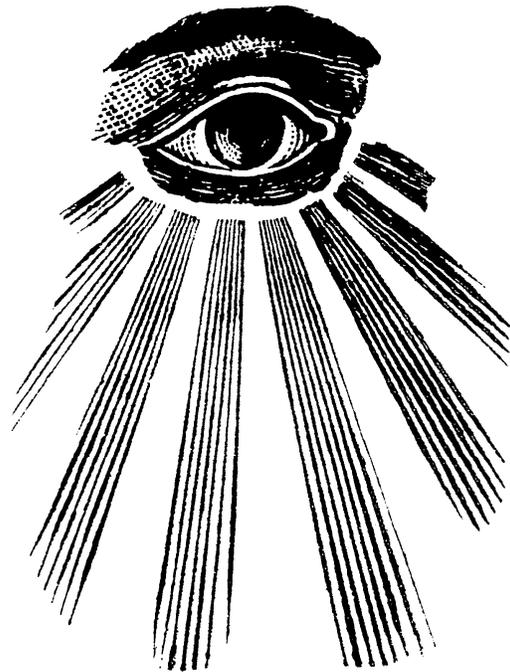
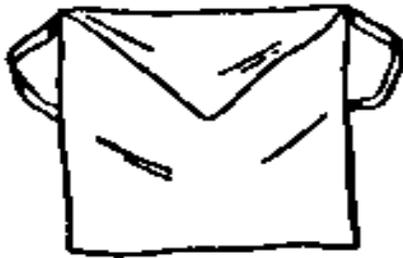




The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of
Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines



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



Living Stone Trestle Board

May 15, 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 Warden	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 Sim Cañonero
District Grand Lecturer	VW Jaime Bacho
Grand Lodge Inspector	WI Oliver Yabut

COMMITTEE CHAIRMANSHIP

STANDING COMMITTEES:

- Masonic Education
WB Lauro F. Garcia, Jr.
- Ritual & Degree Works
WB Antonio M. San Luis, Jr.
- Jurisprudence & Resolutions
WB Gerardo B. Lantoria, Jr.
- News Letter Publication
Bro. Ruferick C. Somera
- Sports & Youth Development
Bro. Mariano C. Bassig
- Ways & Means
WB Reinaldo A. Cedeño
- Inter-Lodge Relationship
WB Ferdinand F. Pacis
- Sunshine & Lapsation
Bro. Xerxez S. Coronado
- Refreshment & Fellowship
Bro. Tito L. Cuenco
- Harmony Officer
WB Eduardo S. Alcaraz

SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

- Fund Raising
WB Reinaldo A. Cedeño
- Special Projects
WB John B. Llamas
- Adopt a School Program
Bro. Xerxez S. Coronado
- Union Lodge Visitation
WB Eduardo S. Alcaraz
- Bahay ni Maria Project
Bro. Tito L. Cuenco
- Charter Day Celebration
WB Antonio M. San Luis, Jr.
- Bring a Friend – Win a Brother
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

LODGE ACTIVITIES

3RD Caucus

May 13

Stated Meeting

May 15



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





Fraternal greetings brethren!

As we move on into our second quarter, we meet huge challenges and great rewards ahead.

Three of our petitioners have already been circularized; in fact, the first two are already due for balloting this stated meeting. Another two petitioners have already been furnished copies of the application form which ought to be in the hands of the brother secretary any time soon.

Anticipating no glitches, we could find ourselves busy with conferrals and orientations sooner. I have already designated the brother senior warden to ensure that a trained and proficient team is readily available and that we maintain our high standard of quality conferrals which has been the hallmark of this lodge.

We are also working full-steam with our fund-raising program dubbed “Summer Bonanza Raffle” ably headed by Kuya Rei Ceden0 and assisted by Kuya Ed Alcaraz, both distinguished past master of our lodge.

Finally, we anticipate a series of district wide activities lined-up by our District Deputy Grand Master, VW Sim M. Cañonero which includes among others: district sport fest; lodge ritual competition; ladies night; a petitioner’s forum (walk around) plus the usual observances and holidays in this grand jurisdiction. This year will find Batong Buhay Lodge No. 27 taking the lead in our annual Lodge of Remembrance slated in October.

Let us therefore remain focused and never lose sight of our main objective in freemasonry; that of taking good men and making them better. Sounding off our grand master the MW Peter Lim Lo Suy’s theme for the year – “Together brethren, we can make a difference; One for All and All for One.”

Fraternally and sincerely,

Bro. Tony J. Limpoco, III
Worshipful Master



We had a great fellowship night last April 17 considering we have old members who joined the meeting. Bros Pete Maglaya and Gene Asuncion were there to grace the occasion in spite of difficulties for them to travel at night. Luckily they were able to get someone to drive for them.

Aside from those who attended the meeting, we had a special treat from Bro Tito Cuenco who shared to us a huge roasted turkey. It was like Thanksgiving for everyone that night. He got help from several Brethren, WB Nandy Pacis and Bro Eric Somera who took care of cooking this meal. WB Nandy even asked some help from a relative to carve the turkey during the fellowship.

It was a very successful meeting capped with a lively fellowship mood. Our petitioners certainly had a great time too and hopefully what they experienced will be translated in their future character building of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth.

Fraternally yours,

Bro Xerxez S. Coronado
Senior Warden



Greetings from the South! Last April 23-25, 2009, we concluded a very successful 93rd Annual Communication held at The Atrium, Lim Ket Kai Mall in Cagayan de Oro City. I was told by one of the committee member that there were 2,870 registered delegates, majority of which were locals coming from the different district/lodges nationwide and some foreign delegation as well. It was my first experience to attend ANCOM in the Philippines as a voting delegate representing our lodge. Your lodge was duly represented by WM Tony Limpoco, WB Nandy Pacis and Bro Tito Cuenco as voting delegates.

Also present from our lodge were VW Jun San Luis, WB Ed Alcaraz and VW Rei Cedeño, VW John Llamas, Bro Erich Somera and Bro Ike Turaray.

I must say it was very interesting as you participate and get involved in the daily activities and or issues at hand during the session. Not to mention the other activities or dinner functions that you may attend in the evening every after sessions. Though very tiring each day it was also very rewarding meeting new brethren and seeing old ones as well. I felt honored to have participated and exercised our right to vote with the high hope of making a difference for the betterment of our honorable fraternity.

One of the highlights of the ANCOM for me was the election of the Junior Grand Warden on April 24, Friday. There were 5 final candidates for the position namely; VW Eduard Chua, VW Joven Chua, VW Santiago Gavionza, VW Manuel Crudo and VW Voltaire Gazmin. It took three rounds and went on till late in the evening at around 10pm when that the magic number was finally achieved. VW Santiago Gavionza was elected as JGW. This was followed by a victory celebration at the Grand Caprice. The main highlights, of course was the Installation of the Grand Lodge Officers for Masonic Year 2009-2010 held at the Pryce Plaza Hotel, on April 25, Saturday. It was well attended and everyone had a wonderful time that evening.

Let us all join hands in Congratulating and Wishing our new Grand Lodge Officers for Masonic Year 2009-2010 ,under the able leadership of MW Peter U. Lim Lo Suy, for a very successful and fruitful year!!! And let us not forget our very own newly installed DDGM Sim Cañonero- Let us also Congratulate and Wish him a very successful, fruitful and enjoyable year for NCR-G as well. Together Brethren We Will Make A Difference!!!

Bro Tito L. Cuenco
Junior Warden

THE MORAL LAW

Unknown Author

Compiled by: Bro. Raul Sebastian Laman

The first of the Ancient Charges of a Freemason is entitled Concerning God and Religion and states in part "A Mason is obliged by his tenure to obey the moral law, and if he rightly understands the art, he will never be a stupid Atheist, nor an irreligious Libertine." From this charge, it becomes the duty and obligation of every Mason to live his life by a strict moral code.

Morality is a prerequisite for admission into the Masonic fraternity and is an outward manifestation of Masonic philosophy. The moral law is the gateway through which one enters on the path to spiritual awakening and growth, which is the ultimate objective of the rites of

initiation. No one who reads the Ancient Charges of a Freemason can fail to see that Freemasonry is strictly a moral institution, and the principles it advocates tend to make a brother who obeys its teachings a more honorable and virtuous man.

Morality is a very comprehensive term. It has been defined to be the doctrine of right and wrong in human conduct; conduct or practice which accords with moral principle or virtuous conduct; of or pertaining to the practices, conduct, and spirit of men toward God, their fellow men and themselves, with reference to right and wrong, and obligation to duty. Morality then covers the entire spectrum of human conduct pertaining to the distinction between right and wrong.

Moral laws are not man-made edicts or decrees; THEY SPRING FROM THE ETERNAL JUSTICE AND WISDOM of God. They are as absolute and immutable as the physical laws God has created for the government of nature and the universe around us. A VIOLATION OF THE MORAL LAWS brings about evil consequences similar to the consequences of trying to defy the laws of nature.

The distinguishing difference between man and all the animal life and intelligence below him is that man is morally accountable and individually responsible while the animal is not. Man is bound by a higher law of life than is the animal. He is bound by the moral law while the animal is not. Man is a creature of the Moral Order as is he vested with the attributes of a soul, which alone enables him to understand and respond to the moral law and discharge the obligation of personal responsibility.

MAN IS A MORAL BEING in the sense that he is charged with moral accountability and personal responsibility. Man is capable of becoming immoral because he alone can find it possible to knowingly and intentionally violate the moral law of his own being. Morality is therefore attributable to our immortal soul and is not the product of our physical senses.

In fact, it is the desires and passions generated by our material senses that serve as obstacles to the development of lofty moral characteristics. Consequently, the Freemason is taught to circumscribe his desires and to keep his passions in check as an essential element to his personal growth and moral development.

Morality is the law which establishes harmony between the soul and the principles of its being. Morality is the avenue that creates a harmonic relationship between the soul and God, the Grand Architect of the Universe. Morality is also the means by which relationships are established between man and his fellow men and the world about him. The moral law is the outward expression of the spiritual attributes of the immortal soul.

A good moral character is a prerequisite for admission into Freemasonry and a strict observance of the moral law is essential for advancement and the retention of good standing within the Fraternity. The importance of the moral law as a fundamental principle of Freemasonry is exemplified by the fact that any act by one of its members involving moral turpitude is a Masonic offense subjecting the offender to discipline or expulsion.

Masonry is often described as a "system of morality veiled in allegories and illustrated by symbols." As such, the new Mason enters upon a path to moral, intellectual, and SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT, which can only be accomplished by OBEDIENCE TO THE MORAL LAW. His practice of living must be in strict conformance to the principles and rules of conduct of the moral law whereby he enhances the growth and development of his soul. It is only by awakening the highest forces of his soul that he is able to reach the goal of true Mastership over his being and attaining a personal relationship with God.

Once this Mastership has been achieved, the circle of life's trials is narrowed and the sensual passions assail his heart in vain. Want no longer successfully tempts him to act wrongly, nor curiosity to do rashly. Ambition spreading before him fails to swerve his greatest allegiance. He refuses to be enriched at another's loss or expense, and feels that the whole human race are his brethren. Sorrow, pain, and anguish, are soothed by a perfect faith, and an entire trust in the infinite goodness of God. The world around him and the heavens above him become new, and all the ample glories and splendors of the universe speak to his soul the presence and beneficent care of a loving Father.

P.S.

Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. Anyone who listens to the word [Masonic teachings] but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. But the man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it — he will be blessed in what he does. From the book of instructions before leaving earth

WARM MASONIC TALE – Author unknown

A tale of Masons surrounding a campfire in the Old West, at night, discussing the Fraternity and its teachings. One old man listened patiently, and finally spoke up:

"I can tell you more bout Masonry in a little example than some of the great Masonic philosophers can in books. Everybody stand up, and gather in a circle around the campfire." They did that.

"Now, everybody hold hands with the man next to him." They did that, too.

"Now, what do you see looking ahead?"
"The face of a brother through the flames."

"What do you feel in front of you?"
"The warmth of the fire, and the comfort it brings on a cool night."

"What do you feel at your side?"
"The warm hand of a brother."

"OK. Now drop the hands, and turn around." They do so.

"Now what do you see, looking ahead?"
"Complete darkness."

"What do you feel, looking ahead?"
"A sense of loneliness, of being alienated".

"What do you feel at your side?"
"Nothing at all."

"What do you feel on your backside?"
"The warmth of the fire."

"So it is with Masonry," said the old man.

"In Masonic gatherings, you can feel the warmth of Masonic interaction, you can see the face of a Brother through the light Masonry brings to you, and you can always feel the warm hand of your Masonic Brother.

When you turn away from Masonry, and are out in the world, you see darkness, feel alienated and alone, and do not feel the warm hand of your Masonic Brother.

But Masonry, and the warmth and light it brings, are just a turn away from you."

CELEBRANTS

Birthday



Bro. Benjo Ramirez

May 27

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.



THE OLD MASTERS WAGES

I Met a Dear Old Man Today Who Wore a Masonic Pin
It Was Old and Faded like the Man It's Edges Were Worn and Thin
I Approached the Park Bench Where He Sat to Give the Old Brother His Due
I Said, "I See You've Traveled East He Said, "I Have, Have You"?"
I Said, I Have and in My Day Before the All Seeing Sun
I Played in the Rubble with Jubala Jubilo and Jubalum.
He Shouted, Don't Laugh at the Work My Son It's Good and Sweet and True
And If You've Traveled as You Said You Should Give These Things a Due.
The Work, the Sign, the Token, the Sweet Masonic Prayer.
The Vow That You Have Taken You Have Climbed the Inner Stair.
The Wages of a Mason Are Never Paid in Gold
But the Gain Comes from Contentment When You're Weak and Growing Old.
You See I've Carried My Obligations for Almost 50 Years
It Has Helped Me Through the Hardships and the Failures Full of Tears.
Now I'm Losing My Mind and Body - Death Is near but I Don't Despair
I've Lived My Life upon the Level and I'm Dying on the Square
Sometimes the Greatest Lessons Are Those That Are Learned Anew
And the Old Man in the Park Today Has Changed My Point of View

To All My Masonic Brothers the Only Secret Is to Care
May You Live upon the Level and Part upon the Square.