



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



Batong Buhay Lodge No. 27 F. & A. M.



Living Stone Trestle Board

April 17, 2009

Meets every 3RD Friday of the month

Jacobo Zobel Masonic Temple, Sacred Heart Street,
San Antonio Village, Makati City, Philippines

2009 OFFICERS

Worshipful Master	WM Antonio J. Limpoco, III
Senior Warden	Bro. Xerxez S. Coronado
Junior Warder	Bro. Tito L. Cuenco
Treasurer	WB Reinaldo A. Cedeño
Secretary	Bro. Ruferick C. Somera
Auditor	WB Eduardo S. Alcaraz
Assistant Treasurer	Bro. Oscar C. Hipolito
Assistant Secretary	Bro. Omar U. Obias
Chaplain	Bro. Jovencio E. Reyes
Marshall	Bro. Enrique B. Turaray, Jr.
Senior Deacon	Bro. Joel Eustaquio A. Purugganan III
Junior Deacon	Bro. Mariano C. Bassig
Senior Steward	Bro. Dino Albert R. Maniquiz
Junior Steward	Bro. Charles A. Bañez
Almoner	Bro. Christian Gerald P. Lantoria
Lecturer	WB Lauro F. Garcia, Jr.
Tyler	WB Ferdinand F. Pacis

MASONIC DISTRICT NCR-G GRAND OFFICERS

District Deputy Grand Master	VW Horacio S. Gonzalez
District Grand Lecturer	VW Emmanuel R. Bravo
Grand Lodge Inspector	WI Eufracio C. Rocamora

LODGE ACTIVITIES

3 RD Caucus	April 8
Stated Meeting	April 17
93 RD Annual Communications	April 23-25



Trestle Board

Petitioner

Name	Reading Date
1. Anil R. Anarnani	Sept. 19, 2008
2. Romeo Calooy	Jan. 16, 2009
3. Rixon Rey Ducusin	Feb. 20, 2009



COMMITTEE CHAIRMANSHIP

STANDING COMMITTEES:

- Masonic Education
- Ritual & Degree Works
- Jurisprudence & Resolutions
- News Letter Publication
- Sports & Youth Development
- Ways & Means
- Inter-Lodge Relationship
- Sunshine & Lapsation
- Refreshment & Fellowship
- Harmony Officer

WB Lauro F. Garcia, Jr.
WB Antonio M. San Luis, Jr.
WB Gerardo B. Lantoria, Jr.
Bro. Ruferick C. Somera
Bro. Mariano C. Bassig
WB Reinaldo A. Cedeño
WB Ferdinand F. Pacis
Bro. Xerxez S. Coronado
Bro. Tito L. Cuenco
WB Eduardo S. Alcaraz

SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

- Fund Raising
- Special Projects
- Adopt a School Program
- Union Lodge Visitation
- Bahay ni Maria Project
- Charter Day Celebration
- Bring a Friend – Win a Brother

WB Reinaldo A. Cedeño
WB John B. Llamas
Bro. Xerxez S. Coronado
WB Eduardo S. Alcaraz
Bro. Tito L. Cuenco
WB Antonio M. San Luis, Jr.
WB Lauro F. Garcia, Jr.

LODGE COUNCIL OF ELDERS:

- WB Alexander C. Costales
- WB Antonio M. San Luis, Jr.
- WB Eduardo S. Alcaraz
- WB Ferdinand F. Pacis
- WB Gerardo B. Lantoria, Jr.
- WB John B. Llamas
- WB Keith Ernard L. Singian
- WB Lauro F. Garcia, Jr.
- WB Lini L. Hernando
- WB Marni C. Marcos, Jr.
- WB Reinaldo A. Cedeño
- WB Reynaldo V. Paz

THE REAL SECRET OF
FREEMASONRY
MAKING GOOD MEN BETTER



The Heat is On!

Fraternal greetings and Happy Easter brethren!

Once again spring is all around us and the searing heat of summer is slowly being felt everywhere. It used to be that April and May were the most pleasant months in this tropical paradise of ours but apparently temperatures are already starting to rise as the days move on into the summer solstice at about the time Christians commemorate Easter Sunday.

So too is the fraternity moving into high gear as we anticipate the annual gathering of masons from all over the country in the golden city of Cagayan de Oro. An event that heralds the beginning of yet another cycle in our Masonic calendar and perpetuating the long-standing tradition of passing the torch of responsibility onto the shoulders of the incoming grand line officers.

On the home front, we likewise move on into high gear as we step into the heat of the day to continue our labors. We look forward to a fruitful quarter with the prospect of conferring the various degrees of masonry upon a new batch of petitioners. I encourage everyone, especially the newly raised brethren to keep learning and actively participate in our conferrals. There is no better time to prepare and memorize the myriad roles than now. We shall soon start our lodge of instruction to prepare you for these roles.

We shall also pursue our fund raising summer festival to source out needed funds to finance our budget shortfall for the third and fourth quarter. I have also request the lodge secretary to intensify collection of all outstanding dues. Another worthwhile project we hope to accomplish is the friends of masons day to be held sometime in August as our way to reach out to the community and explain the purposes of our craft.

I urge all of you to join us and become an active participant in the affairs of our lodge. Only by combining our collective resources can Batong Buhay truly live up to its name – Living Stones.

Sincerely,

Bro. Tony J. Limpoco, III
Worshipful Master



Moving forward to ANCOM 2009, the month of March looks very ordinary unless a Lodge is holding its Installation of Officers. Business as usual is in every member's heart that we always see to it that we get to attend our meetings.

We had a good number of attendees and had a great time during our fellowship. The successful trip to Union Lodge No. 79 was a very hot topic that many are encouraged to join in future plans to go there. Our petitioners joined us throughout the night and hopefully, we were able to get to know them better.

Prior to ANCOM 2009, we still have our Stated Meeting as scheduled for the month of April. Last minute check list may be helpful to our delegates. We are lucky to have VW Lini Hernando in Cagayan de Oro who actively helped us in the preparations given his busy schedule there. Bro Omar Obias and VW Jun San Luis are always coordinating w/ Kuya Lini about the ANCOM. Our WM Tony Limpoco also has a good understanding of the area that he has contingency plans for Batong Buhay No. 27 members in case hotel accommodations get a bit difficult to book.

I wish all our delegates to ANCOM 2009 the best our Cagayan de Oro Brethren have prepared!

Fraternally yours,

Bro Xerkez S. Coronado
Senior Warden



Greetings from the South! I trust that everyone had a wonderful and safe Easter Holiday. Just came back Wednesday from San Francisco and spent the Holy Week with my family there. More importantly, it was mostly catching up time with my wife, kids and my family. I did some catching up as well with my lodge and brethren there as well. It was also timely I was able to participate in the monthly golf tournament of the Travelers Golf Club of the Bay Area which was held at the Ranch Golf & Country Club last April 5 in San Jose. The golf course was beautiful and very scenic and as usual it was well attended and all the brethren had fun and fellowship afterwards.

With my travels and wherever my job takes me, I'd come to realize how important it is to always stay in touch with your family whether near or far. How time is so precious because we can never bring back lost time. It is always easy to say we do not have the time but I always believe that you can always find the time if you will it. It only takes a minute or so of quality time if you will to make it worthwhile and memorable and to make a difference in someone's life. Let's have more quality time as you use your time wisely. We all have obligations to fulfill and we must honor that. After all Masonry teaches us to take care of Family first, Job second and Masonry third. So Mote It Be!!!



I've got a special treat for our April celebrants and of course for our brethren as well. I brought in a 22 pound turkey with stuffing's and thanks to WB Nandy and Bro Erich who had it oven roasted to everyone's delight. I hope you will all like it and enjoy the turkey. Seems like we are having an early Thanksgiving Turkey Dinner for our lodge. Enjoy everyone!

As you all know we are headed to Cagayan De Oro next week to attend the 2009 Ancom. Let us all hope and pray that we will have a very successful and fruitful Annual Communications. As the summer is here, let us all stay cool as possible.

Fraternally yours,

Tito L. Cuenco
Junior Warden

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Brethren of all faiths can participate in the Masonic observance of Maundy Thursday.
Compiled by: Bro. Raul Sebastian Laman

One of the most frequent images relevant to Maundy Thursday, observed by Christians in preparation for Easter, is Leonardo da Vinci's "The Last Supper" picturing the last time Jesus of Nazareth gathered with his disciples. It is interesting to note the original is a fresco on a monastery wall in Milan, Italy. Made my mixing color, usually ground minerals, with wet plaster, the fresco, completed in 1498, took over six years to execute. This means it was started about the time Columbus sailed for America.

In Latin, Maundy means commandment. It was during the Last Supper that Jesus of Nazareth gave his disciples an additional commandment, "to love one another as I have loved you." It is fitting we, as Masons, pause to reflect that almost 2,000 years ago this voice was silenced; yet the words of Jesus and their central teaching remain relevant today to all humankind.

On what we now call Good Friday, the day after Maundy Thursday, Jesus was crucified and the world, according to tradition and symbolism, was plunged into darkness.

Masonry teaches us that man before being brought to light must endure darkness. Masons symbolize this on Maundy Thursday by extinguishing the lights one by one in memory of our departed Brethren. For two days following the crucifixion, the world remained spiritually in darkness until the dawn of the third day when a glorious light burst forth indicating the arrival of Easter and the risen Christ.

Similarly, the King James Version of the book of Genesis commences with "In the beginning." On the first day, God created the earth, and when He saw the earth was dark, He said, "Let there be light" and there was light. God was pleased. He saw the light was good. These passages indicate the importance of light from the very beginning.

Most certainly, it is governed by the vernal equinox when men rejoiced at the coming of spring, a time when the sun returns from the depth of winter to spread light and warmth over the earth, thus bringing forth new life in the budding of trees and the growth of grass and flowers.

The Jews celebrate Passover at this time, rejoicing over their escape under the guidance of Moses from Egyptian bondage. As death and sadness are part of the crucifixion, the exodus of the Jews from Egypt was not without tragedy and hardship. Only by strict observance of the Lord's instruction to place the blood of a paschal lamb on the entrance of their abodes, were the first-born of the Hebrews spared by the angel of death. Only after this trial and the exodus did God entrust Moses with the great light of the Ten Commandments.

The Christian ceremony of the Lord's Supper has a similarity with the Hebrew Passover, for it was at a Passover dinner that the Master and his disciples gathered in an upper room. It appears the disciples arrived at the table before Jesus, and he found them arguing among themselves as to who was the most important among them and who would, consequently, sit at his side. Disturbed, Jesus said, "I come as a light unto the world that whosoever believes in me should not abide in darkness. I give you a new commandment that you love one another as I have loved you."

Then he demonstrated what he meant by washing their feet, teaching them in this manner that no matter how important the person may be, he must be willing without hesitation to help another. To us as Masons, Maundy Thursday represents a time of deliverance. The guiding light brought to us from the upper room and the epic story of the exodus are assurances that light will prevail over darkness, freedom over tyranny, knowledge over ignorance, humility and charity over pride and self-interest.

On Easter morning, we reignite the lights in a noble ceremony and so renew our commitment as Masons of whatever faith to the basic doctrines that unites all humankind – faith, hope, and charity—ever mindful that when the heart beats the soul listens and God answers.

THE FIVE POINTS SYMBOLISM

By BRO. N. A. McAULAY
Compiled By: Bro. Erich Somera

Foot to foot that we may go,
Where our help we can bestow:
Pointing out the better way,
Lest our brothers go astray.
Thus our steps should always lead
To the souls that are in need.

Knee to knee, that we may share
Every brother's needs in prayer:
Giving all his wants a place,
When we seek the throne of grace.
In our thoughts from day to day
For each other we should pray.

Breast to breast, to there conceal,
What our lips must not reveal;
When a brother does confide,
We must by his will abide.
Mason's secrets to us known,
We must cherish as our own.

Hand to back, our love to show
To the brother, bending low:
Underneath a load of care,
Which we may and ought to share.
That the weak may always stand,
Let us lend a helping hand.

Cheek to cheek, or mouth to ear,
That our lips may whisper cheer,
To our brother in distress:
Whom our words can aid and bless.
Warn him if he fails to see,
Dangers that are known to thee.

Foot to foot, and knee to knee,
Breast to breast, as brothers we:
Hand to back and mouth to ear,
Then that mystic word we hear,

Which we otherwise conceal,
But on these five points reveal.

CELEBRANTS

Birthday



Bro. Omar Obias

April 4

WM James Olayvar

April 10

WB Lini Hernando

April 14

Batong Buhay Lodge No. 27 – Official Website

Web Master – Bro. Alex Casas

<http://www12.asphost4free.com/bbuhay27/Home.html>



Brethren your articles, are welcome. Likewise we would be glad to print your Birth and Raising dates. Please email it at erichsomera@yahoo.com for publication to our monthly Living Stone Trestle Board.

