



THE *Volume 99, No. 3 - Aug - Sept - Oct 2022* CABLE TOW

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

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The Cable Tow

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FROM THE GRAND EAST



MW JOHNNY T. PIMENTEL
104TH GRAND MASTER

My Dear Brethren:

Having surpassed 100 days in office by in the first days of August 2022, I resumed my regular visits to our various lodges, presiding over a number of cornerstone laying and lodge dedication ceremonies and keynoting several District and Multi-District Conventions all over our jurisdiction.

The work at the Grand Lodge never stops and in between the period we have administered the institutions of a number of Lodges Under Dispensation who managed to fully comply with our stringent requirements; we have issued new circulars and edicts, and attended to routine administrative business. On matters outside the craft, we have forged a working arrangement with the Reserved Command of the Philippine Army and this will enhance our capability in responding to disasters and provide masonic reliefs where it matters, particularly in hard-to-reach areas of the country.

By August of this year, we have firmly resolved the holding of our upcoming 2022 ANCOM in Dumaguete City, thereby moving all our efforts to re-establish a regular and normal manner of conducting our annual convention.

Sadly, the perennial dispute cases among some masons still persist although it can be said that in relation to our total membership, the percentage of conflicts or grievances within the fraternity is still marginal or has not reached an alarming proportion. Far from it. Disputes happening among brethren in 10 to 20, out of our over 400 lodges, may be said to be just an ordinary occurrence in any organization of people, particularly with diverse membership such as Freemasonry.

To hasten dispute resolution, we have made it a standing policy for the Office of the Grand Master to make all serious effort to resolve all standing disputes amicably. And I have to commend two stalwart figures in our fraternity, namely: MW Agapito S. Suan, Jr. and RW Don Teng Ramas-Uypitching for reaching out to each other and resolving their misunderstanding in a true brotherly fashion. They have shown to the brethren that brotherly truly love beats all temporal differences

among men and masons. We expect some litigants to follow their fine example.

But we must make a firm stand where transgressions are directed against our Constitution and Masonic Laws and Regulations. These areas are not generally subject to compromises. We now have many on-going proceedings which may lead to impositions of serious penalties of suspension or expulsion, or even temporary arrest of a lodge charter.

We cannot be too careful in seeing to it that petitioners and candidates for degrees, and even applicants to masonic clubs, are not abused financially or otherwise by some unscrupulous members. These cannot go unpunished. The brethren must be reminded that our standing edict against all manner of abuses, i.e., Edict No. 328, will be upheld to the letter.

Apropos of that, during our official visit to the Grand Line Officers of the Grand Lodge of California (GLC), our attention was called over some members of certain masonic clubs from the Philippines who were allegedly engaged in unmasonic practices in California. We have firmly impressed upon the leadership of the GLC that we are seriously and vigorously implementing our rules against unmasonic conduct and other illegal practices and will not tolerate any form of wrongdoing by any of our members here and abroad.

This led to the agreement between the two Grand Masters of the Philippines and California to cooperate closely and issue sanctions to any organization with masons as members which perform illegal activities that not only violate masonic laws but also tend to damage the good image and reputation of the masonic fraternity in general.

Let us be mindful of our obligations, let us be resolute in adhering to our tenets and let us maintain the good image of Philippine Freemasonry at all times.

Grand Lodge of the Philippines
City of Manila
October 29, 2022


JOHNNY T. PIMENTEL
Grand Master





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Editor's Page



This Third Installment of Volume 99 of the Official Publication of our Grand Jurisdiction showcases some of the activities of our Grand Master from August to October 2022, as well as those undertaken by subordinate Lodges, Masonic Districts, and Appendant Bodies. Some are just simple stories of brothers that aim to inspire, educate, or entertain.

In covering MW Johnny Ty Pimentel and his Team – we summarized his activities in six (6) pages as a Work Trail for the Brethren to follow. The format continues from the Itinerary of our Grand Master's First 100 days which was presented in the previous issue.

On the same continuity – part two of the **GLP Centennial Chronicles** feature the second collection of articles on the Hundred-Year-Old Lodges of 2022. Nine (9) of them were chartered in 1922, and this time, the Lodges of Plaridel No. 74, Agno No. 75, Hamtik No. 76, and Kasilawan No. 77 are placed under the spotlight.

The Third Iteration of the Cable Tow's Walk-about Series will treat our readers to a **Visit to the Visayas**. As introduced in the Maiden Issue of Vol. 99, our Magazine shall feature in each Issue, one of the five concurrent areas of our Masonic Jurisdiction: NCR, Luzon, Visayas, Mindanao, and Overseas. These article series is in part a celebration of the 110th Year of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Philippines.

On top of the inspiring stories collected throughout our jurisdiction, we hope that the Brethren will enjoy the articles from eight of our columns featured: **On the Level; Rough & Rugged Road; Paminggalan ni Kuya Pong; Breeze from the Overseas; Get to Know Your Brother; The TAO of Social Connections; Furthermore; and Doctor in the Temple.**

Lastly, we give special mention to our Cable Tow Adviser - VR Samuel P. Fernandez, PGC, HA for the three superb articles that he wrote especially for this issue. His **Freemasons in the Royal House of England**, is a homage to the House of Windsor following the death of Great Britain's long-time monarch – Queen Elizabeth II whose family are much involved with our Craft. His other two memoirs are tributes to his contemporaries – RW Alendrin A. Eusebio, PGS and RW Fernando V. Pascua, Jr., PAGES who have both affiliated with the celestial lodge on high a year ago. Together with an Editor's Note and a Family Tribute for MW Rosendo C. Herrera – they form the **Pages of Remembrance** for our Departed Elders.

And so, our team is back! A scoop of journalists, a pen of writers, and a colony of artists from different subordinate lodges that labored overtime to produce another showcase of the jurisdiction for the jurisdiction under the 99th tome of the Cable Tow.

Issue No. 4 – featuring the 13 nominees for the position of Junior Grand Warden will follow shortly. In the meantime, enjoy these pages, SALUD!

Pasig City, 30 December 2022



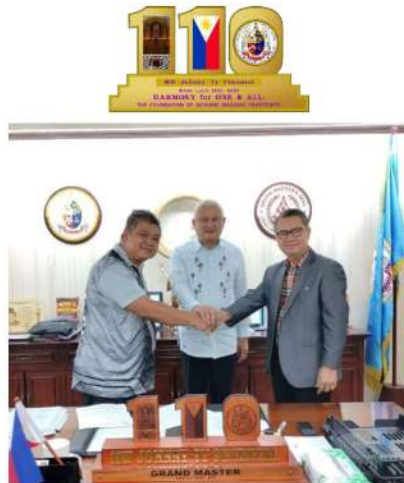
VW Joseph Harold W. Santiago, GSc

Editor-In-Chief / TCT Vol. 99

About the Cover

As an exemplary application of the Grand Master’s Theme: **Harmony for One and All – the Foundation of a Genuine Masonic Fraternity**, there is no better illustration of this central theme than the reconciliation between a Past Grand Master and a Deputy Grand Master. Our cover was lifted from an authentic photograph of MW Johnny Ty Pimentel successfully facilitating the resolution between the two individuals. Their handshake – topped with that of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, symbolizes the sincerity of their intentions to resolve their issues. The backdrop of blue alludes the concept of Harmony and the Blue Lodge, serving as a reminder to us all one of the important tenets of our fraternity which is brotherly love. The cover title: **A HARVEST of HARMONY**, is self-explanatory, but the embellishments on the letter O of the word HARMONY deserves some explication. The blue dot within the letter O and the bigger circle from without represents a basic symbol, the importance of which is taught to the youngest of masons even before they earn their seat in the northeast corner of the lodge.

- VW Jose Eugenio “Gene” Illenberger, TCT Art Director



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

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MW JOHNNY T PIMENTEL
Grand Master

MW DANILLO D. ANGELES, PGM
Grand Secretary

EDICT NO. 348

PREScribing A NEW DATA PRIVACY NOTICE AND CONSENT FORM

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 10173, otherwise known as the Data Privacy Act is a law that seeks to protect all forms of information, be it private, personal, or sensitive, covering both natural and juridical persons involved in the processing of personal information;

WHEREAS, even prior to the above law, the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Philippines has always religiously adhered to the maintenance of the secrecy and confidential aspects of the craft, with the standing rule that no member shall reveal to any person directly or indirectly any data, transaction or proceedings, not proper to be made public, under penalty of masonic sanctions;

WHEREAS, there is now a need to formally incorporate into our systems and processes measures mandated by law to protect personal information of all its officers, members, petitioners, employees and third-party partners.

NOW THEREFORE I, JOHNNY TY PIMENTEL, Grand Master of Masons of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons in the Philippines, by virtue of the powers in me vested by the Constitution, do hereby promulgate and decree, as follows:

SECTION 1. Data Privacy Notice and Consent Form. -Effective immediately, the attached Data Privacy Notice and Consent Form (ANNEX A) shall be part of G.L. Form No. 779 (*Application Form - Petition For Degrees of Masonry, as Amended by Edict 320-MW Momo*). All petitioners who have previously submitted their application but are still on the processing stage shall be furnished said form for submission to the Grand Lodge.

SECTION 2. Coverage - For purposes of uniformity, the new Data Notice and Consent Form shall be furnished to and signed by the following:

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

1. All employees of the Grand Lodge, whether regular or temporary;
2. All complainants, respondents and witnesses or otherwise signatories to Masonic charges, affidavits, answer, petition paper, and the like shall include the Data Privacy Notice and Consent Form to their initiatory pleadings;
3. Members transacting official business with the Grand Lodge;
4. Members of Subordinate Lodges;
5. Third party suppliers, merchants, contractors or contractual partners of the Grand Lodge.

Provided, that the reading of this Edict together with the attached form in open lodge shall serve as notice to all members of the required information mandated by law for the processing of their personal data by the GLP.

SECTION 3. - Responsible Officers - It shall be the duty of the Lodge Secretary to furnish said form for signature of regular lodge members and to keep record and maintain custody of the same.

The Grand Cyber Warden shall act as the Data Protection Officer of the GLP whereas the Lodge Secretary shall perform the same function for his lodge and shall be accountable for ensuring compliance with appropriate data protection laws and regulations.

This Edict shall take effect immediately upon posting in the official Grand Lodge Website or by official e-mail transmission to lodges, and shall be read in open lodge at the stated meeting next following its receipt and that action thereon recorded in the Minutes of the meeting of the Lodge.

Given under my hand and seal of the Grand Lodge of the Philippines at the City of Manila, Philippines this 26th day of September 2022.


JOHNNY T. PIMENTEL
Grand Master

Attest:


DANILO D. ANGELES, PGM
Grand Secretary

JTP/DDA/OVY/vangie

DATA PRIVACY NOTICE AND CONSENT FORM

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Philippines (GLP) strictly protects the personal information of its members and employees and is committed to ensure the confidentiality of your personal data under Republic Act No. 10173 or the "Data Privacy Act of 2012".

In compliance with the requirements of said law and its implementing rules and regulations, we hereby inform you of how we handle and protect the personal data you have provided in the course of your membership or employment with the fraternity.

Your private data, which include both your personal and sensitive personal information, may be collected, processed, stored, updated, disclosed or shared by the GLP to duly recognized officers and agents of all its administrative offices, Standing and Special Committees of the GLP, Masonic Appendant Bodies, duly-accredited Masonic Clubs & Associations, Subordinate Lodges, Masonic Districts, and certain third-party service providers, for the processing of any of the following official business purposes:

- i. Implementing transactions which you request, allow or authorize
- ii. Verification and updating of the status of your membership
- iii. Inclusion of data in official issuances and publications of the GLP
- iv. GLP-sponsored promotional and charitable activities
- v. Payment of benefits and collection of dues and fees
- vi. Coverage by third-party providers of insurance and retirement benefits
- vii. Compliance with GLP Edicts, Rules and Regulations
- viii. Updating of GLP-authorized directory of members
- ix. Reporting obligations and purposes to concerned government agencies and instrumentalities
- x. Other lawful related activities.

By applying with the Fraternity and/or maintaining your membership or employment, you hereby grant your express and continuing consent to allow the GLP and the aforementioned groups to process your personal information and use it as may be deemed necessary.

Please be assured that the GLP shall not use or disclose your personal information to any unauthorized person or entity, unless compelled by law or with your own express permission.

If you wish to access, update or correct any personal data, or withdraw or withhold your consent to the use of any of your personal data for any of the purposes mentioned above, please directly communicate with receiving@grandlodge.ph.

I HEREBY ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I HAVE READ, UNDERSTOOD AND AGREED TO THE PRIVACY NOTICE AND CONSENT FORM STATED ABOVE.

PRINT NAME & SIGNATURE

LODGE

DATE

JTP/DDA/OVY/vangie

MASONIC EDUCATION

VW DENNIS L. CUNANAN
SENIOR GRAND LECTURER



HARMONY

Our Grand Master's theme Harmony for One and All – the Foundation of a Genuine Masonic Fraternity is supported by three (3) Pillars, namely: Institutional Harmony, National Harmony, and Fraternal Harmony.

Harmony & Fellowships

Note: This lecture can be read during the District Convention and circumstantial experiences or factual incidents can be used as examples to enhance further the lecture. Attached also are relevant references for you perusal and source of further discussion if needed. - SGL

Harmony is the strength and support of all societies especially of ours. Without it, all the other tenets and virtues we purportedly teach in Freemasonry shall all but fall on deaf ears. But does Harmony truly exist within our Fraternity? Is it still at the center of all our undertakings, as we pray to God to have it granted to us? Does it still play a major role in our gatherings, meetings, and Fellowships?

Fellowship, as we all have come to know in our local Masonic parlance, is that time, place, and event in which we all partake in order to foster peace, harmony, and camaraderie amongst ourselves and each other. We partake in it after our stated meetings, during our charity events, and even when just meeting fellow Masons casually on ordinary days. Indeed, Fellowships have played a major role in building strong bonds between and among Masons – whether those whom we already know or those whom we have

only met. Fellowship is the mystic tie that binds us to each other as brothers, often accompanied by good food, good drinks, and good exchanges. It is the perfect avenue for building lasting relations that span and traverse the delimitations of each of our individual differences such as race, status, religion, or political beliefs.



How then is it possible for some of us to still manage to quarrel among each other despite our brotherhood, despite our obligations, and despite our Fellowships? Where have we gone wrong? The number of grievance cases in our Grand Lodge alone have literally piled to such absurd levels and proportions throughout the years that our Grand Master, Most Worshipful Johnny T. Pimentel, had decided and dedicated himself into restoring true Harmony back into our Fraternity, hence the theme “Harmony for One and All: The Foundation of Genuine Masonic Fraternity.”

Throughout the years, numerous cases have been filed in the Grand Lodge by brethren seeking its mediation over their disputes and misunderstanding. It is irrefutable proof that we do need to bring true Harmony back into our Masonic lives. In many of these cases, the cause of the conflicts stem from one rather unusual source – intoxication. Excessive drinking of alcohol during Fellowships has brought about much quarrels and hostilities between and amongst otherwise close and tightly-knight brethren. If we know that drinking is one of the principal catalysts for such conflicts, why do we even continue to do so? Is it so indispensable that we are willing to maintain its practice at

the expense of Harmony? More importantly, is drinking even part of our Masonic tradition?

A recent article in the latest issue of the *Cable Tow* – the official publication of our Grand Lodge – gave a comprehensive account on the history of drinking throughout Masonic history. It revealed that, indeed, drinking has become part of the customs adopted by Masons, though outside of the official traditions of Ancient Craft Masonry. The article, entitled “Fellowships,” chronicled the many old practices of early Masons that involved the consumption of alcoholic beverages. They were normally conducted during Refreshment – when Masonic labors have been called from labor to refreshment. Some were and are conducted during banquets and dinners following Masonic meetings – something called Festive Boards or Table Lodges. Some of these drinking practices have been given rituals of their own, complete with libations of wine and with corresponding ceremonial toasts in specific number and order. Part of the reasons for such is to actually limit the number of libations and thus avoid intoxication. It was believed that though drinking promotes Harmony among brethren, its excessiveness could result in the exact opposite – disharmony. And that is exactly the cause of most of the conflicts and hostilities we have seen thus far – excessive drinking. Our ancient brethren knew of it and spared no expense in showing intolerance over it. In fact, surviving lodge minutes from the 18th century contained records of reprimands for intoxication.

Today, many Grand Lodges in the US have started banning the consumption of alcohol within their lodge premises, precisely because of the negative effects of overdrinking. Here in the Philippines, we have seen cases filed between brethren over conflicts which started from excessive drinking during Fellowships. We know of at least one case wherein a brother made a commotion while intoxicated, showed disrespect over his brothers and the Grand Master himself, thus consequently getting himself expelled from the Fraternity. We also hear the countless stories of petitioners being mishandled – by being forced to drink excessively or against their wishes, most likely by the insistence of drunk members of the lodge.

Do we really need another age of prohibition? Do we need to ban alcoholic beverages within our Masonic buildings, just as our brethren abroad have done? Or do we really need to do the unimaginable and completely ban the act of drinking when we gather together – whether as Masons or otherwise?

Let us all remember that we are all Masons after all – able to distinguish, identify, and solve our problems without drastic sets of rules and prohibitions, but rather with our inherent set of morals, ethics, and common sense. Drinking is not the problem. Excessive drinking is. We have to remember that drinking became part of our early Masonic customs precisely because it promotes camaraderie and Harmony between us, but under strict control – never in excess, for everything in excess, in abuse, or in misuse, whatever that may be, becomes detrimental to its purpose in the first place.

We now appeal to each and every Mason: Know thyself. Learn your limitations and never go beyond your own capacities, especially in matters that would potentially cause harm to yourself, your family, and your brothers. Let the Masonic Compass be your guide in order for you to learn how to subdue your passions within due bounds.

Also, there are two words of wisdom you should learn to live by whenever you attend your Fellowships. They are easy to remember. They are even written in the bottles of many alcoholic beverages for your own benefit. “DRINK MODERATELY!”

Let us continue to endeavor in making our fellowships in and out of Masonry worthwhile. Let us be responsible as we savor the fruits of our labors. Let us aspire for genuine harmony amongst us. Let us keep on making good men better!

MASONIC LEGAL REFERENCES:

1. Masonic Law Book (2019), Part II Ordinances
ARTICLE IV / PROHIBITIONS ON A LODGE

Section 2, letter I

Sec. 2. Among others, a lodge is prohibited from performing the following:

a. To hold more than one Stated Meeting a month or to adjourn or otherwise extend a Stated Meeting;

b. To open and meet at any Stated or Special meeting without the presence of at least one of the three lights;

c. To meet with less than seven (7) of its members in good standing present, except for certain ceremonies or under dispensation from the Grand Master;

d. To open in a place other than that designated in its By-Laws, except for ceremonial purposes only, and at a date and time other than the specified in its By-Laws.

e. To change its place of meeting from the city, town or municipality specified in its dispensation or charter to another place except (i) Lodges with Masonic Temples pursuant to Edict No. 302 Tolentino or (ii) unless notice of such intention is given its members at a stated Meeting and approval granted by the Grand Master;

f. To meet on Sunday except for funeral services;

g. To open or close in short form except in cases of extreme emergency or calamity to be determined by the Master;

h. To allow smoking inside a Lodge Hall at any time during Stated Meetings, Special Meetings, Installations of Officers, Conventions, Dedications of Lodge Halls, Institutions and Constitutions of Lodges and while conducting Lodge of Instructions;

i. To serve or consume alcoholic beverages in Masonic Temple or in the premises of the building in which it meets or at a Masonic banquet;

premises. A lodge hall can never be designated as a fellowship area; and

2. The exercise of this privilege should be done in moderation. The Master of the Lodge, the District Deputy Grand Master; District Grand Lecturers and Inspectors having jurisdiction over the activity shall be principally liable for any untoward Incident which they could have reasonably anticipated. This is without prejudice to the filing of un-masonic charges against anyone responsible. Prior dispensation shall be required in the following instances:

a. If the fellowship is to be held at the Aguinardo Hall of the Grand Lodge, a special written dispensation issued by the Grand Master or his duly authorized representative shall be secured; and

b. If the fellowship is to be held at the designated fellowship area of subordinate lodges, prior written dispensation of the District Deputy Grand Master having jurisdiction shall be secured

{Edict No. 187-B MW Rentoy}

2. Edict 187-B Rentoy

REQUIRING ALL SUBORDINATE LODGES HAVING THEIR OWN TEMPLES TO IDENTIFY AND DESIGNATE AN APPROPRIATE AREA FOR FELLOWSHIP; RECLASSIFYING AGUINALDOH ALI OF THE GRAND LODGE AS NON-MASONIC PREMISES AND DESIGNATING THE SAME AS FELLOWSHIP AREA.

3. Circular 20 – Abergas

Serving and Consuming of Alcoholic Beverages in Masonic Temples or Premises of Buildings where lodges Meet

The consumption of alcoholic beverages thereat may be authorized, subject to the following regulations:

1. Consumption of alcoholic beverages may only be done at the fellowship area designated and not elsewhere within the temple or lodge



FIL-AM Grand Master of Japan Pays call on Grand Master Pimentel

By VW Edgar S. Bentulan, PDGL / Sr. Associate Editor

In one rare of a moment a foreign dignitary from an oriental chair, of Filipino-American parentage, came to pay courtesy call on the Grand Lodge and met MW Johnny T. Pimentel for one pleasantly unusual powwow. He was MW Jimmy Vitug Gipson, grand master of the Grand Lodge of Japan, who made the visit of GLP as gesture of amity to give in protocol of being a new grand master of his grand jurisdiction.

In this special meet last October 11, MW Pimentel congratulated his towering counterpart, who is 6'3" in height, and personally invited the latter to the forthcoming Annual Communication (ANCOM in 2023). He likewise very proudly returned the courtesy of his

desire to visit the Grand Lodge of Japan soon.

MW Gipson was here last October, on a bi-annual homecoming and visit to relatives and friends in the country. His mother comes from the Florida Blanca - Vitug clan that settled in Dinalupihan, Bataan, where he also grew up. He earlier met with the Cable Tow's Head News Correspondent Edgar Abalos Cook, the first Filipino Mason he knew and became close with, and who facilitated his appointment with GM Pimentel and also arranged an interview with TCT in this GLP visit.

This Fil-Am brother joined Freemasonry and became a Master Mason at Aomori Lodge No. 10 on

August 1, 2009, after twelve (12) years of "searching for something that I didn't know what..." He said in the interview with TCT team. Ending his long indecision when he remembered "all the great memories during my younger years" with some friends who turned out later to be members of the Craft. This inspiration was further boosted by his shipmate in the U.S. Navy Bro. Victor Ortiz whose mother lodge is GLP's Pilar No. 15. His bro-mate eventually became Grand Master of Japan in 2014.



So dedicated to the craft, he did not miss any meeting and degree works. He said likewise that he has been active in community service and fund raising for his lodge. As a Mason and Grand Master in a Japanese jurisdiction, he admitted his toughest role is communication. "The language barrier is the most challenging for me, because I always want to make sure that the brethren understand my message and my decision on any matter that concerns our jurisdiction," he confided.

Asked on his vision for the grand jurisdiction of Japan - he quipped "To make my mother GL as big as GLP." It is a challenge indeed as the majority of the country's population consider Freemasonry a taboo.

When sought for advice to aspiring brethren who want to be Grand Master - this is what he has to say, "Do not have the ambition to be one, as it is the brethren who will notice your dedication and accomplishments in Freemasonry. Always do everything to the best of your ability, whether someone is looking or not."

The Grand Lodge of Japan is the second Grand Lodge sired by the Grand Lodge of the Philippines, the first being the Grand Lodge of China in 1949.

Formed in 1957, the 65-year old Masonic Institution has been led by 59 Past Grand Masters. MW Gipson is the 60th Master Mason to have sat in the Grand Oriental Chair in the jurisdiction of the Land of the Rising Sun. He is the third Grand Master with Filipino Parentage, the other two being MW Victor Ortiz (2014) and MW Marvin D. Abueg (2015).





Top Row from Left: Mayor Vergel Meneses, Gov. Danile Fernando, Vice-Gov. Alex Castro, and Rep. Danilo Domingo

Bottom Row from Left: DeMolays, VW Alberto Dumlao, DGL, WM Angelo De Leon, VW Ericson Pan, DDGM, VW Valentin Gatchalian, Jr. DGL, and VW Bunrofl Altares, PDDGM

172 Years with M.H. Del Pilar

By VW Alberto C. Dumlao, DGL (46)
TCT Multi-Media Editor

Bulakenyo Masons, led by VW Ericson M. Pan, DDGM of MD RIII Bulacan West, and WM Angelo A. De Leon of Cupang Masonic Lodge No. 295, joined government officials from the province Bulacan, led by Governor Daniel R. Fernando in the commemoration of the 172nd Birth Anniversary of Marcelo H. Del Pilar, the Father of Philippine Freemasonry on August 30, 2022 at the Marcelo H. Del Pilar located at Sitio Cupang, Brgy. San Nicolas, Bulakan, Bulakan.

They were joined in the Flag Raising and Wreath Laying Ceremonies by officials of the National Historical Commission of the Philippines led by the curator of the Del Pilar Shrine and Museum, Mr. Alex Aguinaldo and officers and members of

the Bulacan Press Club, the Central Luzon Media Association and the Integrated Bar of the Philippines (IBP) Gat Marcelo H. Del Pilar Bulacan Chapter.

Invocation was led by Rev. Fr. Javier M. Joaquin, and messages praising Del Pilar's bravery and virtues were delivered by Gov. Fernando and Mayor Vergel C. Meneses of the Municipality of Bulakan.

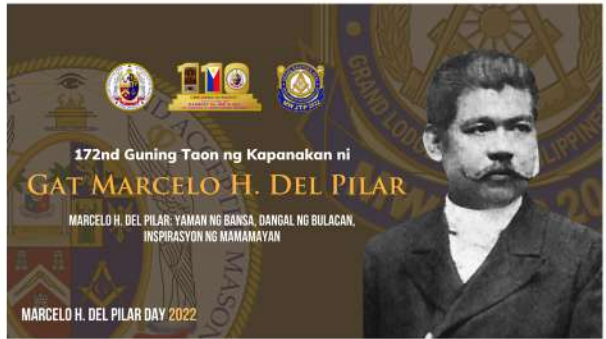
In his message, Rep. Danilo A. Domingo of the First District of Bulacan, the event's Guest Speaker, urged the modern Plaridel in today's generation of journalists to be fair and responsible in their profession. Del Pilar is also acknowledged as the Father of Filipino Journalism, having been one of the leaders Philippine Propaganda Movement, and serving the longest term as publisher of La Solidaridad, the movement's official publication.

August 30 of every year is a special non-working holiday in the province of Bulacan as mandated under Republic Act 7449. It is also one of the Masonic Holidays in our jurisdiction as prescribed by our Masonic Constitution, together with June 12 – Independence Day, November 30 – Birth Anniversary of Andres Bonifacio and December 30 – Martyrdom of Dr. Jose Rizal, among others.

Thus it is protocol for the Grand Master, or his representative, to be present and / or give a message in the ceremonies commemorating it.

Masonic Education

As part of this year’s commemoration of Marcelo H. Del Pilar’s birth, Cupang Masonic Lodge No. 295 hosted a lecture on his life and works entitled “Marcelo H. Del Pilar: Yaman ng Bansa, Dangal ng Bulacan, Inspirasyon ng Mamamayan.” The lecture was delivered by VW Alberto C. Dumlao, DGL and was attended by the officers of MD RIII Bulacan West, officers and members of Cupang Lodge as well as other Masonic Lodges within the District. Members of the Order of DeMolay, Gen. Gregorio Del Pilar Chapters were also present.



VW Alberto Dumlao, DGL delivering the Masonic Education Lecture on the life and works of Marcelo H. Del Pilar.



Freemasons in the Royal House of England

by VR Samuel P. Fernandez, PGC. HA

British Ambassador to the Philippines Laure Beaufils and husband hosted a well-attended party to commemorate Queen Elizabeth II's 96th birthday on September 1, 2022. There was no inkling that it would be the last for HM Queen Elizabeth II, longest-reigning British monarch.

The Ambassador said: "Her Majesty The Queen has become the first British monarch to celebrate a Platinum Jubilee, marking 70 years of service to the people of the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth. To say this is 'extraordinary' is to put it mildly. The Queen has worked with no less than 14 prime ministers, and as you know, that will be 15 in just five days."

Queen Elizabeth II was the 40th monarch in a royal line that followed Norman King William, the Conqueror, who claimed the English throne in 1066. Queen Elizabeth II's reign surpasses the more than 63 years her great great grandmother Queen Victoria spent on the throne. The Queen, whose husband died last year, had been suffering from what Buckingham Palace had called "episodic mobility problems." Queen Elizabeth II, longest serving head of state, came to the throne following the death of her father, King George VI (a Mason), on February 6, 1952. When she was just 25. In her

speech to her subjects, she said:

"I have in sincerity pledged myself to your service, as so many of you are pledged to mine. Throughout all my life and with all my heart I shall strive to be worthy of your trust."

Queen Elizabeth was head of state not only of the United Kingdom but also of Australia, the Bahamas, Belize, Canada, Grenada, Jamaica, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Saint Lucia, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Tuvalu, the Solomon Islands, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Antigua and Barbuda.

Historic links with the Royal House

Pro Grand Master Peter Lowndes reflects on Freemasonry's link with the Royal House as Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, reached sixty years as a subscribing member of the Craft. Here is the text: "Last year in recognition of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, we sent a loyal message to Her Majesty on the occasion of the sixtieth anniversary of her accession to the throne. This year, a service was held in Westminster Abbey to celebrate the sixtieth year since her coronation.

"The coronation itself took place on 2 June

1953, and the ceremony was conducted by Dr Geoffrey Fisher, Archbishop of Canterbury. Interestingly, Archbishop Fisher was a committed Freemason, serving as Grand Chaplain in 1937, while Bishop of Chester. He was reappointed Grand Chaplain in 1939, just at the time of his appointment as Bishop of London.

“At the Quarterly Communication the day after the coronation, on 3 June 1953, the Earl of Scarborough, Grand Master, gave a loyal address to Her Majesty on the occasion of her coronation and I quote, ‘Brethren, we meet in Grand Lodge this afternoon on the day following the Coronation of our Gracious Queen. This is an event which stirs the hearts of us all – in these Islands in every part of the Commonwealth and indeed, throughout the world. We Freemasons, remembering in particular the many greatly prized links which we have had, and those which we still have, with the Royal House, have our hearts full of loyalty and prayer toward Her Majesty.’”

Queen Elizabeth II was married to Prince Philip for 73 years. They had four children: Charles, Anne, Andrew and Edward.

From London (Reuters) – As world leaders paid tribute to Queen Elizabeth on her death aged 96 on Thursday ordinary people in Britain and around the globe paid their own respects to a woman who had been the face of her nation for more than 70 years.

Masonic Family

The following is a press statement by the

United Grand Lodge of England, released last Friday, 09 September 2022:

“It was with the greatest sadness that the United Grand Lodge of England learned of the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, our longest serving British Sovereign.

“Queen Elizabeth’s father, His late Majesty King George VI and her consort, HRH The Duke of Edinburgh, were both Freemasons. Her cousin, HRH The Duke of Kent, has been Grand Master of the

United Grand Lodge of England since 1967, and will be sending a message of condolence on behalf of all English Freemasons to His Majesty The King. Another of her cousins, HRH Prince Michael of Kent, has been Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales since 1982, and an announcement is being made from Mark Masons’ Hall.”
(www.ugle.org.uk)



**HRH Prince Philip,
Duke of Edinburgh**

Prince Philip of the Royal House of Greece is a descendant of the English Royal House and of Queen Victoria. Queen Victoria’s third child, HRH Princess Alice, who married Prince Louis, Grand Duke of Hesse, was the mother of Victoria Alberta, who married the Marquis of Milford Haven. Their eldest child, Alice, married Prince Andrew of Greece. They in turn had five children, Philip being the youngest. Prince Philip married HRH* Princess Elizabeth in November 1947.

Prince Philip, the Mason

Bro. Prince Philip was initiated in Navy Lodge No. 2612 in London on December 5, 1952, when he was thirty-one years old. Dignitaries present at the initiation of Prince Philip were the Earl of Scarborough, Grand Master, and Geoffrey Fisher, Archbishop of Canterbury. HRH Prince Philip progressed to the second degree of Freemasonry on March 6, 1953. On May 7, 1953, the United Grand Lodge of England (UGLE) issued his Grand Lodge Certificate. The Duke of Edinburgh was known to drop into meetings at his Lodge almost unannounced.

Navy Lodge No. 2612 prides itself on being the premier Naval Lodge in the world, with an unparalleled history that includes four monarchs as members – King Edward VII, King Edward VIII, King George VI and King George II of the Hellenes.

The Duke of Edinburgh was patron or president of 800 organizations. He averaged eight speeches a month delivering lectures in scientific interest and technological research and development and conservation of the environment.

HRH Queen Elizabeth II

On September 9, 2022, the Queen ascended to the Celestial Lodge to join her beloved husband, Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh. From the Order of the Eastern Star Australia, we received the following beautiful and poignant poem that went viral in Facebook (author unnamed):

Philip came to me today,

And said it was time to go.
I looked at him and smiled,
As I whispered that 'I know.'
I then turned and looked behind me,
And seen I was asleep.
All my Family were around me,
And I could hear them weep.
I gently touched each shoulder,
With Philip by my side.
Then I turned away and walked,
and My Angel guide.
Philip held my hand,
and he lead the way,
to a world where Kings and Queens,
Are Monarchs every day.
I was given a crown to wear
or a Halo known by some.

The difference is up here,
they are worn by everyone.
I felt a sense of peace,
my reign had seen its end.
70 years I had served my
Country,
as the people's friend.

Thank you for the years,
for all your time and
love. RIP a job well done.



In Retrospect

The Grand Lodge of England, the premier Grand Lodge of the world, was brought about into being on the 24th of June (St. John the Baptist Day), 1717. Irish Masons in London formed a rival grand

lodge in 1751.

The older grand lodge came to be called the "Moderns" while the newer rival was known as the "Antients."

Then in 1813, the Duke of Kent became the Ancients' Grand Master while his brother, the Duke of Sussex, became the Moderns' Grand Master. The two brothers (both familial and fraternal) wanted to end the rivalry between the two grand lodges and achieve a union.

On St. John the Evangelist's Day, December 27, 1813, the two rival grand lodges merged to form the United Grand Lodge of England (UGLE) with the Duke of Sussex as Grand Master. This is the grand lodge that governs Freemasonry in England.

It is therefore no surprise that Grand Masters of UGLE were members of royalty.

Proclamation

The Grand Lodge of Antient Free and Accepted Masons of Scotland issued the following statement: "On Sunday, the Lord Lyon King of Arms, Past Grand Master Brother Joseph J. Morrow, read the proclamation of the new king at Mercat Cross in Edinburgh at noon. He then declared 'God save the King' and the crowd shouted the phrase back to him.

"The national anthem was sung, and the Lord Lyon led three cheers, saying 'Hip hip', to which the crowd replied with 'Hooray!'. The proclamation was followed by a 21-gun salute from the city's castle.

"Brother Morrow was appointed in February 2014 by the Queen. His responsibilities include overseeing the state ceremonial in Scotland, the granting of new arms to individuals or organisations, recognizing clan chiefs and confirming claims to existing arts."

Final Goodbye

The world said its final goodbye to Queen Elizabeth II that drew kings, princes, prime ministers, presidents and heads of states to

honor a monarch whose 70-year reign surpasses the more than 63 years her great, great grandmother Queen Victoria spent on the throne.

The Queen's death has prompted deep reflection about the Britain she reigned over, the legacy of its past, its present state and what the future might hold.

142 Royal Navy sailors drew the gun carriage carrying Queen Elizabeth II's flag-draped coffin to Westminster Abbey with King Charles III and his sons Princes William and Harry, walking behind as bagpipers played.



At Windsor, Queen Elizabeth II's crown, orb and scepter were removed and placed on the altar. The Lord Chamberlain symbolically broke her "wand of office and placed them on the coffin."

The Queen was buried with all earthly valuables removed. The Archbishop's last words before the body was taken to the grave for burial were: "Now let us remove all

symbols of power from the coffin, so that our sister Elizabeth can be committed to grave as a simple Christian."

The Archbishop did not include "Queen" to her name.

Sister Elizabeth joined Bro. Philip at the Celestial Lodge to wear another crown called by some as "halo."



VISITING THE VISAYAS

The Cable Tow Walkabout Series – Part 3 of 6

By: VW Joseph Harold W. Santiago, GSc

Unang Hugna

Editor's Note:

As mentioned in the previous Issues of the Cable Tow – Vol. 99 , our official publication will feature the five (5) concurrent areas of our Masonic Jurisdiction – NCR, Luzon, Visayas, Mindanao, and Overseas during the 110th Year of the Grand Lodge. Focusing on a specific territory in each Issue of our magazine.

The Third Walkabout Article in this Series will look in on one of the three island groups making up the Philippine Archipelago. The Visayas or the Visayan group of Islands - is divided into three (3) regions, namely - Region VI (Western Visayas), Region VII (Central Visayas), and Region VIII (Eastern Visayas). The regions of the Visayas encompass a total of sixteen (16) provinces, with an aggregate of thirty-nine (39) cities, and 369 municipalities. The total number of barangays in the island group is 11,444.

The Visayan group consists of seven large and several hundred smaller islands clustered around the Visayan, Samar, and Camotes seas. The seven main islands are Bohol, Cebu, Leyte, Masbate, Negros, Panay, and Samar.

The Visayas is bordered, clockwise from the North, by the Tablas Strait, Sibuyan Sea, Jintotolo Channel, Visayan Sea, Samar Sea, Ticao Pass, San Bernardino Strait, Philippine Sea, Leyte Gulf, Surigao Strait, Bohol Sea, Dipolog Strait, and the Sulu Sea.

As of 2020, the Visayas had a total population of 20,583,861, representing 18.88% of the entire population of the Philippines. According to the 2022 data from GLP Statistics, the island group is home to some **1,396 Master Masons** composed of **1,094 Active Members** and **302 Life Members by Longevity**. These Brethren are affiliated with **37 Masonic Lodges**, clustered into **five (5) Masonic Districts**.



MASONIC DISTRICT
RVI PANAY ISLAND
VW JOHN ALEXANDER C. QUE, DDGM



ILOILO - ACACIA
MASONIC LODGE NO. 11
CHARTERED 1917



MAKAWILI
MASONIC LODGE NO. 55
CHARTERED 1920



HAMTIK
MASONIC LODGE NO. 76
CHARTERED 1922



KALANTIAO
MASONIC LODGE NO. 187
CHARTERED 1968



GRACIANO LOPEZ-JAENA
MASONIC LODGE NO. 194
CHARTERED 1971



AKLAN
MASONIC LODGE NO. 205
CHARTERED 1975



MW JUSTICE RICARDO
P. GALVEZ SR.
MASONIC LODGE NO. 229
CHARTERED 1979



QUINTIN SALAS
MASONIC LODGE NO. 231
CHARTERED 1979



XIX MARTYRS
MASONIC LODGE NO. 342
CHARTERED 2003

These Masonic Lodges when arranged according to membership are as follows:

| | | | |
|-------------------------|-----|--------------------------|----|
| Cebu :: No. 128 | 81 | Aklan :: No. 205 | 34 |
| Northern Samar | 211 | Talisay Sugbo :: 422 | 34 |
| Mt. Huraw :: No. 98 | 69 | Sogod Bay :: No. 337 | 33 |
| Makabugwas :: No. 47 | 62 | Ernesto S. Salas :: 280 | 31 |
| Maktan :: No. 30 | 59 | East Gate :: No. 232 | 29 |
| Iloilo-Acacia :: No. 11 | 58 | Tacloban :: No. 221 | 26 |
| Datu Lapu-Lapu :: 347 | 58 | XIX Martyrs :: No. 342 | 26 |
| Kanla-on :: No. 64 | 56 | MW Joseph E. Schon 186 | 21 |
| Negrense :: No. 200 | 56 | Quintin Salas :: 231 | 21 |
| Mt. Kaladias :: No. 91 | 54 | Leon Kilat :: No. 437 | 21 |
| Makawiwili :: No. 55 | 52 | Graciano Lopez Jaena 194 | 19 |
| Dagohoy :: No. 84 | 48 | Santiago L. Chua 336 | 19 |
| Mt. Moriah :: No. 252 | 48 | Crescent :: No. 419 | 19 |
| MW R.G. Galvez, Sr. 229 | 47 | Palo Liberation :: 397 | 17 |
| Dalusan - M.V. Ko 210 | 44 | Siquijor :: No. 418 | 16 |
| Kalantiao :: No. 187 | 36 | Manuel M. Abello 260 | 14 |
| MWRS Demonteverde Sr320 | 36 | Biliran :: No. 338 | 6 |
| Hamtik :: No. 76 | 35 | Chocolate Hills :477 | 3 |
| Ormoc :: No. 234 | 35 | | |

25 of the 37 Visayan Lodges have Life-Members by Longevity (LML):

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|----|-----------------------------|---|
| Cebu :: No. 128 | 45 | Tacloban :: No. 221 | 8 |
| Makabugwas :: No. 47 | 36 | Ormoc :: No. 234 | 8 |
| Iloilo-Acacia :: No. 11 | 20 | Dagohoy :: No. 84 | 7 |
| Dalusan - M.V. Ko :: 210 | 20 | MW R.G. Galvez, Sr. 229 | 7 |
| Mt. Moriah :: No. 252 | 19 | Kalantiao :: No. 187 | 7 |
| Mt. Kaladias :: No. 91 | 18 | East Gate :: No. 232 | 4 |
| Negrense :: No. 200 | 18 | MW Joseph E. Schon 186 | 3 |
| Maktan :: No. 30 | 16 | Graciano Lopez Jaena 194 | 3 |
| Quintin Salas :: No. 231 | 13 | Northern Samar :: No. 211 | 3 |
| Makawiwili :: No. 55 | 12 | Aklan :: No. 205 | 2 |
| Kanla-on :: No. 64 | 11 | Manuel M. Abello :: No. 260 | 2 |
| Ernesto S. Salas :: No. 280 | 11 | MWRS Demonteverde Sr320 | 1 |
| Mt. Huraw :: No. 98 | 8 | | |

It is interesting to note that in the membership rosters of Cebu No.128 (45 vs 36), Makabugwas No.49 (36 vs 26), and Quintin Salas No.231 (13 vs 8), the LML Brethren outnumber the regular members.

The nine (9) oldest Visayan Lodges, based on their GLP Charters are:

| Lodge Name & No. | Charter Year | Charter Master | Province |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| Iloilo-Acacia :: No. 11 | 1917 | WB Amos Dorr Haskell | Iloilo |
| Maktan :: No. 30 | 1917 | WB Eulalio E. Causing | Cebu |
| Makabugwas :: No. 47 | 1919 | WB Fernando Salas | Leyte |
| Makawiwili :: No. 55 | 1920 | WB Jose Altavas | Capiz |
| Kanla-on :: No. 64 | 1921 | WB Eriberto Gonzalez | Negros Occidental |
| Hamtik :: No. 76 | 1922 | WB Bartolome Gella | Antique |
| Dagohoy :: No. 84 | 1922 | WB Alfonso Lecaros | Bohol |
| Mt. Kaladias :: No. 91 | 1924 | WB Gregorio B. Almazan | Negros Oriental |
| Mt. Huraw :: No. 98 | 1926 | WB Paul Newman | Samar |



CBS

MASONIC DISTRICT R7
CEBU ◊ BOHOL ◊ SQUIJOR

VW KEVIN G. CO, DDGM



- | | | |
|---|--|------------|
|  | MAKTAN LODGE NO. CHARTERED 1917 | 30 |
|  | DAGOFOY LODGE NO. CHARTERED 1922 | 84 |
|  | CEBU MASONIC LODGE NO. CHARTERED 1951 | 128 |
|  | MT. MORIAH MASONIC LODGE NO. CHARTERED 1981 | 252 |
|  | DATU LAPU-LAPU LODGE NO. CHARTERED 2003 | 347 |
|  | SQUIJOR LODGE NO. CHARTERED 2015 | 418 |
|  | CRESCENT LODGE NO. CHARTERED 2015 | 419 |
|  | TALISAY SUGBO MASONIC LODGE NO. CHARTERED 2015 | 422 |
|  | LEON KILAT MASONIC LODGE NO. CHARTERED 2018 | 437 |
|  | CHOCOLATE HILLS MASONIC LODGE NO. CHARTERED 2022 | 477 |



On the other end of the Level, the Benjamin Lodge in the Visayas Islands for 2022 can be found in Bohol

Chocolate Hills No. 477 under Masonic District

R-VII Cebu, Bohol, & Siquijor

There are sixteen (16) Visayan provinces with an aggregate of 39 cities & 369 municipalities. The total number of barangays in the island group is 3,003.

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 actual

location. Districts belonging in the same Region were differentiated with an assigned letter. Thus **Masonic Districts in the Visayas** were initially arranged as:

| | |
|-------------|------------------------------------|
| MD R-VI-A | Iloilo, Antique, Aklan |
| MD R-VI-B | Negros Occidental, Negros Oriental |
| MD R-VII-A | Cebu, Bohol |
| MD R-VIII-A | Samar |
| MD R-VIII-B | Leyte |

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 in the Visayas** as follows:

| | |
|------------|--------------------------|
| MD R VI | Panay Island |
| MD R XVIII | Negros Island Region |
| MD R VII | Cebu, Bohol and Siquijor |
| MD R VIII | Samar |
| MD R VIII | Leyte |

These five (5) Masonic Districts gather annually in an assembly known as the **Visayan Multi-District Convention** to help settle important matters in their respective regions; forward lodge & district Resolutions that may be relevant to the whole jurisdiction; 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.

... Katapusan sa Unang Hugna

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The TAO of Community Connect

by *Bro. Joel S. Ferrer (18)*
Business Manager, The Cable Tow

MUTUAL AID LESSONS FROM LA LIGA FILIPINA AND THE CHINESE CLANS OF SINGAPORE

Mutual aid is a “give and take” exchange of resources that is beneficial for all parties involved in the arrangement. Compared to charity where you create a dependent relationship on the donor and the beneficiary, mutual aid encourages reciprocity.

Since the pandemic has caused a wide-scale breakdown in the government support systems of many countries, mutual aid groups and projects spearheaded by concerned citizens have emerged around the world to provide food, medical attention and various needs to the distressed.

Mutual aid is nothing new.

During the Middle Ages, the craft guilds (one of the organizations that have influenced Freemasonry) primarily provided training and livelihood support to their members. Around the 1700s, the very first labor unions provided legal protection and welfare benefits to their associates. During the 1960s, John van Hengel started the very first food bank that has influenced similar establishments around the world like Ana Patricia Non’s “Community Pantry.”

The Russian philosopher Peter Kropotkin rightly observed that in the animal kingdom as well as in human civilization, symbiotic relationships are the key to the

survival of the species, and as far as this pandemic is concerned, I firmly believe that mutual aid has an important role to play in saving humanity under the new normal.

During the 1800s, the masonic inspired “La Liga Filipina” was founded by Bro. Jose Rizal which had as one of its aims to provide “mutual protection in every want and necessity.” Unfortunately, the La Liga never had a chance to pursue this advocacy since the organization folded up a few months after the arrest of Bro. Rizal. In Vol. 95 Issue 2 (2018) of the Cable Tow, VR Samuel P. Fernandez talked about the idealistic beginnings and tragic crackdown on the “La Liga”.

Compared to the La Liga, the Chinese clans of Singapore fared better.

Unlike the La Liga, these clans were not secret organizations and they didn’t have members that wanted to change the government via reform or revolution. They just wanted to help each other. Conditions in China were tough when the Qing Dynasty eventually collapsed. This was followed by the Nationalist Revolution of Dr. Sun Yat Sen and the First Sino-Japanese War. Conditions in Singapore were also not that ideal since the British employers of Chinese immigrants treated them like slaves.

Around this time, the La Liga also aimed to provide “mutual protection in every want and necessity” but goal was already hard to attain since they were a clandestine organization; worse, they even had the mandate to fight for reforms that were not acceptable to the Spanish colonial government.

Although the relationship between the British government of Singapore and their immigrant workers were not that warm, the latter didn’t harbor any revolutionary tendencies probably because:

- a. They were not natives of Singapore
- b. China experienced a humiliating defeat in the hands of the British during the First and Second Opium War
- c. They needed to make a living in the Lion City in order to help their families back home

Compared to the La Liga, the main driver of the Chinese clans was not their love of their native land but rather the love of their family. The teamwork of the Singapore-based Chinese and their kinsmen back home is no different from the symbiotic relationship that OFWs have with their families in the Philippines. In the beginning relatives in the ancestral village try to raise funds to send some of their kinsmen to Singapore and once they start earning there, they would send remittances back home. Compared to Filipino families however, the Chinese clan went beyond the immediate family and involved extended relatives which created a multiplier effect in terms of manpower and other resources.

Migration to more countries has also given these clans the opportunity to take advantage of exploiting various transnational assets that dynastic Jewish

clans like the Rothchilds and Sasoons have benefited from for several centuries. Over time as these Chinese clans became more successful and prosperous, they eventually got involved in helping the Lion State become a First World economy. Hence, the clans which started out as family-centric organizations eventually became agents of national development.

In 1986 some of these Chinese clans in Singapore formed the Singapore Federation of Chinese Clan Associations (SFCCA). As of the moment, there are 255 clans affiliated with the federation, and time and time again, prominent government leaders of the Lion State have attested to the critical support that the Chinese clans have contributed to their republic.

You may not believe it, but just like the Chinese clans of Singapore, the members of the Grand Lodge of the Philippines possess the three keys to success in providing mutual support amongst ourselves and our nation as well.

Like the clans, we also a centuries old culture derived from our “Ancient Landmarks” that has preserved our organization over time “as all brothers and fellows have done who have gone this way before”. Freemasonry is also an excellent organization as far as mutual support is concerned since we are obligated to “aid and assist” each other; and since masons could be found in every “clime and country”, we have an international network that we can tap for our mutual aid projects. Last but not least, just like the Chinese clans of Singapore, our august order has been at the forefront of progressive revolutions, reforms and developmental initiatives in democratic states of the Americas, Europe and Asia.



About the Columnist:
Kuyang Joel is a Family Clan Historian, Genealogist, and a Project Proponent of the SCWC Community Konek Show in YouTube.

GLP CENTENNIAL CHRONICLES

as collected by The Cable Tow Team

This Second Installment of the Centennial Lodges Chartered under the jurisdiction of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of the Philippines will feature the other four of the nine Lodges who were granted their charters from one hundred years ago. Back in 25 January 1922 – during the second day of the 10th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of the Philippine Islands, the following Lodges under dispensation were granted perpetuity: Union No. 70, Laoag No. 71, Makiling No. 72, Nueva Ecija No. 73, Plaridel No. 74, Agno No. 75, Hamtik No. 76, Kasilawan No. 77, and Acacia No. 78.

With spatial limitations in our page count, this Chronicle on the Centenary of eight (8) Masonic Lodges from 1922 to 2022 was published in two installments. And so in this third Issue of the Cable Tow Vol. 99, will feature the other four (4) in the GLP registry:

- Plaridel Lodge No. 74** – Calauag, Quezon
- Agno Lodge No. 75** – Tayug, Pangasinan
- Hamtik Lodge No. 76** – San Jose, Antique
- Kasilawan Lodge No. 77** – GLP, Manila

Per Grand Lodge Records, these four Masonic Lodges were constituted by MW Quintin Paredes in 1922 as attested either by his Grand Secretary or Asst. Grand Secretary.

Ample pages have been provided for the other four Centennial Lodges - Union No. 70, Laoag No. 71, Makiling No. 72, and Nueva Ecija No. 73 in the previous TCT issue. Acacia No. 78 has consolidated with its sponsoring lodge Iloilo No.11 in 1945.



MW Quintin Paredes
Grand Master
1922 - 1923





Plaridel Masonic Lodge No. 74 Centennial Celebration (1921-2021)

By WB Alfredo S. Dela Rosa, Sr., PM (74)

The name Plaridel alludes to the pseudonym of Marcelo H. Del Pilar. Father of Philippine Freemasonry and Philippine Journalism. The Mason and Propagandist is the Venerable Master of Logia Solidaridad No. 53 (Gran Oriente Español) and Editor-In-Chief of La Solidaridad News Paper.

On June 14, 1921, Grand Master Edwin E. Elser granted a dispensation to 19 brethren to form a new lodge to be holden at Calauag, Tayabas to be known as Plaridel Lodge. Named as its first officers under dispensation were: Pedro Pica, Master; Maximino Zepada, Senior Warden; and, Alejo Entienza, Junior Warden. The following year, on January 25, 1922, the Grand Lodge approved the recommendation of the Committee on Charters for the issuance of a charter to the lodge as Plaridel Lodge No. 74. During its early years, the lodge conducted its meetings and degree work in both Spanish and English. Thus, when it raised Agapito Tagarao, Norberto Santos and Agapito Baluyot in November 1924, the first section was in English

and the second section in Spanish.

Unfortunately after 1926, the lodge suffered a downhill slide. In 1927, its roster fell to 43 and some years later to only 34. The situation was aggravated when the Great Depression in the United States dragged down the Philippine economy. Many members lost their jobs, some their fortunes. They could hardly pay their dues. The lodge became bankrupt and could not meet its obligations to the Grand Lodge forcing Grand Master Manuel Camus to arrest its charter in 1934.



Plaridel 74 was moribund for 35 years. It was not until 1969 when the brethren in Quezon province were able to secure a dispensation from MW Joseph Schon authorizing them to revive the lodge. On March 15, 1969, Deputy Grand Master Manuel Crudo, on instructions of the Grand Master, formally reactivated the lodge.

In celebration of the 100th year of Plaridel Masonic Lodge No. 74, several masonic charity activities were undertaken. Initially set in

June 14, 2021 – the Centenary of its Founding Anniversary, the Brethren under the leadership of then, Worshipful Master Harry C. Agravante unanimously decided to have it deferred to its Charter Year in 2022 due to the restrictions on the gatherings, assemblies, and similar activities imposed by the government as well as the Most worshipful Grand Lodge of the Philippines brought about by the COVID-19 Pandemic.

When the situation got better and local restrictions eased up in the latter part of 2021, PML No. 74 kick-started its celebration by providing cash assistance to the Municipal Health office of Calauag, Quezon during its RESBAKUNA campaign held on November 31, 2021 at the Municipal Covered Court of Calauag, Quezon. Snacks and drinks were also provided by the Lodge to the vaccinees as well as to the vaccinators during the activity.

Other activities held on its Charter Year in 2022 include the following:

Tree Planting - Activity at Brgy. Mulay, Calauag, Quezon where a total of sixty (60) Narra Seedlings were planted as a gesture of giving back and caring for the nature (February 12).

First Plaridel Masonic Lodge No. 74 Golf Fellowship – last June 20 at Fernando Air Base, Lipa City, Batangas, a fund-raising activity that aims to finance several scheduled charity activities.

MARCH 25, 1922

CONSTITUTION OF PLARIDEL LODGE No. 74, AT CALAUAG, TAYABAS, P. I.

A Special Communication of the Grand Lodge of the Philippine Islands was held at the Hall of Plaridel Lodge No. 74, at Calauag, Tayabas, P. I., at 8:00 p. m., March 25, A. D. 1922,

A. L. 5922, and the Grand Lodge was opened in AMPLE form, with the following Brethren filling the offices:

| | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| QUINTÍN PAREDES..... | <i>Grand Master</i> |
| MANUEL X. BURGOS, JR.as | <i>Deputy Grand Master</i> |
| FRANCISCO GAUDIER.....as | <i>Senior Grand Warden</i> |
| AMBROSIO PAÑGANIBAN.....as | <i>Junior Grand Warden</i> |
| JEFFERSON C. MILLER.....as | <i>Grand Treasurer</i> |
| RAMÓN MENDOZA..... | <i>Assistant Grand Secretary</i> |
| PEDRO RODRIGUEZ.....as | <i>Senior Grand Lecturer</i> |
| ANTONIO E. ARGOSINO.....as | <i>Junior Grand Lecturer</i> |
| JOSÉ VELEZ MARTINEZ..... | <i>Grand Chaplain</i> |
| JUAN MUÑOZ.....as | <i>Grand Orator</i> |
| SIMEÓN SAN AGUSTIN.....as | <i>Grand Marshal</i> |
| ESTANISLAO HERNANDEZ.....as | <i>Grand Standard Bearer</i> |
| JUAN R. TAÑADA.....as | <i>Grand Sword Bearer</i> |
| TEODORICO DOLENDO.....as | <i>Grand Bible Bearer</i> |
| MARIANO SALANDANAN.....as | <i>Senior Grand Deacon</i> |
| MÓNICO SONGCO.....as | <i>Junior Grand Deacon</i> |
| JULIO HERRERA.....as | <i>Senior Grand Steward</i> |
| VICENTE TOLENTINO.....as | <i>Junior Grand Steward</i> |
| JUAN ATAYDE..... | <i>Grand Pursuivant</i> |
| VICTOR ARAGON.....as | <i>Grand Organist</i> |
| ALFONSO RIOBO.....as | <i>Grand Tiler</i> |

The M. W. Grand Master announced that the Grand Lodge had convened for the purpose of constituting Plaridel Lodge No. 74, which had been granted a charter at the last annual communication of the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Marshal then formed the Grand Lodge into procession, and all proceeded to the Public School Building, where the new Lodge was duly constituted and its officers installed. The ceremonies were public and the attendance was about 600.

Addresses were made by Brothers Manuel X. Burgos, Jr., and Alfonso Riobó, of Rizal Lodge No. 22; Wor. Bro. Antonio E. Argosino, of Balintawak Lodge No. 28; the Master of the Lodge, and the M. W. Grand Master. These addresses were made in Spanish and in Tagalog.

The Grand Lodge then returned to the hall where it had been opened, and was duly closed in AMPLE form.

QUINTIN PAREDES,
Grand Master.

Attest:

RAMÓN MENDOZA,
Assistant Grand Secretary.

Facsimile from the Proceedings of the 11th Annual Communications of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Philippine Islands (1923) pp 125-126.

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Agno Masonic Lodge No. 75: The Ebb and Flow of a Mighty River
 by: VW Ronald Allan A. Sy, DGL

Masonry gained a foothold in Eastern Pangasinan in 1921, when fourteen (14) Master Masons residing in the area founded Agno Lodge in the town of Rosales. They were: Teodoro Basconcillo, David Shaw, Circilo V. Francisco, Antonio M. Pagsibigan, Jose A. Perez, Bartolome



Ramat, Eulogio B. Barrientos, Felipe S. Jose, Leonardo J. Otaysa, Isidro C. Perez, Sixto A. Pajaro, Vicente C. Perez, Sim Keng, and Chan Kiao. Rosales was selected as the site of the new lodge because, at that time, it was the center of trade and commerce in Eastern Pangasinan and,



moreover was accessible to the Provinces of Tarlac and Nueva Ecija by a national road. A building at the heart of the town was used as its first Temple.

On June 15, 1921, Grand Master Edwin E. Elser granted the founders a dispensation to organize Agno Lodge in Rosales, designating Teodoro Basconcillo as its First Master; Jose A. Perez as Senior Warden; and Leonardo J. Oteyza, Junior Warden. The lodge started to function, immediately acting on petitions for the conferral of Masonic Degrees. In January 1972, the Grand Lodge, finding that the lodge had complied with requirements, granted it a charter and becoming the 75th Lodge under its registry.

In Tayug, Agno Lodge was an itinerant lodge. It has to transfer from one location to the next until WB Teofilo P. Allas donated a 300 sq.m. lot in Brgy. Amistad, Tayug, Pangasinan. Although it took a while for the Temple to be completed, Agno Lodge No. 75 F. & A.M., finally moved into its new and permanent Temple on February 17, 1990.

The Pandemic

Fast forward into the present, as the 98th Year of its

Continued on page 40

MARCH 31st, 1922

CONSTITUTION OF AGNO LODGE No. 75, F. & A. M., AT ROSALES, PANGASINAN, P. I.

A Special Communication of the Grand Lodge of the Philippine Islands was held at the Hall of Agno Lodge No. 75, at Rosales, Pangasinan, P. I., at 5:00 p. m., March 31st, A. D. 1922, A. L. 5922, and the Grand Lodge was opened in AMPLE form, with the following Brethren filling the offices:

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| QUINTÍN PAREDES..... | <i>Grand Master</i> |
| CLARK JAMES..... | <i>as Deputy Grand Master</i> |
| FRANCISCO GAUDIER..... | <i>as Senior Grand Warden</i> |
| ROMÁN CANCINO..... | <i>as Junior Grand Warden</i> |
| RAMÓN ROMERO..... | <i>as Grand Treasurer</i> |
| VICTOR TOMELDEN..... | <i>as Grand Secretary</i> |
| GREGORIO P. DOMAGAS..... | <i>as Senior Grand Lecturer</i> |
| RAMÓN PERALTA..... | <i>as Junior Grand Lecturer</i> |
| DANIEL MARAMBA..... | <i>as Grand Chaplain</i> |
| PEDRO MA. SISON..... | <i>as Grand Orator</i> |
| RAMÓN MENDOZA..... | <i>Assistant Grand Secretary</i> |
| BALBINO MENDOZA..... | <i>as Grand Marshal</i> |
| JOSÉ V. SISON..... | <i>as Grand Standard Bearer</i> |
| CASIMIRO SISON..... | <i>as Grand Sword Bearer</i> |
| NICOLÁS ENCARNACIÓN..... | <i>as Grand Bible Bearer</i> |
| DIONISIO FERNANDEZ..... | <i>as Senior Grand Deacon</i> |
| EMITERIO DE LOS SANTOS..... | <i>as Junior Grand Deacon</i> |
| PEDRO QUINTANA..... | <i>as Senior Grand Steward</i> |
| GERMINIANO VILLARIN..... | <i>as Junior Grand Steward</i> |
| FELIPE E. JOSÉ..... | <i>as Grand Pursuivant</i> |
| HONORIO R. CUEVAS..... | <i>as Grand Organist</i> |
| MANUEL G. OLYMPIA..... | <i>as Grand Tyler</i> |

The M. W. Grand Master announced that the Grand Lodge had convened for the purpose of constituting Agno Lodge No. 75, which had been granted a charter at the last annual communication of the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Marshal then formed the Grand Lodge into procession; and all proceeded to the Cine Rosales, where the new Lodge was duly constituted and its officers installed.

Addresses were made by Brothers Pedro Ma. Sison, of Pangasinan Lodge No. 56, in Spanish; Felipe E. José, of Regeneration Lodge No. 36, in Tagalog, the Worshipful Master of the new Lodge speaking in Spanish and Pangasinan, and the M. W. Grand Master in Spanish. The ceremonies were public, and the attendance was approximately 400 persons.

The Grand Lodge then returned to the Hall where it had been opened, and was duly closed in AMPLE form.

QUINTIN PAREDES,
Grand Master.

Attest:
RAMÓN MENDOZA,
Assistant Grand Secretary.

Facsimile from the Proceedings of the 11th Annual Communications of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Philippine Islands (1923) pp 127-128.



Hamtik Masonic Lodge No. 76: The Centenary of the Antique Colony

By: Bro. Rufino Ranulfo Z. San Juan, IV

On June 23, 1921, twenty-two Master Masons filed a petition with the Grand Lodge for a dispensation to establish a Masonic lodge in Antique to be named Hamtik. The dispensation was issued accordingly and on January 25, 1922 at the 10th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, the lodge was granted its charter. "Hamtik" was the first capital of the province of Antique and was named after big red ants.

The Hamtik 76 despite attracting the best citizens of the province was never a strong lodge. After its first officers - Bartolome Cella, Charter Master; Celedonio Aguilar, Senior Warden; and Mamerto Portillo, Junior Warden served their respective terms; the Lodge could only rely on a few brother Masons for leadership. Some were reelected for several cycles. Thus, WB Joaquin Quisumbing, who was elected Master in 1924, was re-elected to the same position in 1926, 1927, 1928, 1931, 1932, 1933 and 1934 – a total of 8 Terms in the East! When the repercussions of the Great Depression in the United States were felt in the country, Hamtik Lodge suffered serious setbacks. As financial reverses made some members shied

away from the lodge, collecting dues became a nightmare. By the end of 1933, it only had 18 members and it became difficult to muster a quorum for its stated meetings. Not even the efforts of Provincial Governor Mamerto Portillo, who was Master of the lodge in 1929 and 1930, could turn the tide. In the last months of 1934, a grim-faced Grand Master Manuel Camus had no other choice but to arrest the charter of the lodge.



Thirty-five years after its charter was arrested, the lodge began to come back to life. VW Valerie N. Rovira issued a call for help among the Masons of Iloilo which received heartwarming response. Before the end of 1968 a petition for the reactivation of Hamtik 76 was sent to the Grand Lodge and was approved days later - on December 28.

MW Joseph Schon formally reactivated Hamtik Lodge No. 76 at the Capitol Building in San Jose, Antique on February 10, 1969. That same day Grand Secretary Esteban Munariz, PGM installed the Lodge's new set of Officers. During the ceremonies it was acknowledged that the reconstitution of the lodge was made possible through the help of the members of

Iloilo Acacia Lodge No. 11 and Kalantiao Lodge No. 187, many of whom applied for dual membership in the reactivated lodge.

Supreme Court Justice, Bro. Calixto O. Zaldivar, who was the Guest Speaker during the reactivation ceremonies, recalled the names of some great men from Antique who were members of the fraternity. Among those he mentioned were the late Governor Portillo, Sixto Quirino, Dr. Bartolome Gella, Cirilo Autajay, Miguel Oblima, Mariano Jose, Villagrancia and even his own father. All were well-known in Antique. Justice Zaldivar also said:

“For some reason Masonry in Antique had to cease to function for a time. We in the fraternity knew that this organization will never die and that somehow, someday, it will be revived in this province. Tonight marks the revival of that fraternity. I am very happy and I say it because I would like to see this great fraternity contribute in some way to the enlightenment and progress of my own province.”

Taking the cue from Justice Zaldivar, the members of Hamtik Lodge No. 76 have, since been striving to contribute to the enlightenment and progress of Antique.

Nine years after its reactivation, the members constructed a small edifice which became its Temple. In a lot donated by Don Angel Salazar, a Colonel in the Revolutionary Army and a former Governor and Representative of Antique. Thus, in 1977, Zaldivar, who was by then the Grand Master, reported to the brethren during the annual communication of the Grand Lodge: “In my own province of Antique, with the aid of our brethren from Iloilo and the support of civic minded citizens of Antique, the brethren were able to put up a modest building which now houses the Hamtik Lodge No. 76.

Continued on page 40

APRIL 29, 1922

CONSTITUTION OF HAMTIK LODGE No. 76

A Special Communication of the Grand Lodge of the Philippine Islands was held at the Hall of Hamtik Lodge No. 76, at San José, Antique Province, Philippine Islands, at 5:30 p. m., April 29, 1922, A. D., A. L. 5922, and the Grand Lodge was opened in AMPLE form, with the following Brethren filling the offices:

| | | |
|-------------------------------|----|-----------------------|
| EDWIN E. ELSER, (P.G.M.)..... | as | Grand Master |
| MANUEL OPPUS..... | as | Senior Grand Warden |
| J. QUISUMBING..... | as | Junior Grand Warden |
| JUAN SAMSON..... | as | Grand Secretary |
| FRANCISCO GUMILA GARAG..... | | Junior Grand Lecturer |
| FRANCISCO GUMILA CARAG..... | as | Grand Marshal |
| ALBERTO FONTANILLA..... | as | Senior Grand Deacon |
| JOSÉ ORTIZ..... | as | Junior Grand Deacon |
| JOSÉ V. MEDINA..... | as | Grand Tyler |

The Grand Master announced that the Grand Lodge had convened for the purpose of constituting Hamtik Lodge No. 76, which had been granted a charter at the last annual communication of the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Marshal then formed the Grand Lodge into procession and proceeded to the Public School, where the new Lodge was duly constituted and its officers installed.

The ceremonies of constitution and installation were public, over 500 persons being present.

Addresses were made by Most Worshipful Brother Edwin E. Elser, Brother Bartolome Gella, Brother José Ortiz, the Superintendent of Public Schools of Antique Province, and other Brethren.

A reception and dance were held in the school building, which had been elaborately decorated for the occasion. The dance was followed by a banquet.

The Grand Lodge then returned to the hall where it had been opened, and was duly closed in AMPLE form.

EDWIN E. ELSER,
As Grand Master.

Attest:

JUAN SAMSON,
As Grand Secretary.

Facsimile from the Proceedings of the 11th Annual Communications of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Philippine Islands (1923) pp 131.



KASILAWAN 77 brightens even more on its 100th Year

By: VW Joseph Y. Li, PDDGM

FOUNDATION DAY

Prior to the 1920's, inadequacies in transportation facilities force Manila Residents who were members of Mount Mainam Lodge No. 49 in Naic, to stay overnight in Cavite in order for them to attend the lodge meetings. After suffering from this inconvenience, Bro Marciano P. Gatmaitan with 22 other members of Mount Mainam (49), encouraged the Brethren of Bagumbayan (4), Walana (13), Silanganan (19), Dapitan (21), Zapote (29), Pintong Bato (51), and Angalo (63), to form a Masonic Lodge in Santa Ana, Manila, where most of them resided.

On September 4, 1921, forty-one (41) master masons held their initial meeting in Old Masonic Temple, Escolta, Manila (formerly PNB Bldg, now Pamantasan ng Lunsod ng Maynila Bldg.) and in the presence of Grand Master Edwin E. Elser, signed a petition for Dispensation to form a new Lodge. A Dispensation was issued eighteen days later, (September 22) with the

following as the First Lodge Officers: Marciano P. Gatmaitan, WM; Zosimo F. Dimaanano, SW; Felix A. Sapalicio, JW. By the 24th of November, the lodge raised its first son Pablo C. Cortes.

THE NAME

"KASILAWAN" in its literal meaning is too much light or sun light blaring the naked eyes, hence to look at it steadily and with ease, a person needs the assistance of his hand to be placed over the eyebrow for some protection. However, in this particular aspect, the name KASILAWAN LODGE differs from this literal Tagalog meaning. During the revolution against Spain, the Katipuneros adopted code names for places of their operation to elude Spanish authorities and to maintain secrecy of the locations of their organization. The name "KASILAWAN" was selected to perpetuate the symbolic Katipunan name of the district of Santa Ana in Manila, where most of the charter members lived. Howev-



er, as no suitable place could be found in Santa Ana for a large hall, the members decided to hold their meetings in the old Masonic Temple, Escolta, Manila.

On January 23 of the following year, the Grand Lodge in its 10th Annual Communication granted the lodge its charter, designating the No. 77. Incidentally, the Committee on Charters commented: "Kasilawan Lodge presented an excellent record of all their doings which will serve as a very good model for all lodge who petition for charters from the Grand Lodge in the future."

2021 - 2022

The members of Kasilawan Lodge No. 77 made a great milestone in Philippine Freemasonry by celebrating their 100th year of existence, thanks to the faithful dedication of its Centennial Officers led by WM Carroll U. Tang who spearheaded the Centenary of their Lodge Anniversary Celebration on 04 December 2021 at Golden Bay Seafood Restaurant which was well attended by the members, families, and friends. Grand Master Rolan C. Paulino also graced the occasion.

In February 2022, as the Charter of the 77th Lodge turned 100 years. Kasilawan Lodge has remained steadfast to Masonry's purpose

FEBRUARY 2, 1922

CONSTITUTION OF KASILAWAN LODGE No. 77, AT MANILA, P. I.

A Special Communication of the Grand Lodge of the Philippine Islands was held in the Central Hall of the Masonic Temple, 90 Escolta, Manila, P. I., at 8:00 p. m., February 2, A. D. 1922, A. L. 5922, and the Grand Lodge was opened in AMPLE form, with the following Brethren filling the offices:

| | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| QUINTÍN PAREDES (16)..... | <i>Grand Master</i> |
| FREDERIC H. STEVENS (6)..... | <i>Deputy Grand Master</i> |
| WENCESLAO TRINIDAD (35)..... | <i>Senior Grand Warden</i> |
| C. GALLAGHER (4)..... | <i>Junior Grand Warden</i> |
| VICENTE CARMONA (22)..... | <i>Grand Treasurer</i> |
| NEWTON C. COMFORT (3)..... | <i>Grand Secretary</i> |
| PEDRO RODRIGUEZ (7)..... | <i>Senior Grand Lecturer</i> |
| FRANCISCO GUMILA CARAG (57)..... | <i>Junior Grand Lecturer</i> |
| CHARLES S. BANKS (1)..... | <i>Grand Chaplain</i> |
| GERUNDIO VISCERA (19)..... | <i>Grand Orator</i> |
| RAMÓN MENDOZA (27)..... | <i>Assistant Grand Secretary</i> |
| E. M. MASTERTSON (10)..... | <i>Grand Marshal</i> |
| CÁNDIDO SAYOC (15)..... | <i>Grand Standard Bearer</i> |
| PASTOR DE GUZMAN (7)..... | <i>Grand Sword Bearer</i> |
| ISIDORO HERNANDEZ (18)..... | <i>Grand Bible Bearer</i> |
| ELÍAS AUNCIÓN (13)..... | <i>Senior Grand Deacon</i> |
| JOSÉ AMON (13)..... | <i>Junior Grand Deacon</i> |
| FRANCISCO ZAMORA (22)..... | <i>Senior Grand Steward</i> |
| DONATO VIRATA (15)..... | <i>Junior Grand Steward</i> |
| JUAN MUÑOZ (72)..... | <i>Grand Pursuivant</i> |
| FELIPE TEMPONGO (7)..... | <i>Grand Organist</i> |
| SANTOS CARMELO (26)..... | <i>Grand Tyler</i> |

The Grand Master announced that the Grand Lodge had convened for the purpose of constituting Kasilawan Lodge No. 77, which had been granted a charter at the last annual communication of the Grand Lodge, and also to install the Senior Grand Warden.

The Grand Marshal then formed the Grand Lodge into procession and proceeded to the Blue Lodge Hall, where KASILAWAN LODGE No. 77 was duly constituted and its officers installed.

Addresses were made by the Master of Kasilawan Lodge and by the Most Worshipful Grand Master.

The Grand Lodge thereupon returned to the Grand Lodge room.

Right Worshipful Brother Wenceslao Trinidad was then presented and duly installed as Senior Grand Warden.

The Grand Lodge was then closed in AMPLE form, after prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

QUINTIN PAREDES,
Grand Master.

Attest:

NEWTON C. COMFORT,
Grand Secretary.

Facsimile from the Proceedings of the 11th Annual Communications of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Philippine Islands (1923) pp 123-124.

Continued on page 40



From page 33

Cash & Kind Assistance extended to resident fire victims in Buenavista, Quezon (August 2022).

Donation of 2 sets of Traffic Warning Signage to Doña Aurora Elementary School situated along Maharlika Highway, Brgy. Doña Aurora, Calauag, Quezon. The two sets of signage were turned over to the teachers and members of PTCA of the recipient school by the brethren of PML 74 headed by WM Ryan Joseph R. Lim on October 14, 2022.



From page 35

Charter drew closer – the Lodge has been closed following the onset of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the Enhanced Community Quarantine in March 15, 2020. The Lodge was less active throughout 2021 as Covid-19 Cases increased.

“Sadly.” Said WM Rodencio D. Natividad Jr. “Agno Masonic Lodge No. 75 did not hold its Centennial Celebration for its 100th Year Anniversary last March 31, 2022 due to the prevailing Covid 19 Pandemic. At that time, the holding of social gatherings is still prohibited in the area.



From page 37

Living up to the rededicated purpose of contributing masonically to the enlightenment and progress in the Province of Antique, the brethren of Hamtik Masonic Lodge No. 76 (HML76) recently celebrated the 100th year anniversary of the constitution of the lodge by doing charity work. Led by its Worshipful Master Rex F. Farren, and with the assistance of VW J.T. Gabin, a Past Master of the Lodge, more than a hundred children and senior citizens of Bgy. Madranca, San Jose de Buenavista, Antique, benefitted from the gift-giving and feeding program held on April 29, 2022.

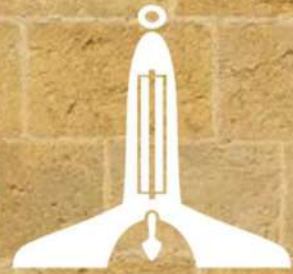


From page 39

of making good men better thru their untiring degree conferrals making the members proficient in their “masonic labor”, inspiring others to continue to achieve excellence and become exemplars in our travels.

ON THE LEVEL

VW Edgar S. Bentulan, PDGL



PLAYING KING SOLOMON

It was not the sheer kingship that mattered behind the power there was in his legendary reputation. There was more than that glittered in the affluence of his kingdom and empowering force surrounding, apropos of the

royalty about him.

The awesome legacy his father King David passed on to him, who, likewise, accordingly, imbibed the same grace directly from God, was no ordinary endowment an individual could acquire. To Roman Catholic standards, this could be possible only in an occurrence of what can be considered a beatific vision with God.

It is said, according to the Hebrew Bible, the Temple was built by King Solomon as His promise to his father David, who was at first chosen by the Lord to build it, but was later forbidden because he was a "man of war."

God promised David instead that his son Solomon would reign his kingdom in peace and build a temple. And so, David chose Mount Moriah in Jerusalem for his son to use as the hallowed base of the temple, which according to Jewish tradition was the same spot where God created the first man, Adam, and where also, it was believed, the altar prophet Abraham was to offer in sacrifice his son Ishak.

The Bible says that the Lord said to Solomon, thus: "As for this temple you are building, if you follow my decrees, carry out my regulations and keep all my commands and obey them, I will fulfill through you the

promise I gave to David, your father. And I will live among the Israelites and will not abandon my people, Israel." The Temple would house for its final rest the Ark of the Covenant containing the tablets of the Ten Commandments given by God to Moses.

It was so special a puissance to inherit from a legendary hero-father king, that, perhaps, no other mortal king can be known to have ever assumed to himself. Thereupon, it was in Solomon's reign that a unified Israel indeed enjoyed the flourishing height of its superiority as an empire.

Such power in its magnificence that did not, biblically, include only material wealth, military might and intellectual acumen but also, subtly, divine backing to lead and rule, and build the Temple.

So, the mystery revealing in the drama of a tragic story can tell.

The Drama, the Parable

Unfolding, the drama begins. In a closed lodge, King Solomon (KS) takes seat in the East station in a sacral aura subsuming his kingly crown before his brethren as he summons the freshly groomed FCM candidate fazed by the unknown he faces. After appraising the subject before him, KS admonishes the Fellowcraft to further pursue his journey to earn the confidence and trust of the brethren of his worthiness. He is forewarned of the roughness and perilous conditions ahead of him. Soon, KS orders him to implore God in prayer for His guidance and shield to succeed in his journey.

Here, in metaphor, the subject candidate in his humblest of mien, is to be deemed gradually transforming, assuming another

personality -- beneath the Barong he dons in innocence of that one who is supposedly more of a revered bearer haloed by very important and critical possession -- as he is ushered around in perambulation in the lodge.

In this drama of the Third-Degree allegory, Grand Master Hiram Abiff or Widow's Son is being assumed in spirit by the candidate who will succeed by representation, physically, in the travails about to happen. Masonic tradition has it that GMHA was the chief architect working on the temple building in closed triumvirate with King Solomon and Hiram, king of Tyre. The three Grand Masters made a covenant for themselves to keep airtight the secrets of a Master Mason until the full completion of the building and to be revealed only when all three of them are present and agree.

After several years, as the building



construction is nearing completion three fellowcrafts (Ja, Jo, & Jm) become weary and frustrated. They cannot wait and want to accelerate in status to Master Mason without meeting the required number of years in experience. (The Bible informs that the temple construction was completed after seven (7) years.) So, they enter into a conspiracy to extract from GMHA the final Master's word, a code of sort. Briefly, the three rogue workmen proceed with their depraved intention, but eventually only succeed in taking the life of the bearer. Not his "secrets."

The Master's word is lost, and with one of the Grand Masters gone it cannot be given.

The drama concludes in a consequence of mystery that flashes the candidate as he graduates from his ritual of final test. By the power of King Solomon to lift the putrefying remains of Hiram Abiff from the ground where it was secreted by the three ruffians, he returns to life. Like he is healed or revived by the glorious embrace of a sanctified figure endowed with so much immense power, the fallen candidate in GMHA is figuratively raised, resurrected.

The Fellowcraft is thus raised as a Brother Master Mason in the lodge. He has risen as a Master. He assumes a new, higher self, morally metamorphosed to what is believed a sublime state.

By his designs in the allegory, King Solomon in the enigma of his sphere of power symbolically provides the candidate's journey emulating the stages of the temple's building that the latter has undergone,

signifying his self-development through the three degrees of EAM, FCM and which culminates in the completion of its construction, the candidate's Raising to the Sublime 3rd Degree MM.

Of course, the tragedy of Hiram Abiff, chief architect of the Temple of Jerusalem,

as Bro. Walter Leslie Wilmshurst puts it in his book (*The Meaning of Masonry*), is not a record of a "vulgar, brutal murder of an individual man." It should be taken only as a parable. But, mind you, Bro. Wilmshurst says, it is a story of "a cosmic and universal loss; an allegory of the breakdown of a divine scheme."

By what could be a stroke of genius, in their transition from operative origin of the guild in ancient times, early speculative Masons obviously thought of this story to give deeper, relatable meanings through symbols to the initiation of new members to the Fraternity. What heavier, valid basis can there be on this than the weight of the mystic significance of King Solomon in biblical history as the

Temple builder himself and the ultimate value of his role veiled in the central theme of the building? Through centuries the lodge emblematic rituals revolving on this temple building have evolved to their present form, and deepened in Masonry.

In a manner of speaking, this must have divinified Solomon and the temple building in their representation.

It is of no wonder, H. Paul Jeffers in his book "Freemasons: Inside the World's Oldest Secret Society," deifies Solomon's Temple as the metaphoric moral foundation of Freemasonry.

There may have been issues not so pleasant to note about him in Biblical history. But he was after all still among humanity in flesh, equally answerable as those saints and popes with imperfect mundane past. Isn't this mortal imperfection emblematically shown in the chessboard black-and-white design on the Mosaic flooring of lodges, as deemed to represent good and evil in us?

In fine, King Solomon grossly earned the respect of mankind and all of religions as a most loved and trusted leader, according to historians, exuding in religious and moral insights and wisdom in the history of mankind -- to be worthy, yes, of such sanctity of high emulation in the Craft as the first Most Excellent Grand Master.

The temple construction with the tragedy portrayed in the drama allegorically, inspired by Solomon's perseverance, to paraphrase The Grand Lodge of Ohio in its statement, Masonically depicts the capabilities of men for efficient results despite extreme difficulties when working collaboratively, given the right tools and proper motivation to advance in knowledge and become "better for the world."

The integrity of King Solomon's presence in our Ancient Fraternity should, thus, remain incontrovertible, beyond umbrage.

In this denouement, becoming a Master Mason is becoming sublime, indeed, because of the ancient sacred efficacies and mysteries that shroud the whole ritual of the Raising brought about by the mystical power of Solomon alluded to it, and the transcendent moral lessons that can be drawn from the supposed spiritualized labors of the Temple building and what these, likewise, actually symbolize in the "human temple" in us, spiritually.

So, by the impeccable value of its significance in the Craft, taking the role of King Solomon or KS for short in a 3rd Degree Raising, should be fairly, exacting enough of special and extraordinary devotion and empathy on a performer, or the whole conferral team for that matter. The significance of the grueling travails that Hiram Abiff went through should be profoundly impressed upon each FCM candidate in Raising and be keenly permeated in the heart of every Master Mason in the lodge.



Again, the sanctity of the symbolisms coherent in the whole ritual and what the Temple signifies in us as Masons, should in fairness be felt, internalized by all in the performance with commensurate seriousness and justice to their value.

This should impact on the dignity of the Master Mason in his Raising through its subsequent depth of philosophic contemplation about himself and his purpose in this world. The beginning of his quest for more.



RUFFIANS' GLORY

In our rituals for the Master Mason's degree, we undervalue the meaningful lessons that can be derived from the "ruffians of the temple". Ironically, such ruffians have even become subjects of levity among the brethren. With more introspection, serious truths on fraternal harmony can be discovered from such allegorical antagonists.

The second section of the third degree in Masonry likewise resembles the interesting psychological concepts of the famous psychiatrist and psychoanalyst, Carl Gustav Jung. His concept of the "persona" or the social mask we wear for society relate to the ruffians' insecurities. With the temple's construction about to be completed, they feared that they were still not worthy of all the secrets of a Master Mason.

While all of us admittedly wear varying social masks to be able to perform our roles in our respective families, vocations and communities, it is when such social masks are so far apart from our *authentic* or real selves that we feel anxious and insecure of ourselves. The achievement of perfect harmony between our social masks and our *authentic or real selves* is itself a challenge because our subconscious minds shelter certain ruffians. Jung termed such repressed ruffians as our "shadows" whose

presence we often disregard and even deny.

The shadows or ruffians in all of us are deeply rooted in our experienced traumas, tragedies, frustrations, humiliations, indiscretions, unrealized goals, etc. that are ingrained into our subconscious and have snowballed into irrational personal insecurities. Efforts to deny the existence of such shadows by means of wealth, fame, power, notoriety, etc. proved futile. Such stifled "deserters from the temple" eventually reenter our thoughts, induce unproductive behavior and add even more anxieties, insecurities and unhappiness to our lives.

The ruffians' assault warn us of the ultimate destruction to relationships if their repression persists. The first ruffian's strike symbolizes the cessation of communications and tolerance in all forms while that of second one denotes the removal of all personal ties and commitments. Finally, the third assault is emblematic of our ultimate penalty of being rendered by the brethren as non-existent in memories as a Man and Mason.

Yet surprisingly, it is in embracing our ruffians that we can accomplish harmony within ourselves and with others. It is only through the awareness of the

ruffians' existence that we are enabled to examine their origins and assess their validity. Being aware, we thenceforth welcome them to our consciousness but only through the unsullied entry points of our four cardinal virtues.

Through *temperance*, we install self-control or *due restraints upon the affections and passions which renders our body tame and governable*. By cutting off the disharmony in our heads, we *learn to subdue our passions and circumscribe our desires* at the initial inkling of the ruffians' lurking presence in our minds. We temper baseless emotions that derive tenacity from our past experiences.

Through *prudence*, we *regulate our lives and actions agreeably to the dictates of reason and ... wisely judge and prudentially determine on all things relative to our present, as well as our future happiness*. By assessing situations with our own hands, we rationally evaluate the substance and veracity of our ruffians or *shadows*. We also empathize with other people's trials and tribulations. In doing so, we come to the realization that our reactions may likely be similar with others should such hypothetical situations occur to us.

Through *justice*, we are enjoined to employ the *standard or boundary of right*



Through *fortitude*, we maintain that *noble and steady purpose of mind* in sensing the presence of ruffians within us and keeping their misleading influence at bay. By drawing courage from our faithful breast, we are ever steadfast to never deny their existence whenever they appear. We then face the ruffians squarely and negotiate with them using the succeeding virtue.

at all times. In treading our life paths, we let fairness be the guide in our daily walks with others and ourselves as well. Steered by this virtue, we *render unto every man his just due, without distinction* and are not awed by the people placed at the high *spokes of fortune's wheel*.

Having filtered the entry of our ruffians through the above cardinal virtues, Freemasons are further assisted by the teachings emblematically illustrated by

the two most prominent *St. Johns*, the two brazen pillars and the Wardens of the lodge. While *St. John the Baptist* was passionate by nature, *St. John the Beloved* was gentle in disposition. The pillar of *Boaz* (strength) is also complemented by the pillar of *Jachin* (control). As the Junior Warden exemplifies beauty, the Senior Warden supports him with strength and vice versa.

Such teachings on duality draws parallels with Jung's "Anima-Animus", the Greeks' "Ero-Logos", the eastern notions' "Yin-Yang", gender's "Feminine-Masculine", psychology's "right brain-left brain", etc. As per Brother Albert Pike: *Force, unregulated or ill-regulated is not only wasted in the void ... striking in the dark, it blows meeting only the air, they recoil, and bruise itself.* Thus, anything in the excess or unregulated is bound to hurt us.

St. John the Baptist's fire is assuaged by the meekness of *St. John the Beloved*. The pillar of strength (*Boaz*) is moderated by the pillar of establishment or stability (*Jachin*). Accordingly, a calloused person should dispense kindness to gain more happiness while a benevolent man should imbibe some sternness to avoid abuse by others.

With both the working tools of beauty and strength at hand, wisdom is essentially necessary to achieve that fitting combination between such means to achieve harmony in ourselves. Indispensable then is the wisdom and duty of the Master of the lodge to call the craft to work and instruct them on how they should proceed with their labors. Despite our admission that perfect wisdom may be achieved only at the terminal end of times, we still incessantly search, improve and utilize with *substitute therefor* and travel daily from

west to east and back to the west from east.

Time, patience and perseverance permit us to attain increasing knowledge in our lifetimes so long as our journeys are genuinely in search for *authenticity* or our "true selves." Only then can we be prepared to welcome death not as a grim tyrant, but as a kind messenger sent to translate us from this imperfect to that all perfect, glorious and celestial Lodge above, where the Supreme Grand Master of the Universe forever presides.

Fraternal harmony is achievable only if there is more *authenticity* within ourselves. Only Masons who have harmony within themselves can meet, act, and part by the level, plumb and square respectively and never only superficially in our closing during our Stated and Special Meetings but also more importantly in all aspects of our lives.

The most significant step in attaining such harmony was exemplified by our ruffians when they earnestly admitted their guilt and freely accepted their sentences. Let us in imitation of them also declare ourselves "guilty" for the times we allowed our personal darkness or shadows to overwhelm us. Taking this crucial step leads us to fulfilling destinations in life.

With such acceptance and continuing labors, we can share thus share in the glory of the ruffians in our ritual and contribute to *harmony for one and all as the foundation of genuine Masonic fraternity.*



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MW JOHNNY TY PIMENTEL'S *Work Trail*

FOLLOWING THE GRAND MASTER'S LABORS IN THE EAST

Starting from the Month of May and up to the present, MW Pimentel presided over the multi-faceted functions of a Grand Master. Overseeing the Grand Lodge of the Philippines both as a Masonic Order and a Corporate Body. To appraise the Brethren of our Grand Master's Activities, the Cable Tow Team is following the news beat of MW JTP and his Team.

The Third TCT issue under Volume 99 presents a summary of his accomplishments for starts on his 101st day as Grand Master in 07 August 7 until 31 October 2022.

*Working under the theme **HARMONY for ONE and ALL: The Foundation of Genuine Masonic Fraternity**, the activities are classified under three (3) Strategic Pillars of Institutional Harmony, National Harmony, and Fraternal Harmony as embodied in the theme Logo.*

AUGUST 2022

Aug 07 - Sunday Day 101 as Grand Master

Aug 12 - Friday

Issued **Edict No. 347 - MW Pimentel**

Subject: **Conduct of ANCOM 2023 in Metro Dumaguete**

2:00 PM

Led the Corner Stone Laying Ceremony of **Lumang Bayan Masonic Lodge No. 433** at Brgy. Quilo, Padre Garcia, Batangas City / Masonic District R-IV Batangas

Aug 15 - Monday

Attended as Guest of Honor & Speaker in the District Convention of

Masonic District RX Misamis Occidental

with VW Steve Kelly G. Hung ,DDGM

Host Lodge: Don Lorenzo Tan No. 265 / Tanguib City, Misamis Occidental

Aug 20 - Saturday

Attended as Guest of Honor & Speaker in the District Convention of

Masonic District R-13 Agusan & Surigao

with VW Arnell C. Arcilas ,DDGM at Oasis Hotel, Butuan City

Host Lodge: Agusan Valley No. 160

Joined the Brethren of Masonic District R-13 Agusan & Surigao at Brgy. Sacol, Buenavista to witness the Turn-over of Artificial Coral Reef and Motor Boat to BFAR and the Local Government Unit of Buenavista, Agusan del Norte - an Environmental Project done through the Partnership of Masonic District R-13 Agusan & Surigao, Butuan Masonic Lodge No. 299, and CARAGA Masonic Golf Club



Aug 24 - Wednesday

Attended as Keynote Speaker for the Masonic Education Night of the **AFP-DND Sojourners Club Inc.**, at Camp Aguinaldo Quezon City.

Aug 26 - Friday - 9:00 AM

Led the Lodge Dedication Ceremony of **Naga Masonic Lodge No. 257**
MD RV - Camarines Norte, Camarines Sur, and Catanduanes

Aug 27 - Saturday

Attended as Guest of Honor & Speaker in the **Tri-District Convention** of the **three (3) Masonic Districts in the Province of Cavite** together with their respective District Deputies:
VW George Fojas, DDGM (Central), VW Benedicto F. Paña, Jr. (East), and
VW Charles Daven Capagcuan (West) at the Gen. Trias Convention Center.
Host Lodge: Molino No. 352 (MD Cavite East)

SEPTEMBER 2022

Sept. 02, 03, & 04 - Friday, Saturday, and Sunday

Organized a three-day **Team Building Activity for the GLP Staff**
at the Koregon Villas in Clark, Pampanga

Sept. 05 - Monday

Led the Flag Raising Ceremony for the month of September at the GLP Compound
Event Host: Masonic District NCR-D

Inaugurated the newly renovated **Cable Tow Office** together with TCT Team
led by Editor-In-Chief VW Joseph Harold W. Santiago, Grand Scribe

Sept 08 - Thursday

Issued **Circular No. 6 - MW Pimentel**
Subject: **The Fraternal Order of Eagles (Philippine Eagles)**

Led four (4) Ceremonies in the Province of Nueva Ecija

Corner-Stone Laying Ceremony of three Lodges

08:00 AM - **Allium Masonic Lodge No. 453** (Bongabon, Nueva Ecija)

Masonic District R-III Nueva Ecija EAST & Aurora

10:00 AM - **Kapatiran Masonic Lodge No. 228** (Cabanatuan City)

Masonic District R-III Nueva Ecija SOUTH

04:30 PM - **Jaen Triangle Masonic Lodge No. 476** (Jaen, Nueva Ecija)

Masonic District R-III Nueva Ecija SOUTH

Lodge Dedication Ceremony of

02:00 PM - **San Leonardo Masonic Lodge No. 386** (San Leonardo, Nueva Ecija)

Masonic District R-III Nueva Ecija SOUTH

Sept 10 - Saturday

04:00 PM - Led the Lodge Dedication Ceremony of

Isarog Masonic Lodge No. 33 (Naga City, Philippines)

MD RV - Camarines Norte, Camarines Sur, & Catanduanes









Sept 13 – Tuesday

Successfully reconciled the differences between two brothers –
MW Agapito Suan, PGM and Deputy Grand Master
RW Don Terng Ramas-Uyppitching

Sept 17 – Saturday

9:00 AM - Led the Corner Stone Laying Ceremony of
Moncada Masonic Lodge No. 446 (Moncada, Tarlac)
Masonic District R-III Tarlac

Sept 23 – Friday

2:00 PM - Led the Lodge Dedication Ceremony of
Ang Rehenerasyon ng Concepcion Masonic Lodge No. 402 (Concepcion, Tarlac)
Masonic District R-III Tarlac

Sept 24 – Saturday

Attended as Guest of Honor & Speaker in the District Convention of
Masonic District RIIL – Bataan with VW Arsenio Sy, DDGM
Host Lodge: Luis J. Reyes Masonic Lodge No. 224

Sept 26 – Monday

Issued **Edict No. 348 – MW Pimentel**
Subject: **Prescribing a New Data Privacy Notice and Consent Form**

Sept 27 – Tuesday

Signing of Memorandum of Understanding between the
Philippine Army Reserved Command and the **Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of**
Free & Accepted Mason of the Philippines

OCTOBER 2022

Oct 01 – Saturday

Attended as Guest of Honor & Speaker of the
24th Southern Mindanao Multi-District Convention
at Davao del Norte Sport Complex Gymnasium, Tagum City
Hosted by: MD RXI Davao Oriental, Davao del Norte Davao de Oro
Host Lodge: Tagum Lodge No. 204

Oct 08 – Saturday

Attended as Guest of Honor & Speaker of the
26th Northern Masonic Multi District Convention
at Margaret Hotel, Maramag, Bukidnon
Hosted by: Masonic District R-X Bukidnon South
Host Lodge: Laureano S. Ledres, Sr. Masonic Lodge No. 271

Oct 10 – Monday

10:00 AM - Led the Lodge Dedication Ceremony of
Calasiao Masonic Lodge No. 449 (Calasiao, Pangasinan)
Masonic District R-I Pangasinan

Oct 11 – Tuesday

Instituted three (3) lodges in one day:

1:30 PM at GLP – Palma Hall

Cauayan City Masonic Lodge, U. D. (Cauayan City, Isabela)
Masonic District R-II Isabela SOUTH & Quirino

3:00 PM at GLP – Palma Hall

Veinte Ties Novo Vizcayanos Masonic Lodge, U. D.
Location: Solano, Nueva Vizcaya
Masonic District R-II Nueva Vizcaya NORTH & Ifugao



4:00 PM at GLP – Palma Hall

Pilgrimage Masonic Lodge, U. D. (Brgy. San Roque, Antipolo City)
Masonic District R-IV Rizal

2:30 PM - Entertained the Courtesy Call made in my office by the

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Japan, MW Jimmy Vitug Gipson

Oct 13 – Thursday

2:00 PM - Led the Corner Stone Laying Ceremony of

Kasiguruhan Masonic Lodge No. 417 (Kasiguruhan, Aurora)
Masonic District R-III Nueva Ecija EAST & Aurora

Oct 14 – Friday

Issued Circular No. 7 - MW Pimentel

Subject: Notice of Suspension of the Accreditation of Two Masonic Clubs, Order for All Accredited Allied Masonic Organizations to Submit Latest By-Laws and Manner of Admission for Membership and Cease and Desist Order for All Masonic Clubs without Valid Accreditation

2:00 PM - Led the Lodge Dedication Ceremony of

Aliaga Masonic Lodge No. 404 (Brgy. Bibiclat, Aliaga, Nueva Ecija)
Masonic District R-III Nueva Ecija WEST

Oct 15 – Saturday

Attended as Guest of Honor & Speaker of the

28th Western Mindanao Multi-District Convention

at Atrium, Top Plaza Hotel, Dipolog City

Hosted by: MD RIX & RXI Zamboanga del Norte & Misamis Occidental

Host Lodge: Antonino G. Lim Masonic Lodge No. 162

Oct 17 – Monday

Led the Flag Raising Ceremony for the Month of October 2022

Event Host: Masonic District RI Pangasinan

Preparation for Departure of Team JTP – your Grand Master and selected Grand Line Officers for the 173rd Annual Communications of the Grand Lodge of California to be held at California Masonic Memorial Temple, San Francisco (USA).

Oct 18 – Tuesday

7:30 PM - Arrived at San Francisco Airport with entourage, welcomed by Fil-Am Brethren.

Oct 19 – Wednesday

Entertained by San Francisco Brethren with a sailboat cruise around San Francisco Bay and Dined with Brethren of San Leandro Lodge No.113

Oct 20– Thursday

Headed to Napa Valley for some Wine-Tasting.

Fraternal Dinner with Brethren from San Benito Lodge No. 211

Oct 21 – Friday

Day 1 of Team JTP at AnCom California 2022

Grand Lodge Business Sessions at the Auditorium, California Masonic Memorial Temple

Oct 22 – Saturday

Day 2 at AnCom California 2022.

Met and Dined with Brethren in San Francisco, California

Attended Grand Master's Banquet at the Grand Ballroom of Fairmont Hotel

In honor of MW Jeff Wilkins - Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of California

Oct 23 – Sunday

Day 3 Attended the Public Ceremonies & Installation of Officers of the new Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of California - MW Randall L. Brill

Oct 31 – Monday – Day 186 as your Grand Master

The Cable Tow | Vol. 99, No. 3 Aug-Sept-Oct 2022

Grand Master leads Temple Building Ceremonies in Nueva Ecija & Aurora

by: Bro Ivan Jethro Balagtas / Head News Correspondent

Central Luzon — *MW Johnny T. Pimentel's year in the Grand East proves to be prosperous for the Craft. In his term, the fraternity revels not just in the steady rise of overall membership but also in matters that advance regular lodges. But the splendor of JTP's term also manifests in a more physical manner. The year 2022 saw the rise of many Lodge Temples throughout the jurisdiction, as well as several corner-stone laying ceremonies - an indication that many more masonic edifices are to be built. In the provinces of Nueva Ecija and Aurora - at least four (4) lodges had their Cornerstone Laying and two (2) lodge temples were dedicated in a 36-day period.*

On an eventful Thursday, MW Pimentel led four ceremonies in the province of Nueva Ecija, where there are more masons than anywhere in this jurisdiction. The Grand Master's day began early on September 8 with a scheduled 8:00 AM Cornerstone Laying Ceremony of Allium Cepa Masonic Lodge No. 453 in the municipality of Bongabon. Its Worshipful Master Bro. Ricardo Padilla incidentally is the incumbent mayor while the District Deputy Grand Master of RIIL Nueva Ecija East & Aurora - VW Rommel Angara serves as the representative of the neighboring lone district of Aurora.

The second Ceremony followed in Cabanatuan City with the consecration of Kapatiran Masonic Lodge No. 228's newly-relocated temple. Through the leadership of its Worshipful Master Reynaldo Santos and the generosity of the city leadership of Cabanatuan City, the masonic edifice was consecrated. The building will be named in honor of WB Cesar E. Vergara, PM the late father of Vice Mayor Jay Vergara and grandfather to Mayor Myca Vergara.

A Lodge Dedication Ceremony was also conducted on the same day in the municipality of San Leonardo where its namesake lodge San Leonardo Masonic Lodge No. 386 built an edifice that solidifies their collective dream of having a masonic

temple of their own. The San Leonardo brethren have already raised Master Masons in this temple in the time of its incumbent Worshipful Master, Roland Elvabuena.

Jaen Triangle Masonic Lodge No. 476 also held a Cornerstone Laying Ceremony on the same date making the lodge the fourth and last stop of the Grand Master on that historic day. The solemn celebration concluded with the Grand

Master fondly asking all Petitioners, Entered Apprentices, and Fellow Crafts of the young lodge for a group photograph. Being one of the most recently-chartered lodges, Jaen Triangle has a number of Petitioners and Candidates waiting for their degree conferral. A photo initiated by the Grand Master is an inspiring gesture still remembered by the brethren of the lodge and its Charter Master, VW Albert Jalova.

On October 13, MW JTP traveled up north to Casiguran, Aurora where Kasiguruhan Masonic Lodge No. 423 conducts their masonic labors under the auspices of Bro. Jonell Torregosa as its Worshipful Master. The Cornerstone Laying Ceremony was conducted in a temple honoring the father of VW Rommel Angara, Bro. Joselito Angara the first Master Mason to be raised in the whole province of Aurora.

About two hundred kilometers to a westerly direction on the same day, the Grand Master and his team went to Brgy. Bibiclat, Aliaga, Nueva Ecija to carry out a Lodge Dedication Ceremony. The brethren had persisted through years of toil to complete the temple, braving through a global pandemic and many historical events. Bro. Frederick Ragudo will go down in the history of Aliaga Masonic Lodge No. 404, as the Master who had the temple dedicated in his time in the East.

These temples fortify the presence of Freemasonry in Central Luzon and solidify the dream of permanence in our ancient institution. The fraternity's organizational growth entails that there will be more temples to be built in the near future, and as more temples are built with stones may we also labor to help build the temple not built with hands, eternal in the heavens.



Santa Rosa Masonic Lodge No. 297 and the 30 Years of a Culture of Excellence

by: Bro Ivan Jethro Balagtas / Head News Correspondent

Through a Special Communications on August 1, 1992 headed by MW Mateo, Santa Rosa Masonic Lodge No. 297 was constituted. Since then, Santa Rosa has been one of the most celebrated lodges in Nueva Ecija and a foundation of Masonic presence in the province.

In the recent years of Santa Rosa's colored history, the lodge was regarded as the Most Outstanding Lodge and its masters, Most Outstanding Worshipful Master consecutively in 2018 and 2019. WB Ruben Rayo and WB June Barioga have brought succeeding laurel wreaths to the lodge with their polished ritual and ceremonial works, seamless lodge administration, and fraternal harmony among the Santa Rosa brethren.

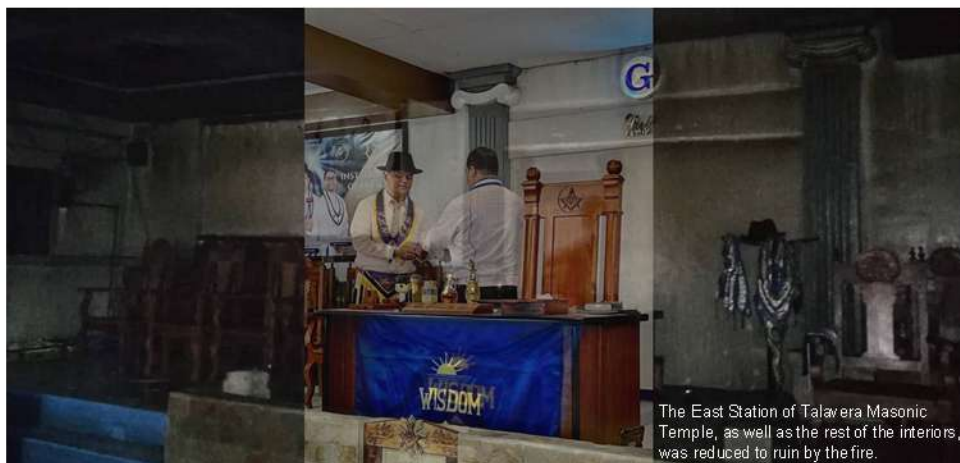
This Pearl anniversary year, WM Ramil Corpuz furthers the lodge's commitment to excellence with his dedication to the Craft. A colonel of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, WM Corpuz took on values of discipline, prudence, and will in leadership. His masonic term shows that preparedness takes precedence when it comes to management and execution.

Apart from the events programmed in every regular lodge, the brethren of Santa Rosa

Masonic Lodge instilled a deep sense of charity into their community. One of the most noteworthy endeavors of the lodge as of writing is their philanthropic works for DSWD Home for the Girls, an organization that shelters survivors of abuse and abandonment in Palayan City, Nueva Ecija. Corpuz and his family led the initiative of providing sanitary essentials to the young girls taking refuge in the organization. This endeavor of charity concurred with the 21st birthday of Corpuz's son, and ended with a moving gesture of sharing a meal together "that gave them a feeling of [being] with one big family," as provided in their lodge report.

Corpuz coincides his term as Master of the lodge with his tenure as President of Fort Magsaysay Sojourners Club, Inc, a fellowship of Masons in the army in the province. His position in the oriental chair and his executive post in the Masonic-allied organization expedited and furthered those charitable works.

Santa Rosa Masonic Lodge No. 297 is a testament that when brotherly love and harmony complement a strong-willed leadership, honor is ultimately reflected in the fraternity.



Talavera Masonic Temple Ravaged By Fire

By **VW Alberto C. Dumlaog, DGL (46)**

TCT Multi-Media Editor and

Bro. Ivan Jethro A. Balagtas (476)

Head News Correspondent

On the fateful day of September 10, 2022, terrible news distressed masons in the municipality of Talavera and brethren in nearby townships in Nueva Ecija. A fire scathed the decades-old temple halls of Talavera Masonic Lodge No. 273 and every material unit of the temple sustained severe damages. Everything except for the charter which was serendipitously encased in cement, was either reduced to ashes or were indisposed.

When the temple was built in 1992, the brethren followed the construction standards and norms of the time — building with only light materials. The old temple hall was predominantly made of wood, and the design of the building was bound by the limitations of construction technology and were restricted by the availability of materials durable enough to withstand natural disasters.

The unfortunate September event occurred in the middle of Talavera 273's gradual temple development process. The Lodge successfully renovated their temple social hall with a more modern look and more up-to-date building specifications. However, the fire risk of an old temple building proved vulnerable, and as

Murphy's Law puts it, "anything that can go wrong will go wrong."

On the night after a Lodge-organized blood-letting, fire broke out due to suspected faulty electrical wiring. The local fire department responded expeditiously but no rescue operations would be quick enough to a disaster of this proportion.

In the interim, Talavera 273 converted their fellowship hall into a Lodge Hall where they continue to labor as before. While the situation appears daunting, it is not entirely unsalvageable as we can learn from this tragic experience.

First and foremost, there is no fire too fervent when brothers link arms. Upon learning of the tragedy, brother masons whithersoever dispersed rendered relief to Worshipful Master Bro. Esteban Domingo and the rest of lodge leadership.

Secondly, fire-ravaged structures, depending on the scale of destruction, may still be restored. More importantly, we can prevent fires and minimize the risk of potential damage by adhering to present-day standards prescribed by law.

Fire Damage Restoration

Fire damage restoration is a five-step process of returning a fire-damaged property to pre-

disaster condition, which includes: (1) damage assessment; (2) property security and debris removal; (3) demolition, water removal and dry-out; (4) clean-up; and (5) construction and restoration.

Depending on the scale of destruction and nature of the fire, cleanup and restoration jobs may take a few weeks or even months. It is also worth noting that the consequence of a fire disaster is not only fire damage but also water damage caused by the effort of extinguishing the blaze by water, and melting and/or bursting pipes during the fire. Thus, while a fire-related disaster may cause tremendous damage caused by the fire itself, water damage may render it unrecoverable. This makes water removal a very important step in the fire damage restoration process.

On Fire Prevention

Republic Act No. 9514, otherwise known as the Fire Code of the Philippines, serves as the framework that ensures public safety through the prevention and suppression of all kinds of destructive fires. It covers, among others, standards and enforcement of fire safety measures for all types of buildings and occupancies.

In addition, the Philippine Electrical Code is used nationally as the basis for safeguarding persons, buildings and its contents from hazards that may arise from the use of electricity. The primary purpose of the Code is to minimize the risk of electricity as a source

of electric shock, potential ignition source of fires and explosions.

In order to prevent fires, our Masonic halls and temples have to meet minimum requirements both the Fire Code and the Electrical Code, both of which are referral codes the National Building Code.

However, the reality is, many masonic halls in our jurisdiction, especially the older structures, fail the basic requirement of number of exits, fire resistance rating of materials, and availability of fire protection systems. In addition, changing requirements on lighting and power have resulted in overloading of existing outlets and circuits in our masonic temples.

A Need for Review and Inspection

This unfortunate tragedy exposes a need for a system of building plan review and regular inspection of masonic temples in our jurisdiction to ensuring compliance with applicable building codes. Edict No. 123 – MW Choa, mandates a standard building plan for provincial lodges approved by the Building Committee as prepared by the Grand Lodge Architect.

This edict however, focuses on the layout and façade of masonic temples, and not so much as the entirety of the building design. An expanded role of the Building Committee and the Grand Lodge Architect may be needed to guarantee that all masonic temples conform to our internal design criteria as well as standards set by government authorities.



Firemen from the Talavera Fire Station assessing damage at fire-out.



A FILIPINO MASON AT Mt. EVEREST

By Bro. Christopher R. Bañas (25)

As Master Mason, we always encounter about the word travelling particularly in the ritual of work or literature in Freemasonry. We may consider this symbolically travelling from West to East in search of light, from East to West in search of that which was lost or to the four horizons in search of the secret of a master mason. As what SW Jojo Rosas Verzo of Malinaw Lodge No. 25 has done just recently when he engaged to preparatory climb the Mount Everest in Nepal. Mt. Everest is Earth's highest mountain above sea level, located in the Mahalangur Himal sub-range of the Himalayas. The China-Nepal border runs across its summit point. Its elevation (snow height) of 8,848.86 m (29,031.7 ft) was most recently established in 2020 by the Chinese and Nepali authorities. Preparatory to his Mt Everest journey, SW Verzo had committed his time in practising a lot in high altitude climb in the Philippines. He practised most of the time in cycling and climbing to strengthen his stamina in preparation to Mt. Everest climb. SW Verzo's plan was to climb first the base camp of Mt Everest as preparation to climb the summit in the near future. Mt Everest has two base camps: South Base Camp is in Nepal at an altitude of 5,364 meters (17,598 ft) and North Base Camp is in Tibet, China at 5,150 meters (16,900 ft) These base camps are almost twice the elevation of Mt. Apo since it has an elevation of 2,954 meters (9,692 ft) above sea level. Climbing the base camp is a requirement if you are planning to climb the summit of Mt Everest. According to High Adventure Expeditions, as of 2021, the average cost for a place on a commercial Everest team, from either Tibet or Nepal, is US\$44,500 or P2,625,500.00 at P69 per US dollar. At the very upper level, the private climb op-

tion on Futenbach's "signature expedition" comes with the price tag of US\$200,000 or P11,800,000.00 at P59 per US dollar.

On September 11 to 12, 2022, SW Verzo flew from Manila to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. From there he proceeded to Kathmandu, Nepal. On the following day, he flew to Tenzing-Hillary Airport (Lukla, Nepal). This airport is frequently referred to as the most dangerous airport in the world for having a short distance take-off and landing strip while seated at 2,846 meters above sea level.

From Tenzing-Hillary Airport (Lukla, Nepal), SW Verzo proceeded to Phakding for an overnight stay. On 14 September 14, 2022, he trekked from Phakding (2,800m) to Namche Bazaar (3,800m). From September 15 to September 20, He trekked slowly uphill under the unaccustomed near freezing temperature and traversed the station camps of Namche Bazaar; Tengboche (3,875m), Dingboche (4,400m), Loboche (5,030m), Gorak shep (5,190m) and until he reached the Mt Everest Base North Base Camp, Kala Phattar (5,550m).

At the North Base Camp, SW Verzo proudly waived the flag of Malinaw Lodge No. 25, wherein he did not merely display it for the blue lodge but as representative of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines. A very very proud Filipino Mason indeed.

SW Verzo is not an amateur in the mountaineering world because he is known to have climb Mt. Apo several times in his early years with renowned Filipino mountaineer and the first Filipino to climb Mt. Everest, Pastor Emata.



Sierra Madre 181 holds First Kuyang's Basic Gun Handling & Fun Shoot Event

By: VW Lorenzo A. Javier (181)

A fund-raising event of Sierra Madre Masonic Lodge No. 181 dubbed as “1st Kuyang’s Basic Gun Handling & Fun Shoot” was held last September 24, 2022 at San Luis Sports Complex at Brgy. Bubucal, Sta. Cruz, Laguna. The event was well-attended by members of various shooting teams from different places, gun enthusiasts, freemasons from different lodges and the regular members of Sierra Madre Masonic Lodge No. 181.

Registration for the said event started as early as 7:30 in the morning and the tournament proper commenced thereafter. The beginners and first-time participants were given a 30minute lecture on the basics of gun handling by Mr. Darwin Castillo, a regular member of Capitol Laguna Shooting Club Inc.

Mr. Castillo emphasized that guns are dangerous when they are not handled or used properly and can easily injure or kill you, and those around you. He said there are no second chances with a gun and the rules for safe gun handling must always be followed to avoid accidents. He enumerated to the participants the 12 Golden Rules for Safe Gun Handling, to wit:

1. Always treat the gun loaded.
2. Always keep the gun pointed in a safe direction.
3. Always keep your finger straight and off the trigger until you are ready to shoot.
4. Always keep the gun unloaded until you are ready to use it.

5. Never point the gun at anything you don’t intend to destroy.
6. Be sure of your target and what is beyond it.
7. Learn the mechanical and handling characteristics of the gun you are using.
8. Always use proper Ammunition.
9. Be sure the barrel is clear of obstructions before loading and shooting.
10. If your gun fails to fire when the trigger is pulled, hold your shooting position for several seconds; then when the muzzle pointed in a safe direction, carefully unload the gun.
11. Don’t rely on the gun’s safety to keep it from firing.
12. Be aware of your surroundings when handling guns so you don’t trip or lose your balance and accidentally point and/or fire the gun anyone or anything.

He also gave the participants his range safety tips namely:

1. Follow the 12 golden rules.
2. Know and follow all the rules of the Shooting Range.
3. Listen and do what the Range Master tells you to do.
4. Uncase and case your gun at the shooting bench, never behind the safety line.
5. Always keep the barrel pointed down range.
6. Always keep the gun on safe until you intend to shoot.
7. Always wear eye and ear protection when shooting.
8. Never shoot at water or hard surfaces.

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WERIDE

August 14, 2022
Start time :
San Pedro M.L. No.292 Temple 0530H
Fiestahan sa Kuyang Bucal 0630H

LAGUNA
KUYANGS 

Editor's Note: The following is a first-hand account of VW Winston P. Uy, District Deputy Grand Master of R IV Laguna WEST.

Brethren, allow me to amuse you with a short story of our WE RIDE – short for West To East Ride. For perspective, Masonic District R-IV Laguna was, two years ago, divided into R-IV Laguna West, and R-IV Laguna East. Despite that, the very close relations of the Masons and the Lodges of Laguna remains strong and now manifested by this joint activity. Hence, in a demonstration of unity, the ride was dubbed, West to East Ride!

Masonic Lodge #292) to East (Sierra Madre Masonic Lodge #181) with jump off points at San Pedro Masonic Temple and Fiestahan sa Kuyang in Bucal bypass road, Real, Calamba, with a breakfast stop at Makiling Masonic Lodge #72, hosted by WM Arnel Garcia and VW Jay Bunyi, DDGM of Laguna East.

This fraternal bike ride was designed to improve fraternal relations among masons in the District, among masons within Laguna, with masons beyond the District, as it was supported by a 20-man delegation of Nilad Lodge #12, and of course, improve health awareness among the brethren.

There were also stop-overs at some tourist spots like the Pagsangjan Welcome arch, and the Kalayaan Hydroelectric and a photo-op at the Bae Masonic marker.

Along the whole route, PNP, BFP and BJMP personnel led by brethren in uniform were present to provide assistance. WB Dr. Elvis Bedia led the medical staff in an ambulance from Unihealth Hospitals while towing/salvage crew was led by Bro Juvill Bugo-Bugo Villamor!



Organized by the Ride Champion, VW Rodski Fernandez, DGL of Laguna West, this is a 75km bike ride from West (San Pedro

There were 171 registrants, with almost 100 actual riders, including two Atengs, who did way better than many Kuyangs, by actually finishing the 75-km ride!

At the end point, sumptuous lunch was prepared by WM Allan S. Hilbero and the brethren of Sierra Madre Masonic Lodge #181 at the Sierra Madre Masonic Temple, where prizes of bike accessories and cash money of 3, 5 and 7 thousand were given away to lucky raffle winners! After tokens were distributed, fellowship followed, as the brethren sat down to rest and refresh themselves...



Sierra Madre 181

The tournament ended at around noon of that day and the awarding ceremonies followed thereafter when all the scores of the players were tabulated by the range officers. Worshipful Master Allan S. Hilbero of Sierra Madre Masonic Lodge No. 181 led the awarding ceremonies by giving away 38 trophies to all the winners who were divided into 2 Major categories namely: Masons Category and Friends of Masons Category.

In the Mason Category, the overall winners were:

1. Standard - Bro. Butz Martires (181)
2. Production - Bro. Abelardo Jarabejo (181)
3. Classic - Bro. Mannex Valderama (181)

In the category, Friends of Masons the following shooters emerged as overall winners:

1. Standard winner - Martin Castelo
2. Production winner - Edward Santos
3. Classic winner - Trulie Baldemor

The bulk of the proceeds of this fund-raising event will go to the charitable projects as well as the beautification of Sierra Madre Masonic Lodge No. 181 located in Paete, Laguna.

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A Masonic Obelisk Stands Tall in Bohol

By: Bro. Florendo C. Columnas (84)

The Province of Bohol is considered as one of the places in the country inhabited by highly Roman Catholic residents. The religiosity is splendid. The Siliman University was even intended to be established in Tagbilaran City, however, as the residents strongly protested, it was then moved to Dumaguete City. The members of the Dagohoy Masonic Lodge No. 84, had long been conceptualizing to construct an obelisk, nonetheless, former Bishops of the Diocese of Tagbilaran seemed to express unpleasant taste to the visibility of Masonic article or artifact in the place. Ultimately in 2022, the members of Dagohoy 84 took the cudgel to establish an Obelisk at Lourdes, Panglao, Bohol, particularly at the corner of the national road towards Poblacion which leads to Panglao International Airport. The seed money of P 50,000.00 was initiated by VW John Mose, immediate Past District Deputy Grand Master of RVII, Cebu, Bohol, & Siquijor which led to its groundbreaking on April 1. The brethren Dagohoy Lodge shared additional funds to contribute for the completion of the said project. The unveiling of the obelisk was made a month later on May 14 by WM Sam Dacullo together with the Brethren

of Dagohoy 84 in the presence of VW Kevin Co, DDGM; VW Oliver C. Ko, JGL and District Grand Lecturers namely - VW Raul Bustalifo, VW Randy Caballes, VW James Anthony Demafeliz, VW Elorde Talisic, and VW Benjamin Tan. Other witnesses include, yours truly, WB Ritche de la Fuente, and the Barangay Officials of Lourdes, Panglao.

Standing more than 3 meters tall with a Square & Compass protruding near the top, the Obelisk is a proud testament to the establishment of Freemasonry in the Island of Bohol, 100 years ago with the founding of Dagohoy Lodge.

Near the base of the structure are the colored logos of Dagohoy Masonic Lodge No. 84; Punsong Mason Logo (alluding to the term of MW Rlen Paulino); Masonic District RVII- Cebu, Bohol, & Siquijor; and Appendant Bodies of the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls - Gloria Maris Assembly No.15 and Order of Eastern Star - Kinampay Chapter No. 26. The feat is Dagohoy 84's tribute to the Masonic Fraternity and a declaration of the existence of Freemasonry in the Province of Bohol. The structure increases the awareness of the people that in the Island exists a Brotherhood of Men under the Fatherhood of God. May the structure's message dispel the long notion implanted by some religious hierarchy in the minds of the people that freemasonry is anti-Christian.



Dagohoy 84 Centennial Celebration Launched

By: Bro. Florendo C. Columnas (84)

On October 22, 2022—a Saturday, the officers and members of Dagohoy Masonic Lodge No. 84 formally launched its Centennial Period - carrying the theme “100 years of fidelity to the light and craft” with RW Raul E. Canon, Junior Grand Warden as the Guest of Honor & Speaker.

The event held at the quadrangle of the Bohol Provincial School (now Dr. Cecilio National High School) is the same venue where the institution of Dagohoy as a Lodge Under Dispensation was held on October 23, 1922.

Maktan No. 30, the Lodge who sponsored the founding of Dagohoy 84 on October 23, 1922 was duly represented with the attendance of some of its members namely, VW Hudson Ong, Bro. Rodney Co; Bro. Alejandro Masa, Jr.; and Bro. Timothy Lim.

A Century Ago, Bro. Alfonso Lecaros of Maktan Lodge No. 30 communicated to Bro. Eulalio Tañedo, a Military Officer, assigned in the Town of Tagbilaran if it was feasible to open a lodge in the area. The rest is history.

During the Centennial Celebration Launching, led by WM Sam Dacullo, several activities were being lined-up in connection with the year-long commemoration. Noteworthy among these endeavors are charitable works to be conducted within the Province of Bohol.

Most notable is the ambitious program of giving out ten (10) units of modest-sized houses to ten (10) underprivileged and financially challenged individuals who were badly hit by Super Typhoon “Odette” .

Capping the year-long Centennial Activity Series will be the raffle draw on June 23, 2023 – the Centennial Anniversary of Dagohoy Masonic Lodge No.84’s Constitution. Prices at stake are: Toyota Raize SUV (Grand Prize), RUSI Sigma 250 (second prize), and RUSI Gamma 200 (3rd Prize). Ten (10) Consolation Prizes of Cellular Phones worth not more than P 6,000.00 each shall also be awarded to the winners. Centennial Raffle Tickets are priced at P 500.00 each.

A STAR RISES IN ILOILO

BY: SIS. ERLINDA ASEDILLO-FERNANDEZ (OES)



It started as a dream which became a reality for a group of wives and Master Masons in Iloilo City.

Sometime in August 2019, the idea of establishing an Order of the Eastern Star Chapter in Iloilo City was explored. Consultations and discussions were held with various Lodges involving the more senior Masons in the area. To prove their seriousness, the wives took it upon themselves to visit with Cadena de Amor Chapter No. 16 in Cagayan de Oro City, where they have good friends who are members, to confer and learn more about the Order. Thus a close relationship with the Chapter members was forged. They were encouraged and pursued the plan to put up a Chapter. A formal invitation was extended to the group for them to see and witness the public installation of the Cadena de Amor Chapter in January 2020, to be able understand more the purpose of the Order, the virtues exemplified by the heroines of the Order, and to fellowship with other OES sisters and brothers. For the said installation, a bigger delegation travelled to Cagayan de Oro City, where a stronger bond among the sisters and brothers was tied.

Meanwhile, an application for the formation of a Chapter in Iloilo and Panay island was submitted to the OES General Grand Chapter in Washington, D.C., under the sponsorship of the MW Justice Ricardo P. Galvez Sr. Lodge No. 229. The proposed chapter name, Panay Gugma (meaning "love"), was chosen to symbolize the sisterhood and brotherhood of Master Masons and their qualified female relatives in the island. Applications for membership were distributed to prospective members, which were processed after they were vouched for. Election of Officers in February 2020 coincided with the visit of the Deputy to the Most Worthy Grand Patron for the Philippines, WB Jose S. Redor of Bagumbayan Lodge No. 4, who gave a briefing on the Order of the Eastern Star and instructions on the conduct of the Chapter institution. The installation of officers were then set for March 2020.

Then the pandemic/Covid-19 happened!

Plans were put on hold. Provinces and cities were put on lock-downs, movements were restricted, travel has become prohibitive, complicated, and dangerous, and health

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VW Burt A. Fernandez, PDGL DEFINING and CONQUERING THE ODDS

by: Bro. Graeme June Y. Elmido (252)

The year was 2014 when I visited Mt. Moriah Masonic Lodge No.252, seeking to knock on its doors in my pursuit to become a Freemason. One of the first Master Masons that I have had the chance to converse with as a petitioner at that time is Very Worshipful Burt A. Fernandez, a Master Mason of the Blue Lodge.

VW Burt hails from Tacurong, Sultan Kudarat, in Southern Mindanao. He finished his degree in Mechanical Engineering in 1975 at the Cebu Institute of Technology in Cebu City. On 26 May 1990 he was initiated an Entered Apprentice Mason of the Daguma Mountain Range No. 244 in the Municipality (now City) of Tacurong. That same year, he was passed to the degree of Fellowcraft on August 4 and was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason on September 5. He and his family moved and settled in Cebu City in 1996, where he became a dual member of the Mt. Moriah No. 252 the following year.

VW Burt was an active Freemason, having served as Master of Daguma Mountain Range Lodge in 1995, and in Masonic Year 2001 - 2002 served as District Grand Lecturer for Masonic District 24 - Cebu & Bohol. He was active with Mt. Moriah Lodge in various capacities, notably as a strict examiner during proficiency tests.

VW Burt first underwent a medical procedure in 2011, when he had Endiovascular Coiling Procedure due to cerebral aneurysm, but fully recovered from it and continued to actively participate in Lodge programs and activities. And then tragedy struck.

In 2017, VW Burt suddenly became weak on his right side with dysarthria, and eventually became paralyzed. He was not able to recover from it and was relegated to the wheelchair as he can no longer have full function of most of his body. Despite his condition he barely lost his speech, and to keep himself occupied he constantly reads his Monitor. His wife Nora even mentioned that reading his Monitor was one of the first things he did after waking up. Somehow, the Monitor had its uncanny effect of keeping VW Burt going.

In September 2022, I attended a short gathering with some of the brethren of Mt. Moriah 252, and saw VW Burt too. I was Senior Warden then and informed VW Burt of our scheduled second degree conferral on EAM Don Villanueva the following month. While polishing on the rituals and lectures attendant to the degree, VW Burt began to recite the Middle Chamber Lecture. I was silent while listening intently to his voice even noticing some slight hand gestures. I requested him to deliver the Middle Chamber Lecture during the upcoming conferral.



Burt's excitement and would constantly ask him to prepare his masonic attire and to remind him of the date of the conferral. His wife Nora told me of VW Burt's anticipation of his lecture and that he is looking forward to it, and was grateful. Hearing these from his family elated my heart. I never thought that such a simple request would bring out the roaring blaze in a small fire.

On 08 October 2022, the day of the conferral, there he was - giving the second section lecture of the 2nd Degree, with all the passion of a lecturer on a podium. The Senior Deacon, eagerly guiding his wheelchair during the lecture. Despite his disability, VW Burt exuded the aura of an exemplary Freemason! Seeing him lecture so passionately gave the brethren, a sense of pride and inspiration for despite his disability, his passion in serving the lodge out of love for the craft overcame all hindrances.

That fateful day, Very Worshipful Burt A. Fernandez has set an example of what Masonic Dedication truly meant. VW Patrick Evans R. King, PDDGM described VW Burt as an exemplary Mason, active, proficient, and persistent despite his present condition.

He is such an inspiration, a gentleman, and a Freemason, that I thought to myself - "if I can only be even just half the man that he is, then I would be fulfilled as a Freemason!"

Until now, I can still picture the wide smile on his face as he agreed to do the lecture. It dawned on me that this would be the first time that VW Burt will participate in an important Lodge activity since he became paralyzed. His son later informed me of VW

A STAR rises in Iloilo

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restrictions were strictly enforced. But after more than two years, a light was seen at the end of the tunnel.

Presided by the Deputy to the Most Worthy Grand Patron for the Philippines, WB Jose S. Redor, Panay Gugma Chapter UD was finally instituted with 25 charter members, and its first officers installed at the historic Powell Hall Masonic Temple in Iloilo City on July 16, 2022. All successfully and efficiently accomplished through the combined support and cooperation of several chapters: Kalaw Chapter No. 9 (Quezon City), Cadena de Amor Chapter No. 16 (Cagayan de Oro City), and Balanghai Chapter No.28 (Butuan). Present also at these momentous events was the Deputy to the Most Worthy Grand Matron for Visayas and Mindanao, Sis Remedios M. Azarcon of Teodoro Alonzo Chapter No. 4.

In her inaugural speech, the first Worthy Matron, Sis. Celia L. Pitogo accepted the challenge to lead the new chapter with enthusiasm and promised total commitment. She credited the first Worthy Patron, VW Pastor L. Torres, Jr. of MW Justice Ricardo P. Galvez Sr. Lodge No. 229, a Golden Apron and Hiram awardee, for being the catalyst in her agreeing to accept the position of Worthy Matron. "The pandemic, which still rages, has taught us lessons and showed opportunities where we can exercise patience, hope and charity."

Bataan Masons Honor Brother Mason Antonio Luna

By: WM Emerson Bernales (224)

LIMAY, BATAAN — The District Officers and Brethren from Bataan’s five lodges namely: Bataan No. 104; Luis J. Reyes No. 224; Meridian No. 268; Dambana ng Kagitingan No. 377; and Di-Nalupig No. 438 - honored Bro. Antonio Luna with a Wreath-Laying Ceremony in commemoration of his natal day and in veneration of his heroism. Despite the inclemency of the weather, the ceremony commenced on October 29 – which is the 157th Birth Anniversary of the second Commanding General of the Philippine Revolutionary Army. The brethren shared the hallmark occasion alongside the Officers and personnel of the Government Arsenal headquartered at Camp General Antonio Luna.

The ceremony highlights the invaluable contributions of the revolutionary General to Philippine Independence.

“As discussed in our Masonic Education for the Month of June - the brethren can become modern-day heroes, patriots, and nationalist by keeping the principal tenets of Freemasonry by heart.” Said VW Arsenio Sy, District Deputy Grand Master of R-III Bataan who led his brother masons to the event.

A District Resolution is now in the works that will enjoin Bataan Brethren thereafter, to hold an Annual Tribute to the gallant brother, especially that Camp named after General Antonio Luna is located in the province.



A tribute was then delivered by WM Adrian Sanchez of Meridian No. 268 for the brother mason who was a member of Logia Solidaridad No. 53 in Madrid – a Lodge under the obedience of Grand Oriente Español in the 1890’s.

Having been given the privilege of giving the closing remarks, yours truly emphasized with hope that an individual needs no war to become a hero. Moreover, the strongest adversary of oneself is himself, for heroism is contained within the heart of an individual to do good and accomplish better.





Jamninggalan ni Kuya Pong LM Arnulfo Macatangay, NPNT

KAKAIBANG EKSKARSYON NG MGA MASON NG SINUKUAN 16

Ang Lohia Sinukuan Blg. 16 ng Purok Masoniko ng NCR-C ay ilang taon nang nag-sasagawa ng “Balik Eskwela Project” sa iba’t-ibang panulukan ng bansa. Sa taong 2022 ang napiling benepisyaryo, sa panukala ng kanilang kasapi na si Kuyang Neil Anthony Estrella - ay ang Mababang Paaralan ng Apad sa Isla ng Jomalig sa Lalawigan ng Quezon.

Ang Isla ay isang “5th class” na munisipalidad” na kabahagi ng Polillo Islands. Dahil sa layo nito sa lupain ng Luzon, napakabagal ng pag-unlad ng kanilang pamayanan. Halos 150 kilometro ang layo nito sa Maynila, kaya’t ibayong paghahanda ang amin kinailangan.

Matapos maibigay ng lokal na pamahalaan ang inisyal na datos patungkol sa nasabing paaralan, naglaan ang Lohia ng mahigit 500 set ng mga gamit pampaaralan (school supplies) na nakasilid sa kani-kaniyang iskul bag at mahigit 500 pares ng mga tsinelas. Sapat na ito upang ibahagi sa lahat ng mga mag-aaral mula Una hanggang Anim na Baitang (Grade 1 to 6). May mga damit na padala si VW Joseph Li. Habang nagpabaon ng kahon-kahong Biscuit at De Lata si VW Jimmy T. Lao mula sa kanilang pabrika sa Quezon City. Ang mga bagaheng ito ay nauna nang ipinadala sa isla.

BIYERNES, ika-5 ng Agosto, sa ganap na alas dos ng madaling araw, nagkita-kita sa Gran Lohia ng Pilipinas (GLP) ang ilan sa mga kapatid ng Sinukuan 16 sa pangunguna ng Marangal na Guro Domingo “Inggo” B. Fernandez, ang Una at Pangalawang Bantay ng Lohia (Senior & Junior Warden) na sina Kuyang Richard “Ricky” A. Peralta at Kuyang Agustin “Nonoy” F. Chan at iba pang mga kasapi na sina VW Ding Gutierrez, PDGL; VW Ed C. Reyes, PDGL; at Bro. Cris Reyes. Kasama din ang dalawa sa kanilang Kasaping Pandangal (Honorary Member) na sina VW Joseph Y. Li, PDDGM at VW Tony O. Hing, PDGL, at ang inyong abang lingkod.

Lulan ng dalawang auto at isang van at yakag ang ilang petitioner, limang oras na nagbyahe ang aming grupo patungong Real, Quezon. Pagdating sa Daungan ng Ungos (Ungos Port), inilagak namin ang mga dalang mga sasakyan at saka pumila upang lumulan sa “Express Boat” patungo sa Isla ng Jomalig. Dahil sa may numumuong sama ng panahon, malalaki ang alon sa Dagat Pasipiko kung kayat hindi agad kami pinasakay ng mga otoridad ng Tanod Baybayin (Coast Guard). Pinayagan lamang kaming makapag layag makalipas ang dalawang oras, nang bahagyang humupa ang mga alon.

Sa malaking bangka, ay aming nakasabay ang iba't - ibang klase ng pasahero na may samu't-saring kargada na itatawid patungo sa isla, ang iba sa mga bagahe ay galing pa ng Maynila. Palibhasa'y hindi kami mga sanay sa ganoong uri ng transportasyon, marami sa aming kasamahan ang nahilo habang ang ilan ay nagsuka dahil sa lakas ng hampas ng alon sa dagat. Habang ang aming grupo ay pare-parehong ninenerbyos habang binabagtas ang Dagat Pasipiko, kapansin-pansin naman ang pagiging kalmado ng mga regular na pasahero na tila sanay na sa ganoong paglalakbay na tumagal ng halos limang oras.

Sa pagdaong namin sa Barangay ng Apad, naglaho ang aming pagod at pangamba nang masinayan ang ganda ng Isla ng Jomalig! Kamangha-mangha ang linaw ng tubig at kaputian ng mga buhangin. Naibasan din ang aming kagutuman sa mga pagkaing inihanda ni Kuyang Neil na naka-antabay sa aming pagdating: Sinigang na Baboy, Inihaw na Isdang Bato na sariwang-sariwa, at sinamahan pa ng umuusok na kanin!



Matapos kumain, nagpahinga ang grupo sa ilalim ng mga puno. Pagdating ng hapunan, noon namin pinagpulangan kung paano ipamamahagi kinabukasan ang mga dalang pasalubong sa eskwelahan. Maaga kaming nagpahinga sa mga kubo-kubo na siya naming tinutuluyan sa isla.

SABADO, ika-6 ng Agosto, sa ganap na alas-sais ng umaga, ang aming grupo ay naghanda patungo sa Mababang Paaralan ng Apad. Upang makapunta sa aming destinasyon, ang bawat isa sa amin ay

kinailangang umangkas ng motorsiklo, isang serbis na kung tawagin doon ay "habal-habal". Bilang pag-iingat 1:1 ang angkasan ng habal-habal at pasehero.

Pagdating ng eskwelahan, masaya kaming sinalubong ng mga guro at mag-aaral, pati na rin mga magulang na nakabantay sa kanilang mga batang anak at maging mga residente ng pamayanan.



Nagkaroon ng munting palatuntunan sa pangunguna ni MG Inngo Fernandez, na sinalitan nina UB Ricky Peralta at PB Nonoy Chan. Doon, ang tatlong ilaw ng Lohia Sinukuan ay nagbahagi ng ilang mensaheng pang-inspirasyon na naghikayat sa mga bata na pagtiyagaang tapusin ang kanilang pag-aaral. Ang inyong lingkod ang siya namang namuno sa programa (MC) kung saan nag-alay ng mga awit at sayaw ang mga bata bilang tanda ng kanilang pasasalamat. Lalong sumaya ang palatuntunan ng nagsisayaw na rin ang mga nanay na nagbantay sa kanilang mga anak na nauwi sa pa-kontes na may papremyong tigda-dalawang daan, limang daan, at isang libong piso mula sa mga



kasapi ng Sinukuan 16. Tumagal ang program mula 7:00 ng umaga hanggang 12:00 ng Tanghali.

Bakas ang tuwa sa mukha ng mga estudyante mula Grade 1 hanggang Grade 6, nang ang lahat ay nakatanggap ang aming dalang iskul bag, iskul suplays, tsinelas, damit, at de lata. Halatang nanibago ang mga bata sa pagbubukas ng biscuit na pabaon ni VW Jimmy La na tila ba noon lamang nakakita ng ganoong pagkain. Nakakatuwa ang katapatan (honesty) ng mga bata - sa ilang pagkakataon na nadodoble ang bigay ng mga pasalubong, sila na ang magkukusang magsabi nang "meron na po ako".



mga ng mga Duktur at Dentista, at magdadala ng mga gamot para sa mga batang nangangailangan. Naimungkahi rin ang pamamahagi ng salamin sa mata para sa mga taong naroroon. Si Kuyang Neil Anthony Estrella na matagal na rin nagsasagawa ng iba't-ibang pagtulong sa pamayanan ng Brgy. Apad ay labis na natutuwa sa mga planong ito na siya nyang aabangan sa mga susunod na buwan.

LINGO, ika-7 ng Agosto, sa ganap ng alas-ocho ng umaga, kami ay sinundo ng bangkang Express. Maskalmado na ang mga alon sa aming paglalayag pabalik sa Daungan ng Ungos. Pagdating ng Real, Quezon ay amin nang kinuha ang mga sasakyan sa pinaglagakan, ang mga kasapi ng Lohia Sinukuan Blg.16 at muling naglakbay pabalik ng Maynila. Baon ng lahat ang hindi malilimutang karanasan mula sa isang **Kakaibang Ekskarsyon ng mga Mason.**



Kapansin-pansin ang maitim na kulay ng balat ng mga bata, na ayon sa mga magulang ay sanhi ng palaging paglalaro sa tabing-dagat. Kapansin-pansin ang kanilang payat na pangangatawan at hindi gaanong paglaki. Bakas din ang nahuhuling pagsibol ng mga bata. Ang inakala naming Grade 2 ay mga Grade 5 na pala - mga indikasyon ng malnutrisyon.

Pagkatapos ng aming misyon, nagsibalik na ang mga kapatid sa aming tinutuluyan. Doon ay muling nagulat ang lahat sa mga pagkaing inihanda ni Kuyang Neil sa isang mahabang lamesa na aming pagsasaluhan: Sinigang na Isda (na sariwang sariwa), mga hipon, ulang (lobster). Inihaw na Baboy, at Ginataang Gulay na siya naming uulamin sa umuusok na kanin!

Kinagabihan, napag-usapan ng mga kasapi ng Sinukuan 16 ang muling pagbalik sa Isla upang magsagawa naman ng Misyong Medikal at Dental. Planong magsasama ng



PAHABOL: *Paglilinaw ng Marangal na Guro Domingo "Inngo" B. Fernandez, ang pag-yakag sa mga petisyoners ay upang imulat ang kanilang mga sarili sa taunang proyektong pangkawanggawa ng lohianang kanilang piniling salihan.*

IMES CLASS

REPORT FROM AUGUST TO
OCTOBER 2022



AUG
5-7

CLASS 2022-184

Hosted by RI Pangasinan
69 Participants
64 Graduates

AUG
19-21

CLASS 2022-186

Hosted by Dr. Jose P. Laurel
Masonic Lodge No. 325 /
Masonic District VI
Batangas
47 Participants, 32 Grads

SEPT
9-11

CLASS 2022-188

Hosted by Cavite Lodge
No. 2
43 Participants
41 Graduates

SEPT 30
TO OCT 2

CLASS 2022-190

Hosted by NCR G & H
39 Participants
37 Graduates

OCT
14-16

CLASS 2022-192

Hosted by Malinaw
Masonic Lodge No. 25
49 Participants
47 Graduates

OCT
28-30

CLASS 2022-194

Hosted by RIX Zamboanga
del Sur & Sibugay
45 Participants
44 Graduates

CLASS 2022-185

Hosted by RIII Bulacan
West & East
45 Participants
44 Graduates

AUG
12-14

CLASS 2022-187

Hosted by NCR C
70 Participants
66 Graduates

SEPT
2-4

CLASS 2022-189

Hosted by RX Misamis
Occidental
53 Participants
48 Graduates

SEPT
16-18

CLASS 2022-191

Hosted by RIII Pampanga
30 Participants
30 Graduates

OCT
7-9

CLASS 2022-193

Hosted by Tuguegarao
Masonic Temple,
Tuguegarao Cagayan
38 Participants
35 Graduates

OCT
21-23

528 PARTICIPANTS
488 GRADUATES



VISITING THE VISAYAS

By: VW Joseph Harold W. Santiago, GSc

Ikadubang Hugna

FIVE DISTRICTS & 37 LODGES



Region VI – is the designated number for the administrative region that is Western Visayas. It covers the six (6) provinces of Aklan, Antique, Capiz, Guimaras, Iloilo, and Negros Occidental, as well as the twin cities of Bacolod and Iloilo. Both of which are highly urbanized.

In the Philippine Masonic jurisdiction, the **Masonic District R-VI Panay Island** is made up of nine (9) subordinate Lodges found in four of its six provinces. Two Masonic Lodges can be found in Aklan, one each in Antique and Capiz. While the five Iloilo Lodges are housed in the City’s Iloilo Masonic Center at J.M. Basa St.

Three of the oldest Visayan Lodges can be found in this district, the 106-year-old Iloilo-Acacia No. 11; Makawiwili No. 55 – with its 102-year Charter in Capiz; and Antique’s Hamtik Lodge No. 76 which celebrated its 100th Charter Anniversary this 2022. The last lodge to be constituted in this cluster is XIX Martyrs Lodge No. 342 which was chartered in 2003.

Currently there are no Masonic Lodges in the Island Province of Guimaras. Masonic Lodges in Negros Occidental are grouped into a separate Masonic District of its own.

As of 2022, the District has a total active membership of **328 Master Masons**. 264 of them are Regular Members while 64 are Life-Members by Longevity (LML):

| Lodge Name & No. | Location | Regular Stated Meeting |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| Iloilo-Acacia : : No. 11 | Iloilo City | 1st Saturday at 5:00 PM |
| Makawiwili : : No. 55 | Capiz | 4th Saturday at 3:00 PM |
| Hamtik : : No. 76 | Antique | 2nd Saturday at 9:00 AM |
| Kalantiao : : No. 187 | Iloilo City | 3rd Saturday at 5:00 PM |
| Graciano O. Lopez Jaena 194 | Iloilo City | 4th Saturday at 5:00 PM |
| Aklan : : No. 205 | Aklan | 2nd Friday at 6:00 PM |
| MW Ricardo G. Galvez, Sr. 229 | Iloilo City | 2nd Saturday at 2:30 PM |
| Quintin Salas : : No. 231 | Iloilo City | 3rd Friday at 5:00 PM |
| XIX Martyrs : : No. 342 | Aklan | 2nd Friday at 5:30 PM |



Region VII - the administrative region known as Central Visayas, consist of four provinces: Cebu, Bohol, Negros Oriental, and Siquijor including the highly urbanized cities of Cebu, Lapu-lapu, and Mandaue.

Masonically, only three of the four provinces made up Masonic District R-VII. They are Cebu, Bohol, and Siquijor. Blue Lodges in the Negros

Island are managed under a separate Masonic District. In 2022 there are ten (10) Chartered Lodges grouped under **MD R-VII Cebu, Bohol, & Siquijor (CBS)** making it the biggest Masonic District in the Visayas to date. Among them is the oldest lodge in the Visayas is Maktan which was chartered in 1916 under the the Gran Oriente Español (as Maktan 357) and later transferred to GLP in 1917 as Maktan 30). Dagohoy No. 84 which will be celebrating the 100 years of its charter in 2023. The youngest member in the Masonic District, Chocolate Hills No. 477 – currently holds the last number in the registry of lodges at GLP.

Based on the 2022 statistical data from the Grand Lodge, the district has 387 Active Members, 300 of which are Regulars and 87 LMLs.

| Lodge Name & No. | Location | Regular Stated Meeting |
|--------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Maktan :: No. 30 | Cebu City | 2nd Friday at 6:30 PM |
| Dagohoy :: No. 84 | Tagbilaran City, Bohol | 2nd Saturday at 6:00 PM |
| Cebu :: No. 128 | Cebu City | 2nd Tuesday at 6:30 PM |
| Mt. Moriah :: No. 252 | Cebu City | 1st Tuesday at 6:30 PM |
| Datu Lapu-Lapu :: 347 | Cordova, Cebu | 1st Thursday at 6:30 PM |
| Siquijor :: No. 418 | Larena, Siquijor | 3rd Saturday at 4:00 PM |
| Crescent :: No. 419 | Cordova, Cebu | Last Friday at 6:30 PM |
| Talisay Sugbo :: No. 422 | Cebu City | 3rd Saturday at 6:30 PM |
| Leon Kilat :: No. 437 | Carcar City, Cebu | 2nd Saturday at 3:00 PM |
| Chocolate Hills :: 477 | Tagbilaran City, Bohol | 4th Saturday at 2:00 PM |

Dagohoy No. 84 has been in existence in Tagbilaran City, Bohol for almost 100 years. The newly constituted Chocolate Hills No. 477 is currently housed at the same Dagohoy Temple.

The young Siquijor No. 418 is performing its Masonic Labors in Larena, Siquijor and is the first Masonic Lodge in that province.

Seven of the CBS Lodges are based in Cebu. Four of them – Maktan No. 30, Cebu No. 128, Mt. Moriah No. 252, and Talisay Sugbo No. 422 hold their meetings at the Cebu Masonic Temple at 70-A Boromeo St., Cebu City. Two Lodges - Datu Lapu Lapu No. 347 and Crescent No. 419 share the Masonic Temple at Cordova. Leon Kilat No.437 is currently building its temple in Carcar City, Cebu.

Region VIII or Eastern Visayas covers the six (6) provinces of Biliran (Northern Leyte), Leyte, Southern Leyte, Eastern Samar, Northern Samar, and Samar which can be found in the three islands of Biliran, Leyte, and Samar. In the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of the Philippines – Lodges in these six provinces were equally divided into the Masonic Districts of R-VIII Leyte and R-VIII Samar.



VW Ralph Uy
Deputy District
Grand Master



VW Ritzy Uy
Junior Grand Lecturer
for Eastern Visayas



VW Jackson Yap
District Grand
Lecturer



VW Eduardo Gayas
District Grand
Lecturer



VW Lehman Go
District Grand
Lecturer



VW Neone Asilom
District Grand
Lecturer



VW Salvador Go
District Grand
Lecturer



Subordinate Lodges in the provinces of Biliran, Leyte, and Southern Leyte are managed by **Masonic District R-VIII Leyte**.

Three of these lodges – Makabugwas No. 47, Tacloban No. 221, and Santiago L. Chua No. 336 meets at the Makabugwas Temple which can be found in the highly urbanized City of Tacloban. The venerable Makabugwas No. 47 is the oldest of the lodges having been constituted in 1919.

Construction of the Masonic Temple for Ormoc No. 234 is currently ongoing at Brgy. Valencia - 12 kilometers from Ormoc City. Sogod Bay No. 337 have established itself in the Municipality of Bontoc bordering Sogod and within sight of the Bay. Palo Liberation No.397 – the Benjamin of the seven lodges currently meets at Makabugwas Temple in Tacloban City but is scouting for a property in Palo, Leyte where its future temple will be established. Biliran Lodge No. 338 – meets in Tacloban City most of the time but has a potential site in Naval – the provincial capital of Biliran.

The District has 198 Active Members in 2022 composed 146 Regulars and 52 Life-Members by Longevity, holding membership in the seven 7 lodges:

| Lodge Name & No. | Location | Regular Stated Meeting |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Makabugwas :: No. 47 | Tacloban City, Leyte | 1st Saturday at 5:30 PM |
| Tacloban :: No. 221 | Tacloban City, Leyte | 4th Saturday at 5:30 PM |
| Ormoc :: No. 234 | Ormoc City, Leyte | 3rd Saturday at 5:30 PM |
| Santiago L. Chua No. 336 | Tacloban City, Leyte | 2nd Friday at 5:30 PM |
| Sogod Bay :: No. 337 | Bontoc, Leyte | 1st Friday at 5:30 PM |
| Biliran :: No. 338 | Naval, Leyte | 4th Friday at 5:30 PM |
| Palo Liberation :: 397 | Palo, Leyte | 3rd Thursday at 6:00 PM |

Masonic District R-VIII Samar is currently, the smallest of the Visayan Districts with only three subordinate lodges under its cluster. These Lodges have been established in each of the three provinces of Eastern Samar, Samar, and Northern Samar, namely Mt. Huraw No. 98, Northern Samar No. 211, and East Gate No. 232.

Mt. Huraw Lodge No. 98 - the oldest of the three meets every first Friday of the Month in their Masonic Temple in Catbalogan City, Samar. Founded in 1925 and duly constituted a year later. Its Charter is set to be 100 years old in 2026.

Northern Samar Lodge No. 211 located in Catarman, Northern Samar, meets every 2nd Saturday by their 46-year-old charter.

The 43-year-old East Gate Lodge No. 232 meets every last Saturday of the Month in Borongan, Eastern Samar.

The District population in 2022 is at 171 Active Members, 156 of which are Regular Members and 15 have been granted Life-Membership by Longevity.





MASONIC DISTRICT RVIII SAMAR

VW MEDINO L. ACUBA, DDGM



NORTHERN SAMAR
MASONIC LODGE NO. **211**
CHARTERED 1976



MT. HURAW
LODGE NO. **98**
CHARTERED 1926



EAST GATE
MASONIC LODGE NO. **232**
CHARTERED 1979



Masonic District R-XVIII Negros Island

Region is a mixture of eight (8) subordinate Lodges based in the Island's two provinces of Negros Oriental and Negros Occidental. Under the Philippine Republic, Negros Occidental is administratively a part of Region VI, while Negros Oriental belongs to Region VII.

The Negros Island Region was a short-lived administrative region which combined the two Negrense provinces in the island of Negros which existed from 29 May 2015 to 9 August 2017. Following its creation by Executive Order No. 183 issued by His Excellency Pres. Benigno S. Aquino III in 2015, the Brethren of Masonic District RVI-B unanimously passed District Resolution No. 2016-001 requesting the renumbering of their district in

recognition of the change introduced in the said Executive Order. In response, MW Voltaire Gazmin issued Edict No. 289 in May 26, 2016 which gave the Masonic District its Name and Unique Numbering.

Mt. Kaladias No. 91 is the lone lodge in Negros Oriental. It will be hosting the 106th Annual Communication in Dumaguete City in 2023. Constituted in 1924 - the lodge will be celebrating the centenary of its Charter in 2024.

The other seven lodges are located in Negros Occidental.

Three of these Lodges Kanla-on No. 64, Dalusan - M.V. Ko No. 210, and Manuel M. Abello No. 260 conduct their Masonic Labors at the Bacolod Masonic Temple found in the corner of Corazon and Rodriguez Avenue in Bacolod City. Kanla-On No. 64 is the oldest Masonic Lodge in the Island of Negros. Instituted in 1920 and chartered in 1921, its centennial years coincided with the onset of the Covid-19 Pandemic in 2020 and 2021.

Negrense No. 200, Ernesto S. Salas No. 280, and MW Ruperto S Demonteverde, Sr. No. 320 meet at the Negrense 200 Foundation, Inc. Masonic Temple at the corner of Mabini St. and Don Generoso Gamboa St., Brgy. 1, Silay City.

The Lodge named MW Joseph E. Schon No. 186 has its own temple in San Carlos City in a property donated by the widow of the said Grand Master.

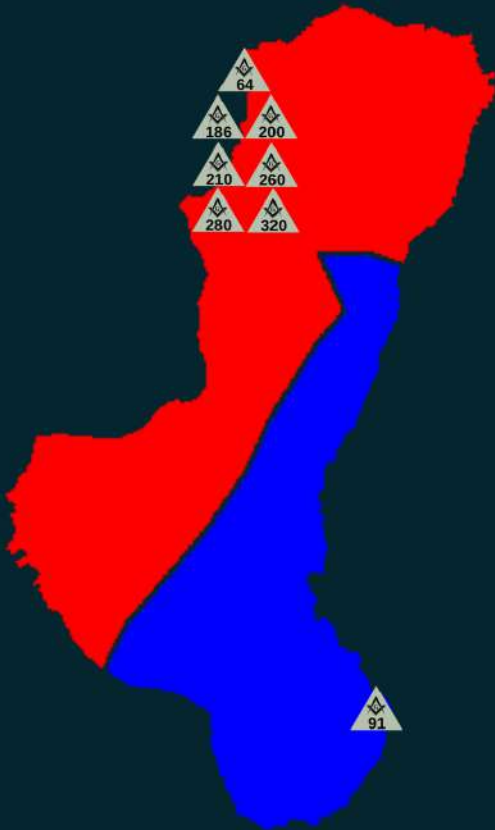
RXVIII's District Membership per GLP data in 2022 records **312 Master Masons** with 228 Regular Members and 84 Life-Members by Longevity.

| Lodge Name & No. | Location | Regular Stated Meeting |
|---|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Kanla-on :: No. 64 | Bacolod City, Negros Occidental | 2nd Saturday at 5:00 PM |
| Mt. Kaladias :: No. 91 | Dumaguete City, Negros Oriental | 3rd Saturday at 4:00 PM |
| MW Joseph E. Schon No. 186 | San Carlos City, Negros Occidental | 3rd Friday at 4:00 PM |
| Negrense :: No. 200 | Silay City, Negros Occidental | 2nd Friday at 5:30 PM |
| Dalusan - M.V. Ko :: No. 210 | Bacolod City, Negros Occidental | 3rd Saturday at 2:00 PM |
| Manuel M. Abello :: No. 260 | Bacolod City, Negros Occidental | 3rd Saturday at 5:00 PM |
| Ernesto S. Salas :: No. 280 | Silay City, Negros Occidental | 4th Saturday at 5:00 PM |
| MW Ruperto S. Demonteverde Sr. :: No. 320 | Silay City, Negros Occidental | 1st Saturday at 5:00 PM |



MASONIC DISTRICT RXVIII NEGROS ISLAND REGION

VW GIG T. EMPERADO, DDGM



**KANLAON
MASONIC LODGE NO.** 64
CHARTERED 1921

64



**MT. KALADIAS
MASONIC LODGE NO.** 91
CHARTERED 1924

91



**MW JOSEPH E. SCHON
MASONIC LODGE NO.** 186
CHARTERED 1968

186



**NEGRENSE
MASONIC LODGE NO.** 200
CHARTERED 1974

200



**DALUSAN - M.V. KO
MASONIC LODGE NO.** 210
CHARTERED 1976

210



**MANUEL M. ABELTO
MASONIC LODGE NO.** 260
CHARTERED 1983

260



**ERNESTO S. SALAS
MASONIC LODGE NO.** 280
CHARTERED 1988

280



**MW RUPERTO S.
DEMONTEVERDE
MASONIC LODGE NO.** 320
CHARTERED 1997

320

Of the 16 Provinces in the Visayas – only the Island Province of Guimaras have no masonic lodge.

Number of Chartered Lodges in the Visayas per Province

| | | | | | |
|------------|---|-----------------------|---|--------------------|---|
| 1. Aklan | 2 | 7. Eastern Samar | 1 | 13. Northern Samar | 1 |
| 2. Antique | 1 | 8. Guimaras | 0 | 14. Samar | 1 |
| 3. Biliran | 1 | 9. Iloilo | 5 | 15. Siquijor | 1 |
| 4. Bohol | 2 | 10. Leyte | 5 | 16. Southern Leyte | 1 |
| 5. Capiz | 1 | 11. Negros Occidental | 7 | | |
| 6. Cebu | 7 | 12. Negros Oriental | 1 | | |

Total No. of Visayan Lodges (2022) = 37

Together, these **thirty-seven Blue Lodges and five Masonic Districts** of Regions 6, 7, 8 and 18 gather annually for the **Visayan Multi-District Convention**. For 2022, the communication is scheduled in November 26, the fourth Saturday of the month from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm at the Casino Español De Cebu, Cebu City with Masonic District R-VII Cebu, Bohol, & Siquijor as the host district.



Our Visit to the Visayas, have shown us an overview of the status of Masonry in the aforesaid regions of our Grand Jurisdiction. From the first 2 lodges of Maktan No. 30 and Iloilo-Acacia No. 11 in 1916 and 1917 respectively, the figure has grown to 37 Masonic Lodges and 1,396 Master Masons in the last 116 years.

Going back to 2006, at the time when Edict No. 228 of MW Yu was issued, the nomenclature of Masonic Districts may have changed but the quantity of five Masonic Districts have been retained: The Eastern Visayan Districts No. 16 & No. 18 of Samar & Leyte are now MD R-VIII Samar and MD R-VIII Leyte; Masonic District No. 20 of Western Visayas - Iloilo, Antique, Aklan is now MD R-VI

Panay Island, while District No. 22 of Negros Occidental & Negros Oriental is now known as MD R-XVIII Negros Island Region. In Central Visayas, the District No. 24 of Cebu and Bohol is now the Masonic District R-VII composed of Cebu, Bohol, & Siquijor.

With the unique geography of the Visayan Region consisting of the seven large islands of Bohol, Cebu, Leyte, Masbate*, Negros, Panay, and Samar; together with the several hundred smaller islands clustered around the Visayan, Samar, and Camotes seas – Masonry in this part of our jurisdiction shall continue to flourish on its own peculiar fashion that is distinct from the development in the Philippine main land of Luzon and Mindanao. So Mote it be.

**Politically, Masbate is part of Region V or Bicol Region. Under GLP – they are grouped under Masonic District RV – Albay, Masbate, & Sorsogon. See article Lodges of Luzon.*

REFERENCES:

Masonic Statistics c/o the GLP Database / Edict 228 - MW Yu / Edict 289 – MW Gazmin
<https://www.dti.gov.ph> <https://grandlodge.ph> <https://www.philatlas.com>

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SEND YOUR STORY TO

thecabletow@grandlodge.ph



MASONRY
IN THE TIME OF THE
CORONAVIRUS

Breeze from the Overseas

Observations of the Districts and Lodges of Guam, Saipan, Japan, and Korea

By VW Gregory Blas, PDGGM

Aside, from having been appointed as a Head News Correspondent for the Cable Tow Magazine covering the newsbeat on our Overseas Lodges, we are grateful to our Editorial Board for giving us some pages in GLP's official publication dedicated exclusively for concerns unique to our locations. This column provides all seven (7) Overseas Lodges an opportunity to Chronicle the activities of our various districts for the information of the Brethren in our Grand Jurisdiction.

About our Overseas Lodges - the Grand Lodge of the Philippines is among that group of Grand Lodges who maintain subordinate lodges in foreign countries.

After the Spanish-American War in 1898, the Philippines, the Marianas Islands, and Puerto Rico were ceded to the United States. During that time, American Masons assigned in the Philippines formed masonic clubs and lodges which led to the establishment of the Grand Lodge of the Philippines in 1912.

The Grand Lodge eventually established the following Overseas Lodges:

| | | |
|----------------------|------|--------------------------------|
| Charleston No. 44 | 1919 | Guam |
| Milton C. Marvin 117 | 1945 | Guam |
| Okinawa No. 118 | 1948 | Okinawa, Japan |
| Armed Forces 123 | 1949 | Guam |
| Rising Sun No. 151 | 1958 | Tokyo, Japan |
| Micronesia No. 173 | 1964 | Saipan, Mariana Islands |
| Emon Lodge No.179 | 1944 | Kwajalein, Marshall Islands |
| MacArthur No. 183 | 1967 | Seoul, Korea |
| Saigon No. 188 | 1969 | Saigon, Vietnam |
| Morning Calm No.189 | 1969 | Taegu, Korea |

Milton C. Marvin No. 117 has since merged with Armed Forces No. 123 to become Milton C. Marvin Lodge No. 123 in 1952. Saigon No. 188 has re-established itself in Metro Manila since the fall of Saigon in 1976. Micronesia No. 173 have moved its charter from Saipan to Guam in 1977, and by 1996, Morning Calm No. 189 have merged with MacArthur No. 183.

Currently, there are seven (7) GLP Blue Lodges operating Overseas. Three are in Guam - Charleston 44, Milton Marvin 123, Micronesia 173, two are in Japan - Okinawa 118 and Rising Sun 151, and one each in Korea and the Marshall Islands with - MacArthur 183 and Emon 179 respectively.

CONTINUE ON PAGE 83...



Bro. Ed Abalos-Cook's GET TO KNOW YOUR Brother

Bro. Herbert Bautista: Actor, Politician, and a Worthy Brother Mason

The tenet of brotherly love compels us to look beyond status, affluence, and worldly distinctions. When a man enters the halls of a lodge, the merit of his masonic labors supersede whatever eminence he clings on in the profane world.

Throughout the long course of Freemasonry around the world and in the Philippines, the craft have welcomed men of prestige the same manner it has welcomed those from more humble circumstances. From business tycoons to sporting champions, to political leaders to film actors. Masonry unites the high and the low. The great level equalizes all, for even those who are placed on the lowest spoke of fortune's wheel may be entitled to any other brother's regard. Among the fraternity's recent addition to its long list of public personas to knock on the doors of Freemasonry is former Quezon City mayor Herbert Bautista.

His curiosity and adoration for the ancient institution began when he was a Vice Mayor. During his time as Quezon City Mayor, he was invited as guest speaker for two lodges. The masonic virtues of charity, respect, and good citizenry inspired him to become one.

He began his journey in 2019 when he signified his desire to walk the long and narrow path and eventually petitioned to receive the degrees of masonry in the same year. Bro. Herbert loved his journey as a petitioner. *"lyung [pagpe-petition] kasi ang pinakasimula natin sa pagiging mason. That's why ang mga petitioners, di nila dapat minamaliit ang pagiging petitioner nila kasi, that's the foundation of being a brother."* (The stage of petitioning is the foundation. That's why petitioners



should not undervalue their position as petitioners because this is the foundation of being a brother.)

Bro. Herbert humorously said. *“Parang ang sarap kayang maging petitioner ulit.”*

During his days as a petitioner, he labored as hard as what was required of him by his lodge. Like all his contemporaries and all previous petitioners, he serviced the brethren and the lodge with plain humility and love of service. One of the most storied moments of Bro. Herbert were the times where he washed the dishes in the lodge social halls. He cheerfully recalls these moments and for a man who has reached a high stature outside the temple halls, our worthy brother said that the best lesson masonry taught him thus far is humility. For him, tasks like washing the dishes were not acts of malintent but pragmatic impositions of humility.

Kuyang Herbert Bautista was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason in 2022 at Laong-Laan Masonic Lodge No. 185, and his quest to become a better man has started.



A short video of the interview will be posted at the Cable Tow Page.

BREEZE FROM THE OVERSEAS

... Continued from Page 81

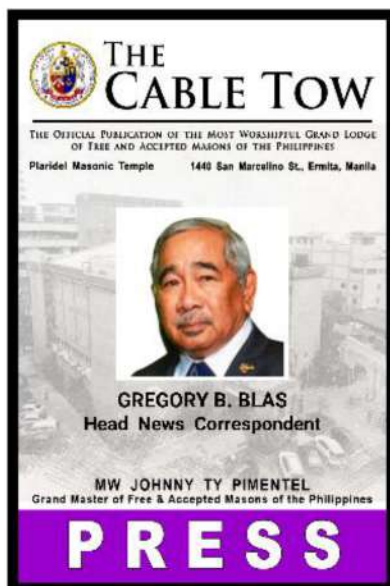
A Call for Articles from our Overseas Lodges

All Brethren from the seven lodges can send news and articles from their respective lodges to appraise the brethren in our jurisdiction on developments and other goings-on thru the Cable Tow Publication.

Kindly send your write-ups in MS Word format to

glp44@grandlodge.ph

Photos, logos, and other graphics should be sent separately on the same email address.





THE ALLIED MASONIC DEGREES

ONE OF THE MOST OFTEN CONFUSED TERMS in Philippine Freemasonry is the “*Allied Masonic Degrees*,” partly because of its similarity in phrase with “*Allied Masonic Organizations*” which is an umbrella term used colloquially to refer to Masonic associations and clubs. The *Allied Masonic Degrees*, on the other hand, is a totally different thing.

The Allied Masonic Degrees or AMD is actually a separate Masonic Order that is intended for Royal Arch Masons, whether those of the York Rite or of the stand-alone Royal Arch Chapters. It controls a number of independent full degrees and *side degrees*, some of which were once conferred under Craft warrants but have ceased being worked for the longest time. Today, the AMD exists primarily as a custodian of those degrees and concurrently as a Masonic research group. Bodies of the Order, called Councils, regularly meet to either exemplify their degrees, receive new members, or present papers of Masonic interest for discussion.

The Order began in 1880 with the formation of the first Grand Council AMD in England. Its purpose was to bring under its direction all lodges and degrees of the various orders which, at the time, recognized no central authority and were not regulated by other established governing bodies. The collection of degrees eventually included those of *St. Lawrence the Martyr, Knight of Constantinople, Grand Tilers of Solomon, Red Cross of Babylon*, and *Grand High Priest*.

On January 14, 1892, the *Sovereign College of Allied Masonic and Christian Degrees* was formed at Richmond, Virginia,

USA. Then, on April 16, 1932, a *Grand Council of Allied Masonic Degrees of the United States of America* was established in Salisbury, North Carolina. These two Grand bodies eventually merged, with their union drawn up and entered into on July 18, 1933. Such was ratified by the North Carolina Grand Council on August 5, 1933, and by the Sovereign College at Norway, Maine on August 24, 1933. The union became effective as of September 7, 1933.

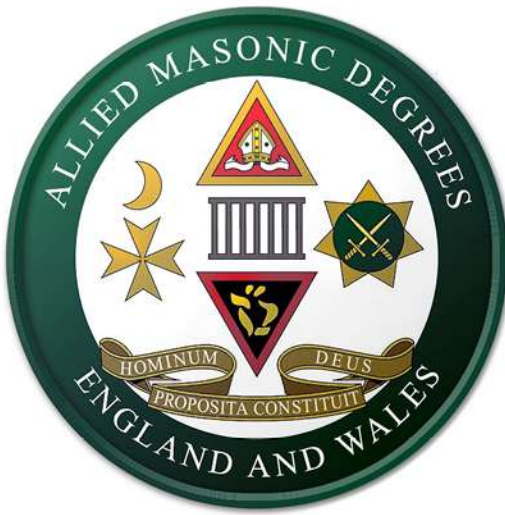
This new Grand Council AMD USA still took the date of January 14, 1892 as its date of formation since it was considered the beginning of the AMD in America. The degrees under its authority eventually included those of *St. Lawrence the Martyr, Excellent Master, Knight of Constantinople, Masters of Tyre, Grand Tilers of Solomon, Architect, Grand Architect, Superintendent, Royal Ark Mariner, Order of the Secret Monitor, Order of the Scarlet Cord, and Ye Antient Order of the Corks*. The American AMD also included the honorary bestowments of the *Royal Order of the Red Branch of Eri*. The chair degrees of *Installed Sovereign Master, Installed Master of St. Lawrence the Martyr, Installed Commander Noah, and Installed Supreme Ruler* were also given to Sovereign Masters of AMD Councils.

THE AMD IN THE PHILIPPINES

The AMD was first brought to the Philippines on February 12, 2010 with the formation of Filipinas Council No. 490, as chartered by the *Grand Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees of the USA*. Since its members consisted of Royal Arch Masons of the York Rite, it naturally fell under the care and stewardship of the office of the *Grand York Rite bodies of the Philippines*.

Through the years, several other AMD Councils were formed in the country, all chartered by the Grand Council USA. Then, on February 9, 2022, during the *Masonic Week* event held at Arlington, Virginia, the Grand Council USA granted its Councils in the Philippines their own sovereign jurisdiction by instituting the *Grand Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees of the Philippines*. This newly formed Grand Council was officially constituted on February 19, 2022 with the installation of its first Grand officers. It was officially granted recognition as a local Masonic Order by the Grand Lodge of the Philippines (GLP) on June 17, 2022, with an *Articles of Agreement* signed by the Grand Master, MW Johnny T. Pimentel.





Currently, there are 9 existing AMD Councils in the Philippines – all having the “almost” exclusive authority to work its degrees within the Masonic jurisdiction. We say “almost” as there are certain degrees under its authority that are also worked elsewhere, and have existed in the Philippines even before the arrival of the AMD in the country. Read on.

COMPLEXITY OF SHARED DEGREES

The American brand of the AMD that exists here in the Philippines deserves a separate discussion because of the complexity of its existence with regards to the composition of its degrees.

First of all, prior to the establishment of the Grand Council of the Philippines, all local AMD Councils were chartered by the *Grand Council USA* and were governed by a *Grand Superintendent for Guam and the Philippines*. The roster of degrees of the American AMD is quite different from that of the *Grand Council of England and Wales and its Districts and Councils Overseas*. It is only fitting that, since the type of Freemasonry practiced by the GLP is American, or York Rite, in origin, the AMD that should supposedly exist locally should

likewise be the American kind, especially since the AMD currently draws most of its local membership from the pool of Royal Arch Masons. Royal Arch Masonry in the Philippines, as we all know, is under the York Rite, with the notable exception of one Chapter under the *Scottish Constitution* (SC) – Keystone Royal Arch Chapter – which has the distinction of being the only other non-York Rite Chapter agreed to legally and regularly operate on Philippine soil, it being under the jurisdiction of the *Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland* (SGRAC). While local Chapters of Royal Arch Masons of the York Rite generally draw their membership from Master Masons of the GLP, Keystone RAC, on the other hand, generally draws its membership from Master Masons of Lodge Perla Del Oriente SC – the single regular lodge in the Philippines under the jurisdiction of the *Grand Lodge of Scotland*, with which the GLP has mutual amity. The local AMD therefore takes members who are Royal Arch Masons from both the York Rite and Keystone RAC.

Secondly, some local AMD degrees are not unique to AMD alone. For instance, the degrees of *Excellent Master* and *Royal Ark Mariner* are also locally worked respectively by Keystone RAC and its appendant body

– Keystone Lodge & Council. This dual existence of the same degrees worked by two different types of Masonic bodies – the AMD and the Keystone Chapter, Lodge & Council – is still considered regular, as friendly relations exist among them. In fact, it was from the Scottish working of the *Excellent Master* and *Royal Ark Mariner* degrees where the American AMD may have derived its rituals for the said degrees, when the SGRAC of Scotland gave permission to the American AMD to introduce these degrees into their roster. This allowed the American AMD to also work these degrees when it was introduced in the Philippines.

Similarly, Conclaves of the Order of the Secret Monitor (OSM) exist in the Philippines, working the same three degrees under the AMD. The first local OSM conclave in the Philippines was under the *Grand Conclave of the Order of the Secret Monitor or Brotherhood of David and Jonathan in the British Isles and its Districts Overseas*, with which the Grand Council USA has a treaty of amity. Its *Articles of Agreement* stated that the British OSM will recognize the Grand Council AMD USA as the sole authority of the OSM degrees in the USA and its territories, which at the time included the Philippines, and that it will recognize as Secret Monitors those AMD members under the Grand Council USA holding OSM degree certificates. The eventual existence of the two types of OSM in the Philippines – one of American

origin and one of British – became fertile ground in the expression of harmony between both Orders. Even after the joining of most local OSM Conclaves with the new *Grand Conclave OSM for South East Asia*, the AMD and the OSM maintained friendly relations with each other to this day.

WHAT IS THE AMD?

The Order of the Allied Masonic Degrees in the Philippines is an invitational organization that requires current membership in good standing in a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons as well as in the Craft Lodge. One of its purposes is to perpetuate the degrees under its collection for purposes of study, thus also becoming a sort of Masonic research group. Yet, this comes second only to the chief interest of the AMD today, which is a return to the old Masonic tradition of having small yet convivial gatherings that foster and maintain good fellowship. This explains why membership in each Council is limited to only 27 in number and only by strict invitation and approval from its existing members. AMD Councils generally meet 2 or 3 times a year to learn about Freemasonry – its origins, its history, and its traditions – and they are never in a hurry to increase their numbers as they are more focused on quality rather than quantity.



Remembering some of our dearly departed Elders a Year After

In 2021, then Junior Grand Warden, RW Ariel T. Cayanan said in his Message to the Brethren during the Lodge of Remembrance organized by Masonic District NCR-B in October 30...

"2021 however, has a darker and deeper undertone. If the Covid-19 Pandemic seemed like statistic to some of us last year, the condition is more personal now as the numbers and figures in Covid Reports become familiar names and faces that the Brethren have heard, met, labored, or spent time with - personally. For this year alone, among those we lost in our jurisdiction were:



| | |
|---------------------|--|
| January 6 | VW Danilo D. Lim, Past Grand Pursuivant |
| January 11 | VW Hiram S. Chu, Past Grand Organist |
| April 7 | MW Rudyardo V. Bunda, Past Grand Master |
| April 16 | VW Jose O. Lustre, Past Asst Grand Secretary |
| May 3 | MW Oscar V. Bunyi, Past Grand Master |
| June 20 | RW Fernando V. Pascua, Jr., Past Asst Grand Secretary |
| August 30 | MW Jaime Y. Gonzales, Past Grand Master |
| September 13 | VW Adriatico T. Tee, PDGL (aka AKOK TAN) |
| October 1 | MW Rosendo Herrera, Past Grand Master |
| October 9 | Bro. Jose Luis Martin C. Gascon |

Even the family of our Grand Master, MW Rolan Paulino have endured death with the passing of his son Bro. Francis Rolan "Kiko" Paulino last October 13.

The Year of our Lord – 2021 is Memento Mori – a symbolic reminder that indeed, ALL of Us are Mortal. Most lodges and districts have suffered different crises and encountered their own losses directly or indirectly from the Pandemic. With or without masonic gatherings, the Brethren and their families are still affected. Even the least informed Mason will notice the difficulties encountered by his Brother Masons everywhere: It is very difficult to gain admission at hospitals. There are shortages of medicines, oxygen supplies, and other medical services. Now indeed is the time for masonry to step up with a clear vision of Brotherly Love, Relief, & Truth.

Together Brethren let us assist each other within the length of our Cable Tows, as we take a more active roles during these trying times by sharing relevant, accurate, and timely information that can relieve the distressed, soothe the unhappy, sympathize with their misfortunes, compassionate their miseries, and thus, somehow restore peace to troubled minds."

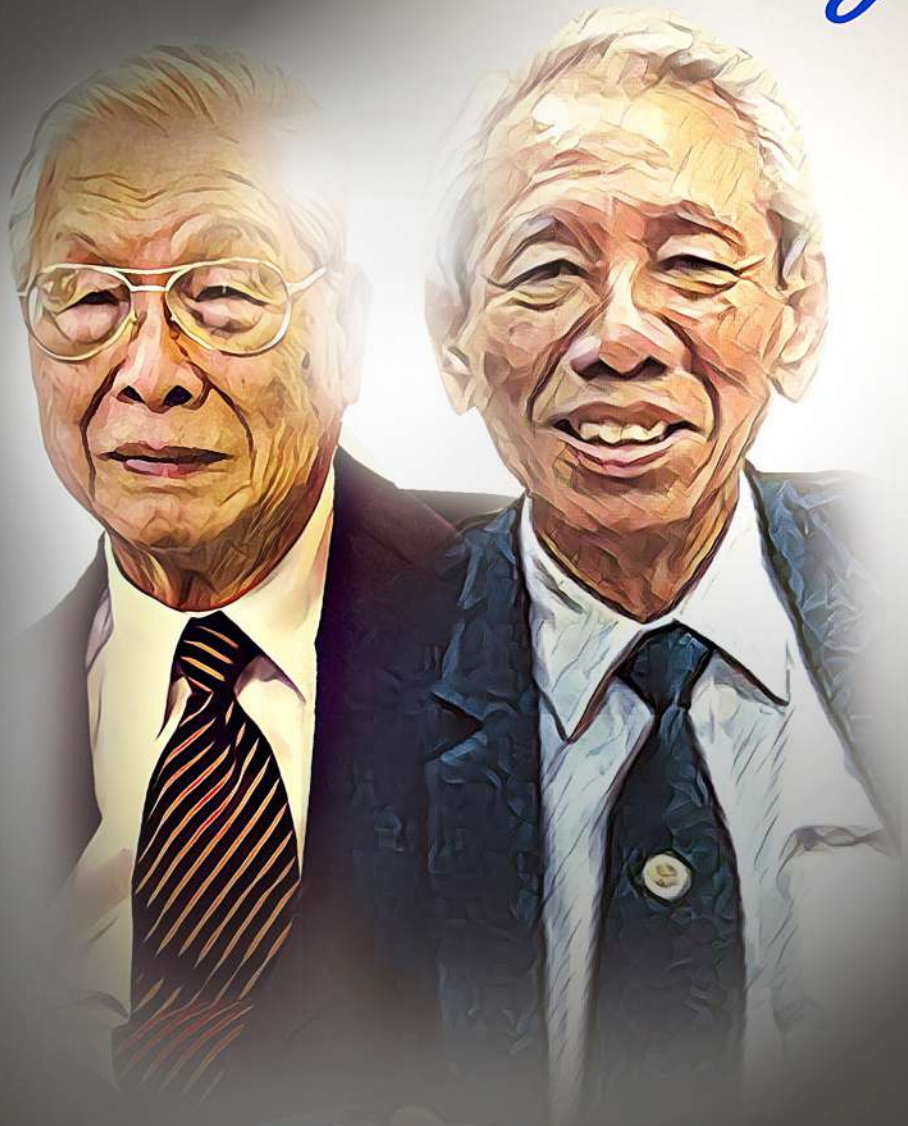
More Brethren dropped their working tools later that year, among them were:

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| November 15 | Bro. Gen. Reynaldo I. Berroya |
| November 21 | RW Alejandrino Eusebio, Past Grand Secretary |

In commemorating their first death anniversary, Cable Tow Veteran and TCT Adviser VR Samuel Fernandez wrote tribute articles on two of the most dedicated Masons in our jurisdiction: Right Worshipful Alejandrino "Tody" Eusebio of Biak-na-Bato No. 7 and Right Worshipful Fernando "Nanding" Pascua of Hiram No. 88. Their Masonic Titles are unique considering the circumstances on how they were received. RW Tody earned his after being elected and installed as Grand Secretary 34 years ago. RW Nanding's was thru Edict 252 issued by MW Abergas back in 2012.

The third article in the **Pages of Remembrance** is by Lorenzo Antonio Miguel Herrera Quesada - a member of A. Mabini Chapter No. 37, Order of DeMolay, and a grandson of MW Rosendo C. Herrera, PGM. The Cable Tow is including his Testimonial in this issue of the Cable Tow in memory of a DeMolay Grand Master on his first Death Anniversary last October 1, 2022.

Remembering



*RW Tody Eusebio &
RW Nanding Pascua*

**RW ALEJANDRINO A. EUSEBIO, PGS:
(12 May 1928 – 21 November 2021)
“Mr. INSTALLING OFFICER”**

By: VR Samuel P. Fernandez, HA, PGC

A Greek philosopher once said: “Death is one of two things. Either it is annihilation, and the dead has no consciousness of anything; or, as we are told, it is really a change: a migration of a soul from one place to another.”

RW Toddy, as he was fondly called by his brethren, went to the “discovered country” at the height of the pandemic. Brethren, who wished to attend his wake, had to be contented with remembering his six decades of serving the Craft as mentor.

MISTER INSTALLING OFFICER

I featured Bro. Toddy in *The Cable Tow* in the January-April 1999 issue and entitled the cover story “RW Alejandrino A. Eusebio: Mr. Installing Officer.” Presiding an average of more than twenty installation ceremonies a year. He was a tireless servant leader and enjoyed the taxing ceremonies with gusto, appreciation and passion. RW Toddy was the most sought-after Brother during installation time. Brethren from Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao vied for his acceptance as Installing Officer. It came to a point when he had to train Brethren as his sub-altern. As one of his sub-alterns, I was introduced to the hectic schedule of annual installations. When I wrote the cover story in *The Cable Tow*, he was 61 years old, but was as spritely as a forty-one-year-old.



MASONIC INVOLVEMENT

Bro. Toddy was initiated on September 15, 1957; passed in October 10; and raised on November 14, in Biak-na-Bato Lodge No. 7.

In the late 1960s, Bro. Toddy’s involvement in Masonry intensified. From 1966 to 1968, he was the treasurer of Biak-na-Bato

Lodge No. 7. From 1969-1979, he was Junior Grand Lecturer of District No. 1. Then in 1973, he was appointed Junior Grand Deacon.

Bro. Toddy was a dual member of Saigon Lodge No. 188, and served as its Worshipful Master in 1976, after which he became Secretary of the Lodge. He was a

charter member of Pagkakaisa Lodge No. 282.

In 1979 - 1980, Bro. Toddy was appointed Assistant Senior Grand Lecturer. He became District Grand Lecturer of District No. 1 in 1980. Later in 1981-82, it was District 1-B's turn to have him as its District Grand Lecturer. District 1-C considered themselves lucky to have him as their District Deputy Grand Master in 1983 - 1984. He was Junior Grand Lecturer In 1985 - 1986.

During the 72nd Annual Grand Lodge Communication held in Cebu City in 1988, Bro. Alejandro Eusebio, a non-Past Grand Master, was elected as Grand Secretary, an un-heard of occurrence at that time!

Bro. Toddy was no stranger to difficult, demanding, strenuous situations. He enjoyed what he did. To him, hard work was fun, pleasurable and enjoyable. One

close to RW Toddy quipped: "Bro. Toddy thinks of Masonry even in his sleep."

When RW Toddy joined his wife, an American citizen, in Long Beach, California, USA. As expected, he became active in Lodge activities in different Lodges in California and other states. A number of Blue Lodges began inviting him as their Installing Officer.

Tireless, persevering and energetic, RW Toddy possessed a clear and lucid mind till the end. Brethren who witnessed him participating in Lodge installation ceremonies marveled at his sharp and savvy memory.

RW Toddy's Hiram Award and Fifty-Year Apron, bespeak of his dedication and devotion to the Craft.

POSTSCRIPT

At age of 89, RW Toddy fascinated the brethren with his eloquence and expressive performance as Installing



Officer of VW Adriatico "Akok" Tan Tee as Worshipful Master of Biak-na-Bato No. 7 in 2017.

In one of the installations I attended, RW Eusebio was requested to do the honor of rendering the ancient charges and regulations. This portion of the installation is supposed to be solemn and sober. For the first time in my life, I witnessed the brethren clapped their hands in appreciation and praises for his reciting the 15 ancient charges and regulations flawlessly.

Ars longa, vita brevis (L) Art is long, life is short.

Eheu fugacis labundor anni (L). The fleeting years glide on.

There is no death – the thing we call death is another name for life of those souls who migrated to the undiscovered land where we all shall meet in the "sweet bye and bye."

Deus vult (L) God wills it.

RW FERNANDO V. PASCUA, JR: **(23 January 1937 – 22 June 2021)** **A DEDICATED MASON**

By: VR Samuel P. Fernandez, HA, PGC

MW Rolen C. Paulino, PGM, paid tribute to RW Fernando V. Pascua, Jr., thus:

“...RW Pascua’s life was instructive throughout. In his own way he taught us that we must not be defined by our successes and failures, but rather by our character and how we handle them.

His Masonic journey is an inspiration to the younger generation of Masons exemplifying true dignity, humor and kindness.”

He served our Fraternity with integrity holding true to the important values. He was firm in his principles and faithful to his Obligation. We are fortunate to experience his wisdom and felt his dedication as we begin to seek our own ways in the Craft... ”

RW Nanding, as he was dearly called by the brethren - was a dedicated, discerning, soft-spoken and steadfast individual.

AT THE GRAND LODGE

RW Fernando V. Pascua, Jr., was raised as Master Mason at Hiram Lodge No. 88 on August 12, 1976 and thereafter earned the reputation as one of the authorities in the esoteric teachings of Blue Masonry. He served as Worshipful Master in 1980; Grand Lodge Inspector in 1981-83; District Deputy Grand Master in 1984-85; Senior Grand Lecturer in 1986, 1987, 1996 and 1999; and Master of the Philippine Lodge of Research in 1998-99. He also served as president and Editor of The Cable Tow in 1981 and 1991.

RW Nanding was the first President of the Institute of Masonic Education and Studies (IMES). His love and commitment to enlighten the brethren was apparent in his personal involvement in their further education and instruction to the esoteric and exoteric meaning and true practice of Masonry.

A committed Mason, who never wavered in his faith in Masonry. He was resolute in his belief that Masons are shapers of destiny. He wrote: “Despite the prevalent

misconceptions about the nature of Freemasonry, misunderstanding of its

precepts and practices, particularly its rituals and ceremonies, and the mistrust generated by such ignorance of the true nature of the Fraternity that has on occasion led to violence being committed on Masons, Freemasonry is still around, and I like to think, more solid and stronger than ever.

“You and I are part of this glorious past. You and I are part of this great movement called Freemasonry. We are shapers of destiny, cradle of noble heroes, progenitors of great nations, molders of great men and heroes.”

SCOTTISH RITE MASONRY

On the Scottish Rite ladder, Ill. Nanding was proclaimed MRS on November 1976; invested 32° KCCH on March 12, 1988, and coroneted IGH on March 14, 1992. He was elected SGIG on September 9, 1999 to fill the vacancy that was created in the Orient of Quezon City and Rizal due to the

appointment of Ill. Agerico V. Amagna, Jr. as Grand Secretary General, thus automatically assuming the post of the Assistant Grand Secretary of the Supreme Council.

Ill. Nanding was crowned active on January 1, 2000. He was awarded the highest honor that the Supreme Council of the Scottish Rite can bestow upon a Mason, the Grand Cross.

YORK RITE

In the York Rite, our brother was a member of the Manila York Rite bodies. He was Grand Lecturer of the Grand Chapter, RAM, Grand Illustrious Master of the Grand Council of RASM, Past Puissant Sovereign of Asoka Conclave of the Red Cross of Constantine of Scotland.



PRIVATE LIFE

Fernando V. Pascua, Jr. was Executive President of the Elite Adjusters and

Surveyors, Inc., a highly respected outfit in the business of determining insurance claims and related valuation, and was one of the more authoritative masonic writers of the Craft.

RW Pascua was married to Sheila Strong with whom he had six children: Patricia, Pia, Paula, Fernando, III, Sheila, and Kevin.

GRAND ORATION

In his 1999 Grand Oration, RW Nanding said: ***“In these times of stress and storm, let us renew our faith in the final triumph of Freemasonry; the principles of right, of equality, liberty and justice.”***

How true. Then and now. In times of stress and storm, your wisdom is still relevant. Not even the pandemic can dampen the enthusiasm RW Nanding had imbibed amongst the brethren.

In his 2003 Grand Oration entitled “Freemasonry in Today’s Crisis,” he reminded the brethren thus:

“The challenge is thrown to us as Masons to stand up and act in such a fashion as to be the supreme examples for others to follow. We ought to be, in the eyes of our fellowmen, the symbols of true liberty and concern for human life.”

“Brotherhood is not weakness. It is moral strength. It means that not only do we espouse noble principles, but that we are willing to fight for them as well. It we shall be firm on moral grounds and use the concept of human brotherhood as our base, we will secure the respect and admiration of our fellowmen and neighbors and at the same time we shall shame those who bend principles to justify their own selfish interests.”

I say, Amen. So may it ever be.

MW Rosendo C. Herrera, PGM in the words of his DeMolay Son & Grand Son

By: *Lorenzo Antonio Miguel Herrera Quesada, DeMolay of A. Mabini Chapter No. 37*

To Masons, he was known as MW Rosendo C. Herrera. To DeMolays, Dad Herrera. To me and his other grandkids, he was our Popsie.

Popsie was a family man and he loved his family dearly. I recall bonding with him and Lollie (as we grandkids call Mom Ching) almost every day over meals and having so much fun with him watching movies and sharing a meal over at our traditional Sunday lunches in Lollie and Popsie's home.

He taught us values and principles. Popsie was generous. He assisted many people without asking for anything in return. Grand Dad helped others with sincerity and even now we are surprised by stories of his acts that he never even told us. He was humble, simple.

I recall hearing a story from a Dad mason a recorded video of Popsie's birthday party.

Popsie donated to the government before when the government had little funds. I was surprised. I never knew that. I only found out about it when he passed away while watching the archived video. When there were fires in the Grand Lodge on multiple occasions, Popsie was one of many generous and kind Dad masons who donated and assisted to have the Grand Lodge renovated. There was also a time when a DeMolay met with an accident, Lollie and Popsie assisted him when he was in the hospital. Popsie was a really generous man with a heart of gold and that is one of the things he's remembered for.

I recall my grandmother telling a story when he was running for Grand Master. He said, "If I win, I will give my best and give my time!"

When he became Grand Master in 1983, he did what he said he would. He was one of the reasons why Filipino Freemasons both here and abroad are recognized and respected. He delivered great speeches that many will get lessons or messages from. He did throw parties for Past Grand Masters and he wrote a book tributing Past Grand Masters.

Being part of an organization that sponsors DeMolays, Popsie became a father figure to them, he and the late co-DeMolay Grand Master Dad Mac Ramos were the geniuses

behind the Supreme Council Order of DeMolay which was instituted in 1983. He also founded the A. Mabini Chapter No. 37 in 1984. As Grand Master of DeMolays for 12 years (1994-2006), one of his greatest achievements from his many achievements was having the Philippine DeMolay Youth Center built for his DeMolay sons.

He contributed so much to DeMolay and

Freemasonry. But personally he was my hero, idol, and father figure.

Your teachings and the memories of your fellow bro Masons and DeMolay sons with you will never be forgotten Popsie! So will your contributions to the 2 brotherhood organizations, you're having a heart of gold and your being a true Freemason until the end will never be forgotten! Thank you Popsie!

On behalf of the Herrera family thank you to all the Dad masons and DeMolays who haven't forgotten Dad Herrera! He may not be here in this world anymore but he will always be with us in our hearts and in spirit!



Lorenzo with Popsie & Lollie in the early 2000's

doctor in the temple

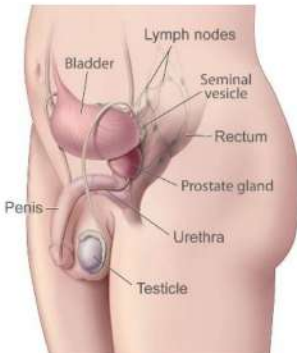
By Bro. Louie A. Castro, MD



Knowing thy Prostate

If you are a real Mason, I bet you have a prostate gland. I believe you have heard of the prostate gland and some of its diseases as this topic involves men only. Whether it's your relatives, friends or even yourself that have a problem with it, it is a pretty common health problem and we should be at least aware about it. But do we really know its functions? What is it for? What are the diseases that arise from it? How can we prevent diseases arising from it? In this issue, I will try to explain the roles and function of the prostate gland as well as some of the most common diseases that might arise in it. As all of us Masons are men, so this topic is indispensable.

The prostate gland [c/o cancer.gov](http://cancer.gov)



The prostate gland is approximately about 20 to 25 grams, assumes the shape of a walnut and is located between the bladder and the penis. It serves as a 'gate' or 'switch' between ejaculation and urination. It is responsible whether semen or urine will pass on the urethra (the tube connected to the outside of the body via the penis in males where urine or semen pass). The prostate contracts during ejaculation causing the urethra to close preventing backflow of semen. This makes urination very difficult while having an erection. The prostate gland also secretes a clear fluid called the prostatic fluid in which, when mixed with sperm

(produced by the testes) forms the semen. The prostatic fluid serves as a nourishment for the sperm and also serves as a good medium for motility of the sperm to reach the ovum. It also neutralizes the acidity of the vagina by means of its alkalinity thereby protecting the sperm from dying from the acidic environment of the vagina. These all lead to the high probability of sperm survival inside the vagina.

The 3 most common problems arising from the prostate include:

- 1) Prostatitis or the inflammation of the prostate.
- 2) Benign prostatic hyperplasia or BPH.
- 3) Prostate Cancer.



The sperm cell c/o oncofertility.msu.edu

PROSTATITIS

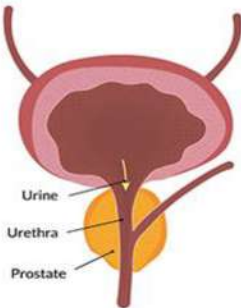
Prostatitis or the inflammation of the prostate usually affects middle-aged to young male population approximately 20 to 50 years old. The usual cause for this condition is but not limited to bacterial infection. Symptoms include: fever, painful urination, difficulty urinating, testicular pain, pain in the perineum (area between the rectum and the penis), pain in the groin, lower back or abdomen, bloody urine, and painful ejaculation. Diagnosis involves urine testing, blood testing and imaging studies such as ultrasound and CT scan. Prostate massage is also sometimes performed. It is done when a doctor massages the prostate via the rectum to obtain a prostatic fluid sample for laboratory examination. Treatment usually involves antibiotics, anti-inflammatory drugs and alpha blockers, which relaxes the prostate muscles and the bladder neck thus preventing difficulty/pain upon urination. An example of this drug is tamsulosin. Prevention includes drinking more water to keep you hydrated, practice good hygiene to reduce the chances of infection, reduce caffeine intake as it irritates the prostate, perform regular exercise, follow a good diet composed of fruits and vegetables. Maintain a healthy weight. Lastly, practice safe sex.

B P H

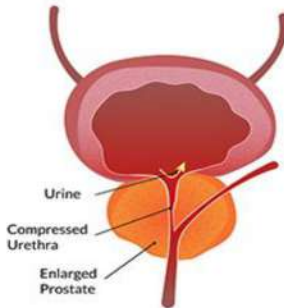
Benign prostatic hyperplasia, commonly known as prostatic enlargement, is described as a non-cancerous increase in size of the prostate. BPH does not lead to cancer as its name implies. BPH also usually affect men of advancing age. The cause of BPH is still unknown. Its symptoms include frequent or urgent need to urinate, increased urination frequency at night, difficulty starting urination, weak urine stream or you pee in stops and starts, inability to completely empty the bladder and urinary dribbling or leakage of urine just after urination. Diagnostic tests include: blood tests, urine test and prostate-specific antigen (PSA) blood test to detect prostatic problems. Other tests include ultrasound, biopsy to rule out cancer and cystourethroscopy, a procedure which visualizes the prostate, urethra and the bladder through the aid of a camera. Treatment involves medications that shrink the prostate such as finasteride and dutasteride and alpha blockers as previously mentioned. Surgical interventions such as transurethral resection of the prostate (TURP) and transurethral incision of the prostate

(TUIP) are also highly effective. Prevention involves lifestyle changes as studies have linked BPH with obesity, high blood pressure, lack of exercise, and cigarette smoking. Moderate alcohol intake also appears to reduce the risk of BPH while heavy drinking increases the risk.

NORMAL PROSTATE



PROSTATITIS

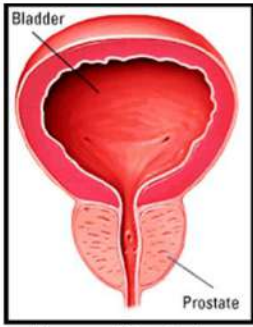


**Prostatitis c/o
aaurology.com**

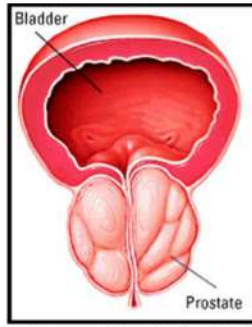
BPH c/o lpuurological.com/

Prostate Cancer

It is the development of cancer in the prostate gland and it is one of the most common types of cancer. Prostate cancer occurs mainly in older men. About 6 cases are diagnosed in men aged



Normal Prostate

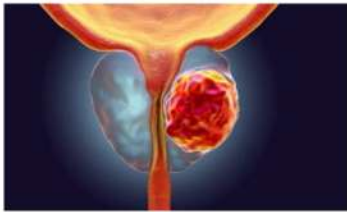


Enlarged Prostate (BPH)

65 or older, and it is rare before age 40. The average age at the time of diagnosis is about 66 years old. It can spread and metastasize to the other parts of the body. The cause of prostate cancer is still unknown. Although prostate cancer can kill, it is highly treatable in the early stages. Its symptoms include those of BPH and prostatitis and may include loss of appetite, weight loss, pelvic, low back, hips and thigh pain. Diagnosis involves screening tests such as PSA blood test and digital rectal examination (DRE). If the screening tests are positive, Ultrasonography, MRI and prostate biopsy may be ordered.

Treatment of prostate cancer may be complex and should be discussed with a doctor. In order to reduce the risk of prostate cancer, choose a low-fat diet, eat more fruits and vegetables, maintain a healthy weight, do regular exercise. Vitamin E and selenium might also lower prostate cancer risk. Although age, race and family history of prostate cancer are non-modifiable risk factors, you may talk to a doctor about your risk and how to prevent the development of prostate cancer as well as your screening plan.

Prostate cancer c/o drugtargetreview.com/

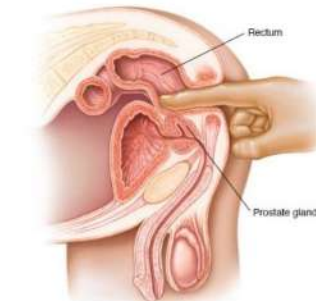


Screening tools for prostate problems

- **Digital Rectal Examination or DRE**

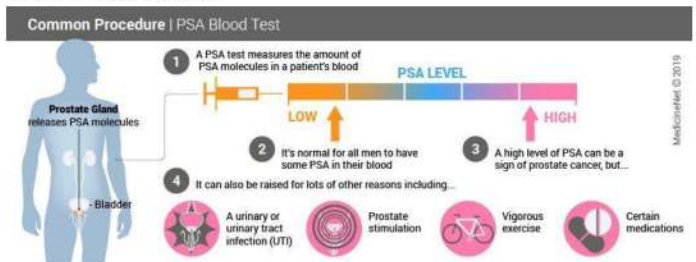
Is a procedure which involves a physician inserting a lubricated, gloved finger in the rectum to assess the size, shape and consistency of the prostate.

DRE c/o mayoclinic.org



- **Prostate -Specific Antigen or PSA**

It is a blood test which measure the PSA, a protein released by the abnormal cells of the prostate gland.



PSA c/o www.medicinenet.com

May this short and brief article give you a general idea about the prostate gland and its diseases. Always remember brethren that prevention is always better than cure. Ask your doctor if you feel any of the above-mentioned symptoms.



MW Johnny Ty Pimentel & Party attends the 2022 AnCom of the Grand Lodge of California

By: Bro Assandas "Goloo" Menghrajani, Jr. (HNC) and VW John A. Roncesvalles, PDDGM

Last October, our Grand Master left for Manila to San Francisco, California to attend the 173rd Annual Communications of the Grand Lodge of California. For the five-day visit, he was accompanied by his GLP delegation composed of VW Jeffrey Co, Asst. Grand Treasurer; VW Oliver Y. Yabut, Asst. Grand Secretary; VW Raymond Joseph Ian O. Mendoza, Grand Orator; VW Nicandro S. Montes, Junior Grand Lecturer (Central Luzon C); VW Jose A Roncesvalles – his Aide De Camp for Luzon, and GLP Photographer Bro. Jorell Paul Montes.

October 18 – Tuesday. The GLP entourage arrived at the San Francisco International Airport (SFO) at 7:30 pm and were welcomed by California Brethren headed by WB Ricky Ignao, WB Ronnie Dori, Bros Boy Maracha, Vince Tom, and Rudy Asopardo. The party proceeded at the residence of Bro. Arvin Menchavez for a quick fellowship where they were joined by other Fil-Am Brethren namely: Bros Ernest Batara, Sal Tandoc, and Virgil Dacasin. John Vincent Pimentel - MW Johnny's son also joined his father's company.

Prior to the three-day Event, MW JTP was able

to spend some fellowship time with our Filipino Brethren in San Francisco:

October 19 – at 10:30 am the next day, the Grand Master's entourage went on a sailboat cruise around San Francisco Bay with the San Leandro Brethren hosted by the sailboat owner, Bro Manny Figueroa. Joining them were WB Ram Lapis, Bros. Dowell Juan, and Odin Madlangbayan and Miguel Heramia. A luncheon hosted by the Brethren of San Leandro Lodge No.113 followed, where the MW Johnny was officially welcomed by WB Earl Love a representative from Grand Lodge of California. Both parties enjoyed the fellowship which lasted the whole afternoon.

On October 20 – Thursday, 9:00 am - the GLP entourage headed on a relaxing trip to Napa Valley where they enjoyed bottles of the famous variety of Napa Wine, cheese, and sandwiches. Later in the afternoon, the group headed back to downtown San Francisco where they were able to do some shopping at the Westfield Mall. They attended a welcome dinner at Sunnyvale in the evening hosted by WB Art Lao of San Benito Lodge No. 211 and WB Lambert Yim, where they enjoyed unlimited servings of lobster. Joining with brethren that night was MW Jun Manalang, the incumbent Fil-Can Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba (Canada).

On October 21 – The next day was dedicated to shopping at San Francisco Union Square. Later the entourage enjoyed a sumptuous tomahawk steak dinner at Morton's hosted by VW Jeffrey Co.

On October 22 –Saturday, our San Francisco

Brother Lambert Yin graciously hosted a fraternal luncheon at the Fisherman's Wharf.

Thereafter, the GLP retinue attended the Grand Lodge of California Annual Communication where they met GLC Grand Master MW Jeff Wilkins. Team JTP later attended the banquet at the Grand Ballroom of Fairmont Hotel held in honor of the outgoing Grand Master. TCT Head News Correspondent Bro. Goloo was privileged to have joined and covered MW JTP and his team at the AnCom proper.

During the course of the communication, the outgoing and incoming GLC Grand Masters and key GLP officers discussed the issues regarding the illegal activities created by some wayward masonic groups which has its roots on both Philippine and American soil. Both Grand Lodges met into an agreement that will halt the activities of any unregistered Masonic Groups or Clubs in both jurisdictions.

In a related note, GLP's Circ No. 7 of MW Pimentel, issued a week earlier gave Notice of Suspension of the Accreditation of Two Masonic Clubs, as well as Order for All Accredited Allied Masonic Organizations to Submit the Latest By-Laws and Manner of Admission for Membership, and the issuance of a Cease & Desist Order for All Masonic Clubs without Valid Accreditation; assured both Grand Lodge Leadership of GLPs commitment in sanctioning any masonic

organization whose membership perform illegal activities that not only violate masonic laws but also tend to damage the good image and reputation of the masonic fraternity in general.

On October 23 – Sunday, the GLP delegates witnessed the Public Ceremonies & Installation of Officers of the new GLC Grand Master – MW Randall Louis Brill. There before the duly assemble brethren and guests of the Grand Lodge of California, MW Pimentel presented him with a plaque from the GLP with the following inscription:

“Our founding and continued existence as the sole and supreme masonic authority in the jurisdiction of the Philippines is duly attributed to the strong desire of the Grand Lodge of California over a century ago and now under your present leadership, to make the light of Freemasonry burn bright, fervent and eternal in the Philippines. To you and to all Masons of California are pledged the enduring friendship and gratitude of the entire membership of masons under the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of the Philippines.”

Thus ended, the 173rd Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge that sired the Grand Lodge of the Philippines.





THE GRAND MASTER IN CALIFORNIA