventilation for the prevention of the transmission of COVID-19 among the attendees. The site for District Assembly should have a strong internet connection for purposes of monitoring by the ELECOM and transmission of Election Returns;

Be responsible for the counting of votes and transmit electronically thru Viber or Email a signed scanned copy or photo image of the Election Returns to the ELECOM;

The ELECOM shall prepare Election Paraphernalia for all qualified voters and shall be sent to the Election Officers; and

No form of campaigning, electioneering and solicitations for expenses for the conduct of the District Assembly shall be made as provided for under Sec. 4 Art. VI of our Constitution (Prohibited Practices) List of Qualified Voters. A list of qualified voters, prepared by the IT Committee and certified by the Grand Secretary, with email addresses and contact numbers shall be provided to the DDGMs, including that of Grand Lodge Officers and Past Grand Masters (PGMs) who may opt to vote in the District Assemblies;

Ballots and Election Returns shall be prepared by the ELECOM and distributed by mail or any courier services to the DDGMs at least fourteen (14) days before the Annual Communication. The ballots and election returns shall be authenticated by the signature of at least two (2) members of the ELECOM before distribution to the qualified voters on the day of election. The Ballots, Tally Sheet, Attendance Sheet, Election Returns and other paraphernalia used in the proceedings shall be preserved

by the Election Officers and shall be transmitted to the GLP thru the ELECOM within seven (7) days after the Annual Communication;

Procedure for Election of JGW:

On April 28, 2022, the DDGMs shall convene a District Assembly of the qualified voters pursuant to EDICT 344 (MW Paulino) putting in place a Modified Procedures for ANCOM 2022 for the conduct of election for the position of Junior Grand Warden (JGW). Grand Lodge Officers may participate and vote in the Districts where they reside;

The twelve (12) nominees shall be required to be physically present at the Grand Lodge of the Philippines (GLP), New Plaridel Masonic Temple, Manila during the ANCOM. The announcement of the seven (7) short listed nominees shall be made during the ANCOM. Thereafter, the final five (5) nominees shall be drawn and be given five (5) minutes each for the presentation of their programs and/ or platforms;
The ELECOM Chairman shall set the hour for the conduct of election for JGW. The voting hour shall proceed immediately after the last speaker among the five (5) finalists have spoken;

Upon the direction of the ELECOM Chairman, ballots shall be distributed by the deputized election officers and the election process shall begin;

e. The registered and qualified voters shall sign a Registry Sheet that he actually received his ballot and actually voted by writing the name of his chosen candidate, fold the ballot and deposit the same in a designated ballot box. A period of one (1) hour shall be fixed for this process. After the lapse of which the ELECOM Chairman shall declare the voting officially closed. All voters who could not make it to the one (1) hour election period shall inform the election officers who will thereafter inform the ELECOM;

f. After the voting is declared CLOSED, the DDGMs in the presence of the deputized election officers shall count the votes cast. Thereafter, the election officer will transmit electronically thru VIBER (VW John Aquino - 09175121997, Bro Doroteo L. Roque, Jr. - 09988456831) or Email (elecom2022@grandlodge.ph) to the ELECOM the scanned or image copy of the Election Returns with the corresponding photos of all paraphernalia used. A cut-off time shall be fixed for the transmission of the Election Returns;

g. The Election Returns shall be canvassed and tallied by the ELECOM from the District Assemblies. The candidate who garners a majority of the votes casted will be declared winner. In case no one among the candidates gets the majority vote, the provisions of Article V Section S; d, nos. 34 and 35 shall be applied, to wit:

"34. In the election of the JGW, the candidate who obtains the highest majority vote cast by the voting delegates shall be declared the winner. Should none of the candidates voted upon gamer the required majority votes on the first balloting, the election shall proceed to a second balloting. Only the candidates who obtain the first and second highest number of votes shall be qualified to be voted upon on the second balloting. (Edict Nos. 268-E & 268-F, MW Momo).

35. The candidate who obtains the highest number of votes by plurality in the second balloting shall be proclaimed the winner and the duly elected Junior Grand Warden. In case of a tie, the same shall be broken by a toss coin and the candidate who wins in said toss coin shall be proclaimed the winner and the duly elected Junior Grand

Warden. The toss coin shall be done in public by the Chairman of the ELECOM (Edict Nos. 268-E & 268-F, MW Momo)."

h. Past Grand Masters shall vote separately by communicating their vote to the Chairman of the ELECOM;

i. The proceedings for the election of the Junior Grand Warden shall be under the control and supervision of the ELECOM. All election questions, disputes and protests shall be decided by the ELECOM with finality;

j. Proclamation of the duly elected Junior Grand Warden shall be made by the ELECOM Chairman and the former's acceptance of his election shall be sought. Thereafter, all Elected and Appointed Officers of the Grand Lodge for MY 2022-2023 shall be installed.

ELECTION PROPER

Vol.98 of the Cable Tow released its ANCOM Issue (No.2) in April featuring the following 14 nominees for the position of Junior Grand Warden from the different regions of the jurisdiction:

1. **VW ROMEGILDO B. ALOCELJA, JR.** (Kidapawan : : 170) - from Southern Mindanao / R-XII North Cotabato & Cotabato City
2. **VW ALEXANDER M. ANG** (Hundred Islands : : 201) – from Northern Luzon / R-I Pangasinan
3. **VW ELVIS L. BEDIA** (Dr. Jose P. Rizal : : 270) – from Southern Luzon / R-IV Laguna (West)
4. **VW RAUL E. CANON, JR.** (Primera Luz Filipina : : 69) – from Southern Luzon / R-IV Cavite (East)
5. **VW NOMER ABEL P. CANLAS** (Island-Luz-Minerva : : 5) – from Central Luzon / R-III Pampanga
6. **VW GERARD A. CEBALLOS** (Pinaglababan : : 374)– from the National Capital Region / NCR-F Quezon City
7. **VW MAGDALINO Q. GABRINAB** (Zosimo Montemayor : : 212) – from Northern Mindanao / R-X Bukidnon (South)
8. **VW TEODORO ALEJANDRO Y. KALAW IV** (Teodoro M. Kalaw : : 136) – from the National Capital Region / NCR-F Quezon City
9. **VW MELANIO V. LAZARO** (San Mateo : : 319) – from Northern Luzon / RII Isabela (South)& Quirino
10. **VW EMMANUEL R. SACAY** (Malolos : : 46) – from Central Luzon / R-III Bulacan (West)
11. **VW DOUGLAS S. TAN** (Cebu Masonic Lodge No. 128) – from the Visayas / R-VII Cebu, Bohol, & Siquijor
12. **VW HENRY L. TAN** (Jose Rizal Lodge No.22) – from the National Capital Region / NCR-C Manila
13. **VW TRESE D. WENCESLAO** (Nueva Ecija : : 73) – from Central Luzon / Masonic District RIII Nueva Ecija (South)
14. **VW NELSON T. YAU** (Labong : :

59) – from the National Capital Region / NCR-B Manila

Days earlier, the nominated brethren were interviewed by a panel of Past Grand Masters. Come AnCom, they were short-listed to seven (7): VW Nomer Canlas; VW Raul Canon; VW Gerald Ceballos; VW Teodoro Kalaw IV; VW Henry Tan; VW Trese Wenceslao; and VW Nelson Yau.

The names of VW Kalaw and VW Tan were not included after the drawing of lots – a random system that is now part of the selection process initially introduced in Edict 268-B (MW Rentoy) reducing the list down to five (5): VW's Canlas, Canon, Ceballos, Wenceslao, and Tan. After the casting of ballots of all Voting Delegates following the procedures under Edict 344, VW Raul S. Canon was elected to the position of Junior Grand Warden for Masonic Year 2022 – 2023.

NEW GRAND MASTER INSTALLED

On the same day, at 6:00 PM – MW Johnny Ty Pimentel and his Team of Appointed Grand Lodge Officers were Installed in a hybrid procedure of actual and virtual ceremony, as some members were physically present while other team members were limited to online attendance. Inducted in the same manner were the Elected Grand Officers: RW Don T. Ramas-Uypitching, Deputy Grand Master; RW Ariel T. Cayanan, Senior Grand Warden; RW Raul E. Canon, Jr., Junior Grand Warden; MW Juanito G. Espino, Jr., PGM – Grand Treasurer, and MW Danilo D. Angeles, PGM – Grand Secretary.

The Installing Team was composed of the following Masonic Luminaries: MW Santiago T. Gabionza, Jr., PGM, Installing Officer; MW Pacifico B. Aniag, PGM, Master of Ceremonies; MW Juanito B. Abergas, PGM; Asst. Master of Ceremonies.

WM Juan Edgardo M. Angara – incumbent Master of Pangarap Masonic Lodge No.448 and a member of the Philippine Senate was present as Guest of Honor & Speaker.

CONCLUSION

This article is a continuing narrative on how the road to the 105th Annual Communication was prepared. Masonic Year 2021

– 2022 was the second time that Grand Lodge Leadership was transferred during the Corona Virus Pandemic, hence its sequential title.

It was a more vicious year that MW Paulino had to face. The number of Covid-19 Cases were higher and the fatalities far greater. Despite the threat to the health and safety of the Brethren, the Grand Lodge through the unfailing strength and wisdom of its

leaders and members and the divine power of the Great Architect of the Universe was able to continuously adapt thus making the transition of leadership to the next Grand Master possible, without deviating from masonic laws, landmarks, customs, and traditions.

It took our immediate Past Grand Master - four (4) Edicts and ten (10) Circulars, issued between the period of six (6) months from November 2021 to April 2022, to execute the next changing of the Guard at the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of the Philippines during the COVID-19 Pandemic.The entire jurisdiction commends both MW Rolen C. Paulino - the immediate PGM and Grand Master Johnny Ty Pimentel as well as their respective Teams for bravely facing the challenge of guiding the course of Philippine Masonry towards another Masonic Year. From one Harmonious Theme to the Next, the Grand Lodge of the Philippines Lives On.

Editor's Epilogue:

On May 10 – MW Johnny Ty Pimentel issued Circular 2 informing the Brethren, of Matters Approved during the 105th Annual Communication. Corona Virus Cases have since decreased and Covid Restrictions lessened. Steadily, the GLP have resumed to pre-Covid-19 Operations although Pandemic-related Communications such as Edict 342 – MW Paulino – Suspending the Six Stated Meeting Rule during the Pandemic and Circular 4 – MW Pimentel – Granting General Dispensation for the holding of Degree Works during Regular Stated Meetings until the Declaration of Covid-Free Regime, are still strictly observed.

REFERENCES:

- The Masonic Law Book (2019)
- Edict No. 342 (MW Paulino) - Suspending the Six Stated Meeting Rule during the Pandemic
- Edict No. 343 (MW Paulino) - Special Communication To Deliberate and Resolve the Proposal to Extend the Term of Office of the Grand Master and All Elected Grand Line Officers
- Edict No. 343-A (MW Paulino) - Supplement to Edict No.343 calling for a Special Communication To Deliberate Upon and Resolve the Proposal to Extend the Term of Office of the Grand Master and All Elected Grand Line Officers
- Edict No. 343-B (MW Paulino) - Cancelling the Special Communication Called To Deliberate Upon and Resolve the Proposal to Extend the Term of Office of the Grand Master and All Elected Grand Line Officers
- Edict No. 344 (MW Paulino) - MODIFIED PROCEDURES FOR ANCOM 2022
- Circular Nos. 03, 04, 07, 08, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 18-A, 18-B, 18-C, 23, 25, 29, and 30 (MW Paulino)
- Circular Nos. 2 and 4 (MW Pimentel)

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MW JOHNNY T. PIMENTEL
Grand Master

MW DANILO D. ANGELES, PGM
Grand Secretary

CIRCULAR NO. 2 – MW PIMENTEL

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

SUBJECT : MATTERS APPROVED DURING THE 105th ANCOM

For the information and guidance of the Brethren, the following matters were duly taken up, seconded and approved during the plenary proceedings of the 105th ANCOM held at the Jose Abad Santos Hall, Plaridel Masonic Temple, City of Manila on April 28, 2022:

1. Approval of the minutes of the **Proceedings of the 104th ANCOM** held in Manila on April 22, 2021;

2. Approval of the motion to adopt the **Proceedings of the 105th ANCOM,** as appropriate, as the Annual Meeting of the Grand Lodge of the Philippines as a Corporation;

3. Approval of the Report of the **Committee on Finance** re Proposed Budget for Masonic Year 2022-2023;

4. Approval of the report of the following **Standing and Special Committees** for Masonic Year 2021-2022;

   a. Report of the Committee on Jurisprudence;
   b. Report of the Committee on Grievance;
   c. Report of the Committee on Administration of Lodges, Returns & Charters, including the following:

   Recommended for approval of charters and issuance of permanent charter numbers:

   1. Aslagan Masonic Lodge No. 470
   2. Omar Manabilang Masonic Lodge No. 471

   3. Enrique M. Cojuangco Masonic Lodge No. 472
   4. Tani U. Telow Masonic Lodge No. 473
   5. Agusan Marsh Masonic Lodge No. 474
   6. Mamamayang Pilipino Masonic Lodge No. 475
   7. Jaen Triangle Masonic Lodge No. 476
   8. Chocolate Hills Masonic Lodge No. 477

Recommended for Continuance of Dispensation:

1. Katipunan Masonic Lodge U.D.
2. Mariano C. Ramirez Masonic Lodge U.D.
3. Maximo B. Ratunil Masonic Lodge U.D.
4. Wenceslao Q. Vinzons Masonic Lodge U.D.

Recommended for Discontinuance of Dispensation:

1. Angat Masonic Lodge U.D.

d. Report of the Committee on Accounts;
e. Report of the IMES;
f. Report of the Masonic Charities for Crippled Children Inc. (MCCCI)
g. Report of Financial Relief Assistance Program (FRAP)

5. Approval of the recommendation of the **Committee on Grand Lodge Officers' Report** approving the following:

a. The Grand Treasurer's Report;
b. The Grand Secretary's Report;
c. The Senior Grand Lecturer's Report; and
d. The Grand Masters Report, which includes the following specific items:

i. **Edict No. 340-B, Edict No. 342, Edict No. 343, Edict No. 343-A, Edict No. 343-B, Edict No. 344, Edict No. 82-F, Edict No. 233-V, Edict No. 345**

ii. The grant of Charters and permanent lodge numbers to Masonic Lodge Under Dispensation as recommended by the Committee on Charters and Administration of Lodges, including the extension of Dispensation and Discontinuance to Lodges U.D. as recommended;

iii. All adjucated original cases decided upon by the Grand Master by himself and by recommendation of the Committee on

Preliminary Investigation, Masonic Trial Commission as well as appealed cases recommended by the Grievance Committee;

6. RW Uypitching announced that the 106th Annual Communication will be held in Dumaguete City as the venue with the brethren from said City as the hosts.

This Circular shall be effective upon posting in the official Grand Lodge website or upon electronic transmission to the official lodge address and shall be read in open lodge at the Stated Meeting next following its receipt with action thereon duly recorded in the Minutes of the said meeting.

Given under my hand the Seal of the Grand Lodge of the Philippines at the City of Manila, Philippines, this 10th day of May 2022.

JOHNNY T. PIMENTEL
Grand Master

Attest:

DANILO D. ANGELES, PGM
Grand Secretary

CLEAR VISION OF MASONIC HARMONY

By VW Dennis L. Cunanan – Grand Orator

I am personally humbled and euphoric being given the prodigious task of delivering the Grand Oration under the able leadership and term of Most Worshipful Grand Master Rolen C. Paulino. Having known the person beyond the boundaries of Freemasonry, I could not but be as inspired and as passionate as he is in all of things that he does, get engaged with or with whatever task he is faced to undertake or serve. His exemplar socio-civic and political track record speaks well of his good character and high moral values. His assumption to the Grand Oriental East is both providential and a product of having the proper moral compass in doing things in life. The moment he took the podium before his election as Junior Grand Warden, all that he was espousing are the values of our obligations as a fraternity and importance of harmonious relationship amongst brethren. A herculean task calling for genuine Masonic Harmony that he did not only speak of but impeccably act as well. He even dared us to open his left breast and expose his heart which will show a true heart of a Mason – Pusong Mason! Our Grand Master believes that the heart is the center and the source of all virtues. It is where the goodness of a man is held. It is in the heart where the core ideals of Freemasonry are found.

All our current Grand Master really wanted is to see under his term, that in this Masonic year, every brother within the jurisdiction will embrace the very tenets that make us all Master Masons – sincerely operationalizing Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth in order to achieve a higher level of Harmony within the Craft. An aspiration not impossible to achieve and definitely not unreasonable to aim for. We always say that Harmony is the strength and support of all societies especially of our noble brotherhood, it is meant to be the very foundation of our relationships with our fellow brethren and renders unto every mason his rightful wage of joy for his labors in his respective lodge or lodges. However, the baffling thought amidst all these is the fact that for so many years now, a good number of past Grand Masters have delved and embraced harmony as either the principal or integrated message in their respective term banner themes.

We are a growing diverse fraternity with diverse views and diverse desires. The word Unity now becomes something hard to achieve as the bar of the level of basic unity keeps on moving and becomes unstable with modern times and growth circumstances. Our very Grand Lodge is sadly overwhelmed with complaints and cases of brother against another brother under vari-

ous contexts of dispute and mis-understandings. Unfortunate with all these glaring facts are the added problems of social media and other forms of cyber issues disclosing unverified situations and exposing ourselves outside of the very processes which should be dealt with accordingly and confined within the walls as to where we were made a Master Mason. We are not an ordinary socio-civic organization nor are we a regular community club, we are a great fraternity with sworn obligations. Masonry as we all know is a system of morality, veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols. A way of life we have sworn before the Holy Book which should always remind us of the fact that Masonry is here to make good men better and not covered with pure rhetoric of elevating one's ego or contributing to deteriorating life in our societies.

Under our current predicament with fragmented views and different roads we wish to travel in reaching our destination, the call for unity may only be a forever dream but harmonious co-existence can definitely be achieved. In one of my worthwhile talks with one Past Grand Master, he intimidated upon my humble self the essence of, in times of chaos and discord, to have the genuine heart to stop talking and to start listening. To stop arguing and to start appreciating diversity. To stop pointing at the mistakes of others and to start looking at the good side of things. Appreciating the whole scenario like that of an orchestra, were one voice will not make sense individually rendered but will produce a good music once synchronized and blended together. Harmony is not only the key but the essence of the whole situation.

When we declare "on the level" we bring out our shared responsibility as brothers. We do not look at titles, race, color, or positions in life. We always meet on the same level regardless of social or economic status outside of the lodge. This is what define us from the others when we deal with things. Something we should remind ourselves to avoid conflict and instead plant the seeds of cooperation and understanding. In our Life, we seldom get people with whom we want to share and grow our thought process with. But because of our inner ego we miss them forever. It is you who must decide with whom you are getting associated in day-to-day life. Small people talk about others, Average people talk about things, Great people talk about ideas! Remember brethren, Masonry does not detract from a man's accomplishments, nor does it exalt him above his Brothers because of his position inside or even outside of the lodge.

When we invoke "on the square" we declare that as Freemasons, we all have equal obligations to the Craft. When a stonemason cuts a block to use in the construction of a building, it must be perfectly shaped so that it will support the other blocks that surround it. The block's sides must all be perfectly straight with no faults, so that it will do its part as just one small piece of a much larger building. To check the reliability of his workmanship, the stonemason uses a tool called a square, shaped like a right angle, to determine whether the sides and angles of the stone are perfect. We as Freemasons use the term on the square to describe trust in each other. A man who is on the square is honest and reliable and is a strong part of the whole community around him.

When we ask someone "are you a traveler?" we show how willing we are to extend our obligation to the brother of the Craft. Something we all are pleased to do and undertake even under very challenging circumstances all because we wanted to be able to proudly outspread our own cable tow of support and assistance if needed. Again, this act of graciousness is one that sets us apart from the others, a genuine care to brothers strongly encircled by our sworn obligations. The sight of Masonic rings worn, decals and other masonic signs or symbols displayed or used makes our inner adrenalin jump to check and introduce ourselves to the brother Mason and start a bond of lasting friendship, camaraderie, and brotherhood.

When the Tyler of the Lodge is ordered to keep off all "Cowans and eavesdroppers" we strongly affirm why we are set apart as better from the others. The term cowan is unusual and its origin is probably from a very old Anglo-Saxon word

meaning "dog." Cowan came to be a Scottish word used as a putdown to describe stonemasons who did not join the Freemasons guild, while the English used it to describe Masons who built rough stone walls without mortar and did not know the true secrets of Freemasonry. Set apart as better from the others is something we all should embrace well and practice. We should not go low to the level of carcass by demeaning our very character as a person in attacking and misjudging other brothers without due process and good sense of justice. We are Freemasons, not rumormongers. We should build a strong sense of harmony to reach the better level that set us apart from the others.

I suppose our Most Worshipful Grand Master decided to give me this duty now because I am a living testament to how great things happen when we walk amongst brothers who need not hear your plea or explanation to a situation in life but would always extend the helping hand under challenging circumstances. As the dictum goes, to your friends, you need not to have to explain and they will continue to believe in you, to your enemies, whatever you say, they will never believe you. Freemasonry never judged me, nor did it condemn me going through the rough and rugged road of challenging times. Freemasonry took my hand in aide, no ifs, no buts, pure brotherly love and relief guided by fraternal truth!

When we proclaim a Clear Vision of Masonic Harmony, it is not just a tag line nice to say or post, it is a strong statement of commitment and aspiration. Our Craft will not move further in progress if we ourselves, brother to brother, will be pulling one after the other in the pursuit of selfish intentions and mercenary motives. We can never allow individual messianic tendencies disguised as pure intentions to cleanse the ranks but in reality, are cancerous virus eating up the very fiber of our existence as Master Masons out to destroy and divide us. Our landmarks and laws are there to preserve and protect the very essence of our relevant continuation as a fraternity and these should not be subverted by individual personal beliefs and ethics. We will continue to emerge strong ahead when we maturely handle challenges and tests of time.

In a couple of weeks, we will elect the next leaders of our country the same way as we are about to elect the next leaders of our Grand Jurisdiction in this Annual Communication. May we instill in our hearts and minds the time-tested principle of casting our vote according to conscience. The conscience that guides our moral compass in determining what is right against wrong and in discerning what is good against evil purposes. We may have our own respective personal preferences and biases towards a certain candidate whom we wanted to support but let us not be defined by all these electoral processes but instead be made stronger and better as citizens and as brother Masons.

George Washington, in his Letter to the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, January 1793:

"To enlarge the sphere of social happiness is worthy of the benevolent design of a Masonic institution; and it is most fervently to be wished, that the conduct of every member of the fraternity, as well as those publications, that discover the principles which actuate them, may tend to convince mankind that the grand object of Masonry is to promote the happiness of the human race. Bro Benjamin Franklin put it:

"Masonic labor is purely a labor of love. He who seeks to draw Masonic wages in gold and silver will be disappointed. The wages of a Mason are in the dealings with one another; sympathy begets sympathy, kindness begets kindness, helpfulness begets helpfulness, and these are the wages of a true Mason."

As ably declared in our Term Manual this Masonic Year, let us continue to show to everyone that the greatness of our ancient craft is measured by the greatness of the hearts of its craftsmen – Pusong Mason!

Editor's Note:
Delivered during the 104th Annual Communications last 21 April 2022

MASONRY IN MINDANAO

By: VW Joseph Harold W. Santiago, GSc

Ikaduhang Bahin

WESTERN MINDANAO (ZAMBOANGA PENINSULA)

Designated as Region IX – the western portion of Mindanao is known today as the Zamboanga Peninsula by virtue of Executive Order No. 36 (2001). It consists of three provinces (Zamboanga del Norte, Zamboanga Sibugay and Zamboanga del Sur) including four cities (Dapitan, Dipolog, Pagadian, Isabela) and the highly urbanized Zamboanga City. Pagadian City is the newly designated regional center while Zamboanga City remains as the region's cultural, economic, and educational hub.

There are 16 Masonic Lodges in the Region, grouped into the Masonic Districts of **R-IX Zamboanga del Sur & Sibugay; RIX & X Misamis Occidental & Zamboanga Del Norte; RIX &ARMM Zamboanga City, Sulu, Basilan & Tawi-Tawi.**

MD R-IX Zamboanga del Sur & Sibuguey has six (6) Masonic Lodges

Dr. Jose G. Hofileña No. 153
Salug Valley No. 216
Sinuguey Valley No. 246
Illana Bay No. 274
Baganian Peninsula No. 275
Dr. Aurelio Mendoza No. 283

There are four (4) Masonic Lodges in MD RIX & X Misamis Occidental & Zamboanga Del Norte. The District has the youngest lodge in the Region.

Antonino G. Lim No.162
Bernardo A. Neri No.214
Sindangan No.240
Rizal Shrine No.434

While six (6) lodges can be found in MD RIX & ARMM Zamboanga City, Sulu, Basilan & Tawi-Tawi. The oldest lodge in the region can be found here.

Mt. Apo No. 45
Bud Daho No. 102
Juan S. Alano No. 137
Bud Bongao No. 288
Samboangan No. 310
Fairway No. 415

The three Masonic Districts gather annually for the **Western Mindanao Multi-District Convention.** For 2022, the host district is RIX & RX – Zamboanga del Norte & Misamis Occidental. Schedule - October 15, Saturday @ 8am onwards. Venue: Top Plaza Hotel, Echaves St, Dipolog City, Zamboanga del Norte

NORTHERN MINDANAO

The name was gleaned from its north-central position in Mindanao and dominated by Cebuano ethnic groups. It is comprised of the five provinces of Bukidnon, Misamis Occidental, Misamis Oriental, and Lanao del Norte, including the island-province of Camiguin, and the highly urbanized cities of Cagayan De Oro and Malaybalay. Its official designation is Region X by virtue of Executive Order No. 36 (2001). There are 38 Lodges in Region X, distributed in Six (6) Masonic Districts of R-X Misamis Oriental & Cagayan de Oro City; R-X Misamis Oriental & Camiguin; R-X Misamis Occidental; R-X & BARMM Lanao Provinces; R-X Bukidnon NORTH; and R-X Bukidnon SOUTH.

Nine (9) are to be found in **MD R-X Misamis Oriental & CDO** of which the oldest lodge in Mindanao is located:

Maguindanao No.40
Macajalar No.184
Tolomeo C. Galarita No.242
Carmen Valley No.250
Kitanglay No.256
Makahambus No.315
Misamis Oriental No. 335
Seven Cardinal Virtues No. 390
Ildefonso G. Agbuya No. 425

Seven Lodges (7) are assigned under **MD R-X Misamis Oriental & Camiguin**:

Apo Kahoy No.166
Leonardo Pañares No. 220
Camiguin Island No.296
Cagayan de Oro No.298
Ben O. Go No.303
Don Antonio Cosin No.308
Kagay-An No.385

MD R-X Misamis Occidental have five (5) chartered lodges:

Mt. Malindang No. 130
Gregorio O. Calit No. 154
Palilan No. 239
Don Lorenzon Tan No. 265
Timoteo S. Uy, Sr. No. 349

The Lanao Provinces of Masonic District **R-X & BARMM** have eight (8) Lodges under its wing.

Maranaw No. 111
Iligan No. 207
Glicerio A. Lim, Sr. No. 222
Lake Lanao No. 227
Manticao No. 243
Judge Valerio V. Rovira No.259
Radja Indarapatra No. 387

Nine Lodges have been chartered in the province of Bukidnon, for administrative purposes they are divided between the Bukidnon Districts North and South, to wit:

MD R-X Bukidnon NORTH (5)

Mount Musuan No. 155
Bukidnon No. 245
Don Camilo Osias No. 253
Tangkulan No. 287
Mt. Kitanglad No. 456

MD R-X Bukidnon SOUTH (4)

Zosimo Montemayor No. 212
Lake Pinamaloy No. 230
Laureano S. Ledres, Sr. No. 271
Tani U. A Tellow No.473

The six Masonic Districts gather annually for the **Northern Mindanao Multi-District Convention** where they are joined by the seven (7) Masonic Lodges of CARAGA Region currently named **MD R – XIII Agusan & Surigao**:

Agusan Valley No. 160
Timberland No. 219
Mt Diwata No. 236
Red Mountain No. 241
Kamayo No. 255
Butuan No. 299
VW Andoni Dumlao No. 424
Agusan Marsh No. 474

For 2022, the host district is the NMMDC is R-X Bukidnon SOUTH
Schedule: October 8 – Saturday @ 8am onwards / Venue: Margaret Hotel, Maramag, Bukidnon

SOUTHERN MINDANAO

There are four Masonic Districts in this part of Mindanao.

Two of them are in the Davao Region: R-XI Davao City and Davao del Sur; and R-XI Davao del Norte, Davao de Oro (formerly Campostela Valley), and Davao Oriental where fourteen (14) lodges are to be found.

There are eight Masonic Lodges in **R-XI Davao del Sur & Davao City**, including the third oldest lodge in Mindanao:

Sarangani No. 50
Davao No. 149
Datu Bago No. 197
Digos No. 198
Toril No. 208
Beacon No. 213
Podomo No. 294
Madayaw No. 403

R-XI Davao del Norte, Davao de Oro, & Davao Oriental have six (6) Masonic Lodges under its watch:

Mati Aurora No. 190
Shangri-la No. 196
Tagum No. 204
Panabo Dalisay No. 237
Don Salvador P. Lopez No. 276
Davao de Oro No. 443

The other Southern Mindanao Districts are in Region XII SOCCKSARGEN: R-XII North Cotabato & Cotabato City; and R-XII SOCKSARGEN – with thirteen (13). It is interesting to note that the Masonic SOCKSARGEN is one C short, as the Cotabato Province have a Masonic District of its own.

The six (6) Masonic Lodges of **R-XII North Cotabato & Cotabato City** are as follows:

Kutang Bato No.110
Kidapawan No.170
Rio Grande No.192
Bantugan No.223
Shariff Kabunsuan No.266
Midsayap No.267

Masonic District **R-XII SOCKSARGEN** have seven (7) lodges:

Mt. Matutum No.156
Koronadal No. 209
Dadiangas No. 225
Daguma Mt. Range No.244
Kaduh No.278
Maribulan No.304
Sultan Kudarat No.348

All four Masonic Districts gather annually for the **SOUTHERN MINDANAO MULTI DISTRICT CONVENTION.** Of which the host this year is RXI Davao Oriental, Davao del Norte Davao de Oro. Schedule - October 1 / Saturday @ 8am onwards. Venue: Davao del Norte Sport Complex Gym, Tagum City

Although the first lodge in Mindanao, Maguindanao No. 40 was constituted under the Grand Lodge of the Philippine Islands in 1917, it was earlier formed in 1911 as a triangulo under the auspices of Gran Oriente Español – today's equivalent of a lodge under dispensation. The event has been recognized by the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of the Philippines as the beginning of Freemasonry in Mindanao.

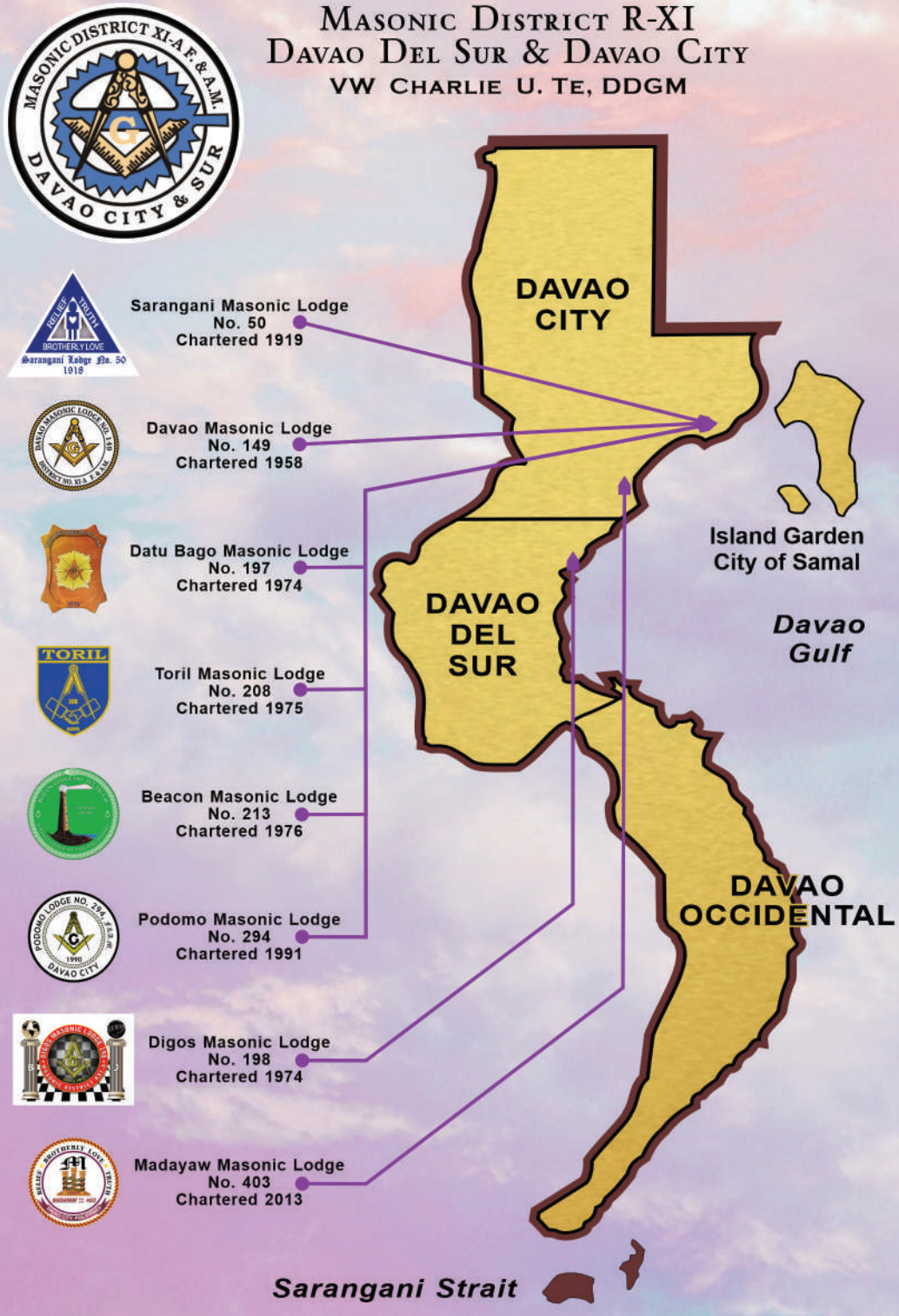
In September 22, 2010 – then Grand Master MW Avelino I. Razon, Jr. issued Circular 14 – Razon, declaring the year 2011 as the Centennial Year of Freemasonry in Mindanao. The Brethren of the Southern Island celebrated the milestone during the 55th Mindanao Masonic Convention in Cagayan de Oro City in February 25 & 26, 2011.

The Year 2022 marks the 111th Year since Masonry has been established in Mindanao. From that first lodge, the number have grown to 86 Masonic Lodges administered by fourteen (14) Masonic Districts. The Craft is stronger than ever as the labors of the Brethren continue to fulfill the wondrous plans of the Great Architect of the Universe.

Said one of our Mindanao Correspondents, VW Edgar Bentulan "Ang paglambo ug paguswag sa Masonarya ug ang kaayuhan nahatag ni ini sa pagpangulo sa atong gobyerno sa Mindanao, usa ka mapaubsanon nga garbo ug pasidungog sa atong tanan mga Mason. Gikalipay nato ang pagdaug sa tanan natong mga igsuon sa niaging eleksyon! Malugod natin pinapasalamatan ang ating Maykapal sa kanyang pahintulot at suporta sa lahat ng ating pagsusumikap. SUKRAN!"

(Translation: The blossoming of Masonry and its continuous good influence in the leadership of our local government in Mindanao, is a humbling pride and honor to all of us. We are happy for all our brothers in winning in the last election. We greatly thank God... Thank you!)

Masonic District R-XI
Davao Del Sur & Davao City
VW Charlie U. Te, DDGM



Page Sponsor: Masonic District R-XI Davao del Sur & Davao City

Masonic District R-XI
Davao del Norte, Davao De Oro, & Davao Oriental

VW Arnold O. Lao, DDGM

Davao De Oro Masonic Lodge No.443 Chartered 2018

Panabo Dalisay Masonic Lodge No.237 Chartered 1980

Tagum Masonic Lodge No. 204 Chartered 1975

Shangri-La Masonic Lodge No.196 Chartered 1972

Don Salvador P. Lopez Masonic Lodge No.276 Chartered 1986

Mati-Aurora Masonic Lodge No.190 Chartered 1969

Page Sponsor Masonic District R-XI Davao del Norte, Davao de Oro, & Davao Oriental

CIRCULAR NO. 14 – RAZON, JR.

TO : ALL MASTER MASONS IN THIS GRAND JURISDICTION

SUBJECT : CENTENNIAL YEAR OF FREEMASONRY IN MINDANAO

In our Grand Jurisdiction, Maguindanao Lodge No. 40, was organized as a Masonic Triangle (equivalent to today's Lodge UD) under the Grand Oriente Español. The original organizers were Fulgencio F. Pangan, Nicolas Capistrano, Isidro Vamenta, Emilio Pineda, Apolinar Velez, Uldarico Akut, Juan Roa Valdeconcha, Ricardo Reyes and Celedonio T. Abellanosa.

After they had initiated, passed and raised enough members, they met on July 14, 1911, to lay out plans to upgrade their Triangle into a regular lodge. In accordance with the requirements of the Grand Oriente Español, they held another meeting on July 16, 1911 and elected the three lights, Pangan in the East, Vamenta in the West and Emilio Pineda in the South.

From the above recorded history of Freemasonry, the year 2011 will be the Centennial Year to commemorate the organization of a Masonic group in Mindanao.

To commemorate the inception of Masonic activities in Mindanao, I hereby declare the year 2011 as the "Centennial Year of Freemasonry in Mindanao".

The brethren in the whole of Mindanao will celebrate their milestone during the 55th Mindanao Masonic Convention to be held in Cagayan de Oro City on February 25-26, 2011.

I, therefore, enjoin the brethren in this Grand Jurisdiction to unite with our Mindanao brethren in celebrating the Centennial Year of Freemasonry in Mindanao and to attend and support the 55th Mindanao Masonic Convention.

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

Given under my hand and 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, 2010.

AVELINO I. RAZON, JR.
Grand Master

Attest:

DANILO D. ANGELES, PGM
Grand Secretary

Directory of Masonic Lodges in Mindanao

Masonic Year 2022 - 2023

Count	Lodge Name & No.	Charter Year	Masonic District & Location	R S M	Official Email Address
1	Maguindanao : : 40	1917	R-X Misamis Oriental & CDO	1st Saturday	glp40@grandlodge.ph
2	Mt. Apo : : 45	1919	R-IX & ARMM Zamboanga, Sulu, Basilan & Tawi-Tawi	3rd Saturday	glp45@grandlodge.ph
3	Sarangani : : 50	1919	R-XI Davao del Sur & Davao City	2nd Saturday	glp50@grandlodge.ph
4	Bud Daho : : 102	1927	R-IX & ARMM Zamboanga, Sulu, Basilan & Tawi-Tawi	2nd Saturday	glp102@grandlodge.ph
5	Kutang Bato : : 110	1934	R-XII North Cotabato & Cotabato City	1st Thursday	glp110@grandlodge.ph
6	Maranaw : : 111	1935	R-X & BARMM Lanao Provinces	2nd Saturday	glp111@grandlodge.ph
7	Mt. Malindang : : 130	1952	R-X Misamis Occidental	1st Saturday	glp130@grandlodge.ph
8	Jan S. Alano : : 137	1952	R-IX & ARMM Zamboanga, Sulu, Basilan & Tawi-Tawi	2nd Saturday	glp137@grandlodge.ph
9	Davao : : 149	1958	R-XI Davao del Sur & Davao City	4th Saturday	glp149@grandlodge.ph
10	Dr. Jose G. Hofileña : : 153	1959	R-IX Zamboanga del Sur & Sibuguey	1st Saturday	glp153@grandlodge.ph
11	Gregorio O. Calit : : 154	1960	R-X Misamis Occidental	3rd Saturday	glp154@grandlodge.ph
12	Mount Musuan : : 155	1960	R-X Bukidnon SOUTH	2nd Saturday	glp155@grandlodge.ph
13	Mt. Matutum : : 156	1960	R-XII SOCSKSARGEN	4th Saturday	glp156@grandlodge.ph
14	Agusan Valley : : 160	1961	R-XIII Agusan & Surigao	4th Saturday	glp160@grandlodge.ph
15	Antonio G. Lim : : 162	1962	R-IX Misamis Occidental & Zamboanga del Norte	2nd Saturday	glp162@grandlodge.ph
16	Apo Kahoy : : 166	1963	R-X Misamis Oriental & Camiguin	4th Saturday	glp166@grandlodge.ph
17	Kidapawan : : 170	1964	R-XII North Cotabato & Cotabato City	1st Saturday	glp170@grandlodge.ph
18	Macajalar : : 184	1967	R-X Misamis Oriental & CDO	1st Friday	glp184@grandlodge.ph
19	Mati Aurora : : 190	1969	R-XI Davao del Norte, Davao de Oro and Davao Oriental	2nd Saturday	glp190@grandlodge.ph
20	Rio Grande : : 192	1969	R-XII North Cotabato & Cotabato City	1st Saturday	glp192@grandlodge.ph
21	Shangri-la : : 196	1972	R-XI Davao del Norte, Davao de Oro and Davao Oriental	1st Saturday	glp196@grandlodge.ph
22	Datu Bago : : 197	1974	R-XI Davao del Sur & Davao City	2nd Monday	glp197@grandlodge.ph
23	Digos : : 198	1974	R-XI Davao del Sur & Davao City	3rd Saturday	glp198@grandlodge.ph
24	Tagum : : 204	1975	R-XI Davao del Norte, Davao de Oro and Davao Oriental	2nd Saturday	glp204@grandlodge.ph
25	Iligan : : 207	1975	R-X & BARMM Lanao Provinces	3rd Saturday	glp207@grandlodge.ph
26	Toril : : 208	1975	R-XI Davao del Sur & Davao City	1st Friday	glp208@grandlodge.ph
27	Koronadal : : 209	1976	R-XII SOCSKSARGEN	3rd Saturday	glp209@grandlodge.ph
28	Zosimo Montemayor : : 212	1976	R-X Bukidnon SOUTH	4th Saturday	glp212@grandlodge.ph
29	Beacon : : 213	1976	R-XI Davao del Sur & Davao City	4th Monday	glp213@grandlodge.ph
30	Bernardo A. Neri : : 214	1977	R-IX Misamis Occidental & Zamboanga del Norte	4th Saturday	glp214@grandlodge.ph

Directory of Masonic Lodges in Mindanao

Masonic Year 2022 - 2023

Count	Lodge Name & No.	Charter Year	Masonic District & Location	R S M	Official Email Address
31	Salug Valley : : 216	1977	R-IX Zamboanga del Sur & Sibuguey	2nd Saturday	glp216@grandlodge.ph
32	Timberland : : 219	1978	R-XIII Agusan & Surigao	1st Saturday	glp219@grandlodge.ph
33	Leonardo T. Panares :: 220	1978	R-X Misamis Oriental & Camiguin	1st Friday	glp220@grandlodge.ph
34	Glicerio A. Lim Sr. : : 222	1978	R-X & BARMM Lanao Provinces	1st Saturday	glp222@grandlodge.ph
35	Bantugan : : 223	1978	R-XII North Cotabato & Cotabato City	2nd Monday	glp223@grandlodge.ph
36	Dadiangas : : 225	1979	R-XII SOCSKSARGEN	1st Wednesday	glp225@grandlodge.ph
37	Lake Lanao : : 227	1979	R-X & BARMM Lanao Provinces	1st Saturday	glp227@grandlodge.ph
38	Lake Pinamaloy : : 230	1979	R-X Bukidnon SOUTH	3rd Saturday	glp230@grandlodge.ph
39	Mt. Diwata : : 236	1979	R-XIII Agusan & Surigao	2nd Saturday	glp236@grandlodge.ph
40	Panabo Dalisay : : 237	1980	R-XI Davao del Norte, Davao de Oro and Davao Oriental	1st Saturday	glp237@grandlodge.ph
41	Palilan : : 239	1980	R-X Misamis Occidental	1st Saturday	glp239@grandlodge.ph
42	Sindangan : : 240	1980	R-IX Misamis Occidental & Zamboanga del Norte	2nd Saturday	glp240@grandlodge.ph
43	Red Mountain : : 241	1980	R-XIII Agusan & Surigao	3rd Saturday	glp241@grandlodge.ph
44	Tolomeo C. Galarita : : 242	1980	R-X Misamis Oriental & CDO	2nd Saturday	glp242@grandlodge.ph
45	Manticao : : 243	1980	R-X & BARMM Lanao Provinces	3rd Friday	glp243@grandlodge.ph
46	Daguma Mountain Range 244	1980	R-XII SOCSKSARGEN	2nd Thursday	glp244@grandlodge.ph
47	Bukidnon : : 245	1980	R-X Bukidnon SOUTH	1st Saturday	glp245@grandlodge.ph
48	Sibuguey Valley : : 246	1980	R-IX Zamboanga del Sur & Sibuguey	3rd Saturday	glp246@grandlodge.ph
49	Carmen Valley : : 250	1981	R-X Misamis Oriental & CDO	3rd Thursday	glp250@grandlodge.ph
50	Don Camilo Osias : : 253	1981	R-X Bukidnon SOUTH	1st Saturday	glp253@grandlodge.ph
51	Kamayo : : 255	1981	R-XIII Agusan & Surigao	2nd Friday	glp255@grandlodge.ph
52	Kitanglay : : 256	1982	R-X Misamis Oriental & CDO	3rd Saturday	glp256@grandlodge.ph
53	Judge Valerio Rovira :: 259	1982	R-X & BARMM Lanao Provinces	1st Friday	glp259@grandlodge.ph
54	Don Lorenzo Tan : : 265	1984	R-X Misamis Occidental	2nd Friday	glp265@grandlodge.ph
55	Shariff Kabunsuan : : 266	1984	R-XII North Cotabato & Cotabato City	2nd Friday	glp266@grandlodge.ph
56	Midsayap : : 267	1984	R-XII North Cotabato & Cotabato City	2nd Friday	glp267@grandlodge.ph
57	Laureano S Ledres Sr : : 271	1985	R-X Bukidnon SOUTH	2nd Friday	glp271@grandlodge.ph
58	Illana Bay : : 274	1986	R-IX Zamboanga del Sur & Sibuguey	3rd Saturday	glp274@grandlodge.ph
59	Baganian Peninsula : : 275	1986	R-IX Zamboanga del Sur & Sibuguey	1st Saturday	glp275@grandlodge.ph
60	Don Salvador P Lopez : : 276	1986	R-XI Davao del Norte, Davao de Oro and Davao Oriental	4th Saturday	glp276@grandlodge.ph

Directory of Masonic Lodges in Mindanao

Masonic Year 2022 - 2023

Count	Lodge Name & No.	Charter Year	Masonic District & Location	R S M	Official Email Address
63	Tangkulan : : 287	1989	R-X Bukidnon NORTH	2nd Saturday	glp287@grandlodge.ph
64	Bud Bongao : : 288	1990	R-IX & ARMM Zamboanga, Sulu, Basilan & Tawi-Tawi	3rd Saturday	glp288@grandlodge.ph
65	Podomo : : 294	1991	R-XI Davao del Sur & Davao City	1st Saturday	glp294@grandlodge.ph
66	Camiguin Island : : 296	1992	R-X Misamis Oriental & Camiguin	3rd Saturday	glp296@grandlodge.ph
67	Cagayan de Oro : : 298	1992	R-X Misamis Oriental & Camiguin	2nd Monday	glp298@grandlodge.ph
68	Butuan : : 299	1993	R-XIII Agusan & Surigao	2nd Saturday	glp299@grandlodge.ph
69	Benjamin O. Go : : 303	1993	R-X Misamis Oriental & Camiguin	4th Saturday	glp303@grandlodge.ph
70	Maribulan : : 304	1993	R-XII SOCSKSARGEN	1st Saturday	glp304@grandlodge.ph
71	Don Antonio T Cosin :: 308	1994	R-X Misamis Oriental & Camiguin	4th Monday	glp308@grandlodge.ph
72	Samboangan : : 310	1994	R-IX & ARMM Zamboanga, Sulu, Basilan & Tawi-Tawi	4th Friday	glp310@grandlodge.ph
73	Makahambus : : 315	1995	R-X Misamis Oriental & CDO	1st Wednesday of	glp315@grandlodge.ph
74	Misamis Oriental : : 335	2001	R-X Misamis Oriental & CDO	2nd Saturday	glp335@grandlodge.ph
75	Sultan Kudarat : : 348	2003	R-XII SOCSKSARGEN	2nd Saturday	glp348@grandlodge.ph
76	Timoteo S. Uy Sr. : : 349	2003	R-X Misamis Occidental	3rd Saturday	glp349@grandlodge.ph
77	Kagay-an : : 385	2009	R-X Misamis Oriental & Camiguin	3rd Saturday	glp385@grandlodge.ph
78	Radjah Indarapatra : : 387	2009	R-X & BARMM Lanao Provinces	2nd Saturday	glp387@grandlodge.ph
79	Seven Cardinal Virtues 390	2010	R-X Misamis Oriental & CDO	2nd Wednesday	glp390@grandlodge.ph
80	Madayaw : : 403	2013	R-XI Davao del Sur & Davao City	2nd Friday	glp403@grandlodge.ph
81	Fairway : : 415	2015	R-IX & ARMM Zamboanga, Sulu, Basilan & Tawi-Tawi	2nd Friday	glp415@grandlodge.ph
82	VW Andoni Dumlao :: 424	2016	R-XIII Agusan & Surigao	3rd Saturday	glp424@grandlodge.ph
83	Ildefonso G. Agbuya :: 425	2016	R-X Misamis Oriental & Camiguin	2nd Friday	glp425@grandlodge.ph
84	Rizal Shrine : : 434	2018	R-IX Misamis Occidental & Zamboanga del Norte	1st Saturday	glp434@grandlodge.ph
85	Davao de Oro : : 443	2018	R-XI Davao del Sur & Davao City	3rd Saturday	glp443@grandlodge.ph
86	Mt. Kitanglad : : 456	2021	R-X Bukidnon NORTH	4th Saturday	glp456@grandlodge.ph
87	Omar Manabilang : : 471	2022	R-X & BARMM Lanao Provinces	4th Friday	glp471@grandlodge.ph
88	Tani U. Tellow : : 473	2022	R-X Bukidnon SOUTH	1st Saturday	glp473@grandlodge.ph
89	Agusan Marsh : : 474	2022	R-XIII Agusan & Surigao	3rd Saturday	glp474@grandlodge.ph

From left to right: MW Johnny Ty Pimentel – Representative 2nd District, Surigao del Sur; VW Alexander Ty Pimentel – Governor Surigao del Sur; MW Romeo S. Momo. PGM – Representative 1st District, Surigao del Sur.

SURIGAO'S TOP POLITICOS ARE FREEMASONS

By: VW Edgar S. Bentulan, PDGL / Senior Associate Editor

People in Mindanao who are not members of our Craft, may have not realized it yet but five (5) of the leading politicos of the Surigao Provinces allegorically don an apron as their "badge of honor" which, as a matter of moral commitment, should inspire them above and more than others to govern with conduct of restraint and rectitude under an omnipresent watchfulness of the Supreme Ruler we call God.

They are not only Freemasons but are also past and present grand line officers of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Philippines. And, kudos to their lodge, four (4) of them are members of the Red Mountain Masonic Lodge No. 241, MD RXIII-A. Thankfully, they were among those elected to office in the last May 9 election this year.

First is MW Johnny T. Pimentel, now Grand Master, is elected representative of the 2nd District of the province of Surigao del Sur for the third time. A graduate of Business Management in the Ateneo de Manila University, he served as governor of Surigao del Sur from 2010 to 2016. But before this, he was vice governor of the province, 1995 to 1998. Now in his third term, Congressman Johnny Pimentel, currently based in Bislig City, had his first term in the District in 2016 - 2019, then his second term from 2019 to 2022. As congressman he already earned in his record 73 bills passed and approved into law that are of national significance and importance. MW Pimentel rose to the Grand Oriental Chair as a member of Red Mountain 241.

Of course, the Grand Master in 2018, MW Romeo S. Momo, PGM, a civil engineer by profession and former undersecretary of the Department of Public Works and Highways, joining politics for the first time, won over a former congressman 17 years in office, as an Independent candidate, is incumbent Representative of the 1st Congressional District of Surigao del Sur.

Hon. Pablo Yves T. Dumlao,
is the new Mayor of Surigao City

MW Momo also of Red Mountain 241, is a charter member of Intramuros Lodge No. 363, Scottish Rite Quezon City Bodies, Aguila Shrine Temple and Mabuhay Shrine Temple. He is Immediate Past President of Magiting Shrine Club. MW Momo is also honorary member of Cosmos Lodge No. 8, Trece Martires City No. 350, Gen. Malvasia No. 427, and St. John the Baptist 362.

Next, still governor of the province is VW-Bro. Alexander "Ayec" T. Pimentel, incumbent DGL of MD RXIII-A Caraga, younger sibling of MW Johnny Pimentel, is now in his 2nd term of office. He won last election under the PDP-Laban Party. A graduate of AB in Economics from Colegio de San Juan de Letran, Guv. Ayec Pimentel was previously Mayor of Tandag City, 2004–2013 and 2016-2019 and Vice Mayor from 1998 to 2004. He is a consistent awardee of the Seal of Good Local Governance given by the Department of Interior and Local Government ((DILG) for "integrity and good performance" to provincial, city, and municipal governments across the country. VW Ayec Pimentel is likewise a member of Red Mountain 241.The fourth member of of Red Mountain Masonic Lodge No. 241 to have clinched a post in that election, is Bro. Paolo Lopez, honorable mayor of Madrid Town, Surigao del Sur.

Then, we have VW Pablo Yves "Paul" L. Dumlao II, PDDGM, of Mt. Diwata Lodge No. 236, Surigao City, MD RXIII-A, a Civil Engineering graduate of U.P Diliman, who has been serving as Chief of Staff of the Grand Lodge under MW Johnny Pimentel, is now mayor of Surigao City, province of Surigao del Norte. Mayor Paul Dumlao ran under the Nacionalista Party last election beating a son of a political clan in that political arena dominated by big traditional stalwarts. Engr. Paul Dumlao is managing officer of the A.T. Construction. He is son of the late VW Andoni Tansinsin Dumlao in whose honor VW Andoni T. Dumlao Masonic Lodge No. 424 in Surigao City was named.

Paminggalan ni Kuya Pong

ni MK Arnulfo Macatangay, NMG

Ginisang Monggo sa Gata con Labahita Lutong Mindanao

Nang ang TCT Team ay nag-courtesy call kay MW Johnny Ty Pimentel magiliw kaming tinanggap ng ating Grand Master at sa gitna ng aming maikling pakikipagtalakayan ay naisipang itanong ng aming Hepe kung ano ang paborito niyang ulam. Nabanggit kasi ni EIC Harold ang pitak (Column) na ito sa The Cable Tow na nakalaan para sa mga magagaang talakayin upang ipahinga ang isip ng mga kapatid nating mambabasa mula sa mga mas-seryosong usapin ng Masoneriya.

Ilan sa mga kasapi ng The Cable Tow Team na dumalaw sa ating Grand Master sa kanyang tanggapan, noong May 30: (mula kaliwa pakanan) WB Raymond Wong (Managing Editor), VW Pong Macatangay (HNC), VW Gene Illenberger (Art Director), VW Harold Santiago (EIC), MW Johnny Pimentel (GM), VR Sam Fernandez (TCT Adviser), VW Cary Duval Uy (HNC), & VW Albert Dumlao (Multi-Media Editor).

Dalawang ulam ang nabanggit ni MW Johnny, una ay ang Ginataang Monggo at pinangalawahan ng Sinigang na Baboy. Dahil karamihan sa amin ay taga-Luzon, unang inakala ng grupo na panghimagas ang piling pagkain ng ating Grand Master dahil nga dito sa bandang Kamaynilaan, minatamis ang timpla kapag sinabing Ginataang Monggo. Nang aming linawin, ito pala ay isang uri ng putahe na pang-ulam sa gawing Katimugan ng Bansa. Dito naantig ang aking pagkamausisa kung kaya't ating sinaliksik ang nasabing lutuin upang subukang ihanda.

Mabuti na lamang at apat sa aming kasapi sa TCT ay taga-Mindanao kaya't nang magpa-Zoom Meeting ang aming Hepe tungkol dito sa unang labas ng Tomo 99 ng ating magasin ipinagtanong natin sa kanila ang lutong nabanggit.

"Ang Ginataang Monggo ng mga Bisaya ay maalat-alat ang timpla, Kuyang." Wika ni VW Ed Bentulan, ang aming Senior Associate Editor na nakapirmi sa Malaybalay, Bukidnon. "Bukod sa gata, hinahaluan namin ito ng dinaing na isda" Dagdag pa nya. Lalong napabuti

ang panayam sa ating kapatid na manunulat dahil sya pala mismo ay nagluluto nito at agad na ibinahagi ang kanyang paraan ng pagluluto (recipe).

Mga SANGKAP:

Monggo Labo (1/2 kilo)
Bawang (1/2 bukol)
Sibuyas na Pula (2 piraso)
Mantika (1/3 tasa)
Ulo ng Baboy (Kalahating Pisngi)
Daing na Labahita (1/4 kilo)
Gata na Niyog (Puro) 1kilo
Kalabasa (1 guhit)
Sitaw (1 tali)
Dahon ng Malunggay (3 tali)
Sotanghon (Vermicelli) 4 na Bungkos
Kamatis (3 piraso)
Siling Labuyo (ayon sa panlasa)
Vetsin – (ayon sa panlasa)

Paalala: Huwag maglagay ng asin dahil maalat na ang daing

Paraan ng Pagluluto:

1. Maglaga ng Monggo Labo sa dalawang tasang tubig hanggang sa lumambot. I-blender kasama ang pinagbabaran pagkatapos palambutin.
2. Gamit ang kawali, igisa ang Ulo ng Baboy sa bawang at sibuyas para mas-malasa ang sabaw. Kapag gisado na ang baboy, ilagay ang kalabasa at sitaw.
3. Ibabad sa tubig ang Daing na Labahita ng 30 minuto o higit pa, upang mabawasan ang alat nito. Hanguin at nitnitin ng maliliit bago isama sa sabaw upang lalong lumasa.
4. Ilagay ang purong gata ng niyog at hinaang bahagya ang apoy. Hintaying kumulo. Pag kulo, ilagay ang monggong naiblender, dahan-dahang haluin hanggang sa kumulo ulit.
5. Basain ang sotanghon, at ilagay sa niluluto kapag umamoy na ang bango ng gata. Maaari na rin itong haluan ng ilang siling labuyo (ayon sa panlasa). Huling ilagay ang 3 hiwa ng kamatis at dahon ng malunggay.
6. Takpan na ulit at patayin ang apoy. Sapat na ang init nito para sa mga inihabol na gulay.

Puede na itong ihain!

Nang aking tikman, aba'y masarap nga pala! Kakaibang pampalasa ang dulot ng labahitang daing, akmang akma sa sotanghon, habang ang gata ng niyog ay nagpalinamnam sa niluto.

Nang pasinayanan ng ating Grand Master ang bagong tanggapan ng The Cable Tow matapos itong ipaayos noong ika-5 ng Septyembre, nagkaroon ng munting salo-salo sa GLP. Doon ay inihain natin ang kanyang paboritong ulam na lubhang ikinasiya ni MW Johnny.

doctor in the temple

By Bro. Louie A. Castro, MD

COVID - 19: Recaps & Reminders

Have you ever thought that the pandemic is now a thing of the past? Thinking back to the time, when we all thought we are doomed and death is ever present and could be knocking on anyone's door. Does it feel comforting, now that Masonic lodges are reverting back to the usual labors? As much as we might feel elated and excited as masons, we should never forget – IT IS NOT OVER YET.

The disease has taken its toll on the different sectors of the community despite our government's decision to impose several lockdowns and varying guidelines to combat the spread of the virus. As time passed, it is evidently seen that previous customs are now coming back to normal: schools are opening their gates to the students; businesses are welcoming consumers; Masonic Lodges, Districts, and even the Grand Lodge itself are now starting to activate with renewed activity. As the daily grind is somewhat returning to normalcy, most COVID-19 guidelines are no longer the utmost priority of the citizens. Little by little people are getting less concerned in taking those measures that we have grown accustomed with in the last 2 years – the wearing of face masks, frequent hand-washing, reduced physical distancing, and the like.

to making efforts in bringing back the 'old normal' however, the occurrence of this is still far from sight.

According to the Philippine Coronavirus Disease Report of January 2022, a total of 2,851,931 COVID-19 cases and 51,570 (1.8%) COVID-19 related deaths had been recorded in the Philippines since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic.

During the 52nd week (Dec 27, 2021-January 2, 2022) of COVID-19's presence in the country, a total of 14,440 cases were recorded. Such data were observed as follows:

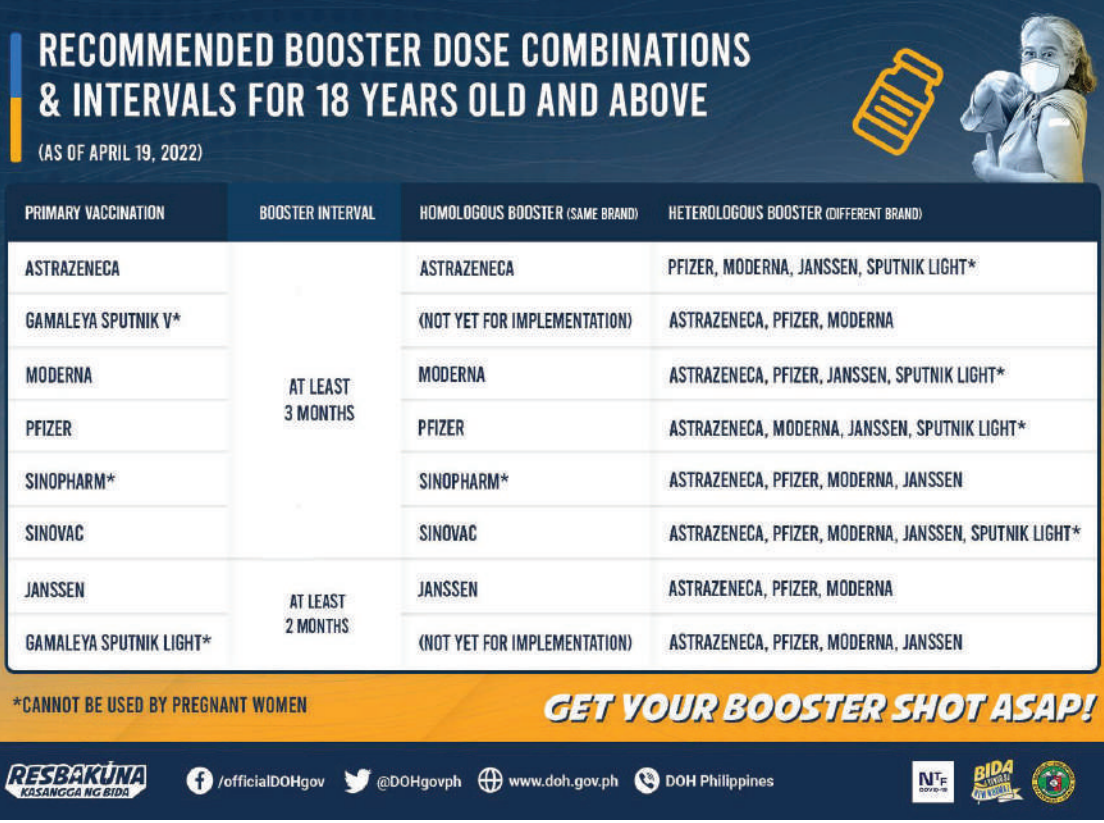
NCR: 9,791 cases - 1132% increase
Region IV-A: 2,056 cases - 861% increase
Region III: 856 cases - 507% increase.

In week 52, the incidence (number of newly recorded COVID-19 cases per 100,000 population), was 13.1.

The peak of the COVID-19's new cases was observed to be on the 10th day of January 2022 with a total of 231, 502 confirmed cases and a weekly increase of 142, 093 weekly increase. Approaching the end of January 2022, a total of 693,749 COVID-19 cases and 53,891 (1.6%) COVID-19 related deaths had been recorded.

As seen on the data provided, the mortality rate of the virus has decreased by 0.1%. From its highest peak during the month of January, the first semester of the year's new cases was seen to decline at a fast rate with just a few thousands of new cases reported.

During the January-June span, the month of May had the lowest reported cases for COVID-19. The low number of reported cases extended up until June 2022 however, 1,307 new cases were reported and the increase of new cases was observed and is currently escalating into, once



again, a higher figure.

According to an article published on the 15th of January 2022, the Philippine health ministry confirmed the local spread of the Omicron coronavirus variant around Manila, as infections hit a record high for three straight days. A steep rise in COVID-19 cases was observed from the community transmission of the Omicron variant. It was also expected that infection of this variant would peak from the end of January to mid-February. Despite the rise of this new variant, the Delta variant is still on the watch with 8,647 reported cases (reported on the 27th of January 2022). Though there is a marked decrease in the number of new cases to date, it is still noteworthy to be reminded that the pandemic is not yet over. Whatever variant it may be, we need to stay vigilant. Even if the community is getting lax, we should still need to protect not only ourselves but also our loved ones. If you find wearing a mask, doing hand washing or even social distancing is cumbersome then at least be vaccinated. One very effective means to combat the disease is thru vaccination. As a healthcare practitioner, I highly suggest all the brethren to receive their vaccines including all the successive boosters as recommended. Let us all end this pandemic together and let our stories be told to the future. Viruses do not discriminate and neither should we.

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DISTRICT TREASURER / **BRO MAXIMINO SATO**

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BUTUAN MASONIC LODGE NO. 229	WM PARIS RAYMOND S. GABALLO	WI DENDO G. UDARBE
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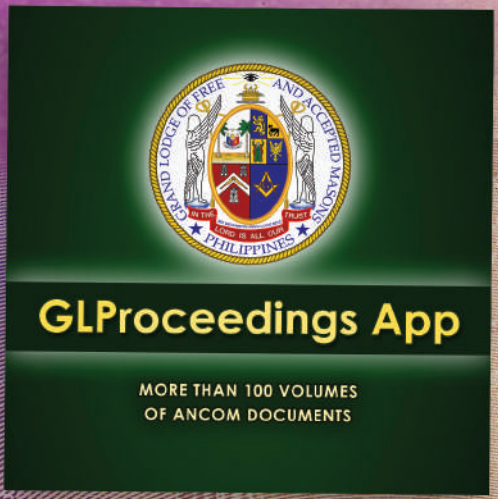

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