

HAWAII FREEMASON

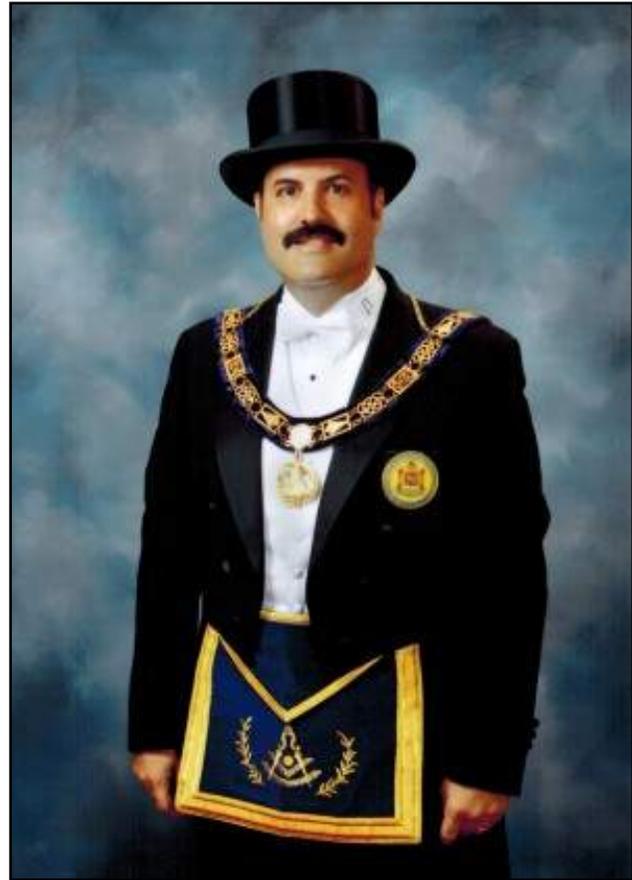
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Message from the Grand Master By MW Frank M. Condello II

Aloha Brethren! My year as Grand Master is coming to a close. RW Rick Huston will be taking over soon and I wish him the best of luck. I know that this jurisdiction will be in capable hands, and I encourage all of you to give him your full support. Our jurisdiction has done well over the past year. We raised 96 brethren in two Grand Master's Fast Classes and I want to thank MW Dennis Ing on his hard work with the preparations and Masonic Education that he designed for both classes. I believe these brethren enjoyed the ceremonies and got a lot out of them. I also want to thank the Grand Lodge officers that did all of the ritual work for both classes. I also strongly encourage all of the Fast Class graduates to attend their lodges regularly and get involved in order to get more out of the ritual and how the lodge operates. Take full advantage of being Master Masons!

In February I had the pleasure of attending the Conference of Grand Masters in North America in Baltimore. Prior to the larger conference, the Western states had their own conference. I had the pleasure of giving a presentation to all who attended about our progress as a jurisdiction and the many young motivated men we have coming in to our fraternity. I also highlighted our Grand Orator Hon. Owen Shieh and the wonderful book he wrote, Journey on the Level. It is a fascinating book about your Masonic journey and how the ritual, symbols and other aspects affect your life's journey. If you have not had a chance to read it yet, please find a copy by purchasing one at Honolulu Lodge's website, honolulufreemason.org. I think it would make a great addition to any lodge's Masonic



education for new candidates.

Most Worshipful Frank M. Condello II, Grand Master of Masons in Hawaii.

Although our jurisdiction continues to grow, we have continued to struggle with Lodge Le Progres. It has been under dispensation for more than a year after the charter was suspended. They have not made the progress I would have liked to see. Much of this has to do with internal bickering and the lack of fully qualified officers to take over the lodge from Grand Lodge control. Unfortunately, this issue will be continued into RW Rick Huston's year due to the lack of progress. Please know that we have expended countless hours discussing this issue and have

done everything we can to get this lodge back on track. It takes the full support of all Masons for anything productive to happen. You can't always have everything your way. Brothers need to work with each other without a secret agenda.

This newsletter will be coming out just before our Annual Communication, which will be held on Friday April 18th and Saturday April 19th at the Scottish Rite Cathedral. If you have never attended before and are curious as to how the Grand Lodge operates and what really happens at an Annual Communication, please attend. Any Master Mason is welcome to attend.

Many of you might think that being the Grand Master is the pinnacle of a Mason's career. In many ways it is. It is a great honor to serve an entire jurisdiction as its leader for one year and an awesome responsibility. At the same time, you also wear a huge target on your head. There is always someone who doesn't like something and blames it on you as the visible representation of the entire jurisdiction. I guess that goes along with the job. There are a few amongst us that have deep rooted hatred of others in their heart and have tried to destroy

the good names of others this past year. It saddens my heart that this is going on and it could ultimately destroy much of the progress we have been making. You need to police your own fraternity and stand up to this hatred. You need to admonish anyone who speaks badly of another Brother that it will no longer be tolerated. You need to take ownership of this fraternity!

Over the past 20 years as a Mason, I have tried to do my best to just be a brother and learn what I could from our rich teachings and the friendships I have made over the years. I believe that I am a humble man for the most part and am not caught up with all of the titles and honors. I hope that in my small way, I have made a difference and that the fraternity will be better for it in the long run. If I have ever offended any of you in any way I sincerely apologize. As a leader, you need to make command decisions at times and they will not always sit well with everyone. It is now my chance to once again just be another Brother in the columns. I may not be seen as much in the future, but I assure you that I will remain involved and look forward to seeing our jurisdiction improve and grow. I will keep all of you in my prayers. Aloha and may the Great Architect of the Universe be with you all.

“Over the past 20 years as a Mason, I have tried to do my best to just be a brother and learn what I could from our rich teachings and the friendships I have made over the years.”

-MW FRANK M CONDELLO II

Message from the Deputy Grand Master By RW Richard B. Huston

Aloha and Happy Easter to you and yours. I cannot believe that we are only 4 days away from the Grand Lodge Communication!

We have had a good 2013-2014 Grand Lodge year under the watch of MW Frank Condello II. I want to personally congratulate him and thank him for allowing me to serve as the Deputy for his year. I have learned a lot, and several of his actions have helped me in laying out and planning for the 2014-2015 Grand Lodge year.

On March 7th we had our Grand Master's Black and White Ball. It was an excellent turnout and our social time with one another followed by excellent food went down in history for MW Frank's Grand Lodge Year. I want to thank everyone who not only assisted us in executing the banquet, but a special thank you to all who fought the traffic, wind and rain to be there!

The North American Conference of Grand Masters was held in Baltimore this year, but unfortunately I was unable to attend due to a family emergency and then in the 11th hour I was stricken with a virus and restricted from flying by the doctor. I am sure you will be hearing more on this from our Grand Master, Senior Grand Warden or Grand Secretary who were in attendance. Very disappointing for me [and Karen!]

Although this is extremely short, I want to save all comments concerning Grand Lodge Year 2014-2015, should the Great Architect of the Universe see fit, for the Installation. I look forward to seeing you at the GL Communication and the Installation. Remember, this is the 25th Installation of Officers, a milestone, and I am honored and humbled to be a part of it!!



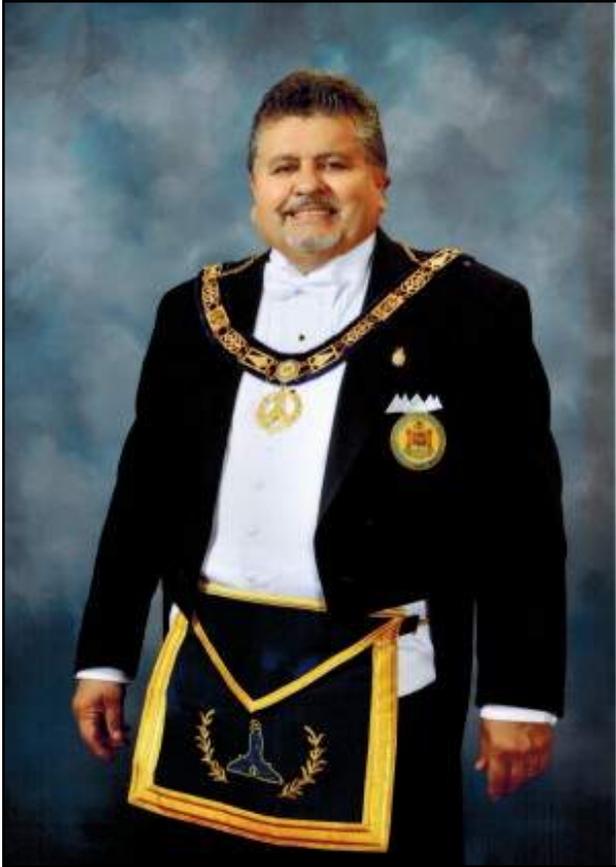
RW Richard B. Huston, Deputy Grand Master

“We have had a good 2013-2014 Grand Lodge year under the watch of MW Frank Condello II. I want to personally congratulate him and thank him for allowing me to serve as the Deputy for his year.”

-RW RICHARD B. HUSTON

From the Grand West

By RW Michael P. Baker, Senior Grand Warden



Are values still valuable?

We all know personal values were of extreme importance in times past. Rich or poor, a man's personal worth, his regard and standing in the community, was vested in the values he held and practiced in his daily life. It was a time when a man's word was his bond and a firm handshake closed a deal ... that both parties would live up to. It was a time when you heard statements such as "That's the truth, as God as my witness!"

And, there were other statements just as common: "On the level" – "On the square" – "A square deal". These phrases denoted the highest degree of honesty and trust and even

today are heard far more often than "as God as my witness".

It is said that imitation is the highest form of flattery and I've no doubt that our Masonic sayings entered the common lexicon by imitation. People simply adopted the language of the most highly respected members of the community. This is, of course, not to say that other men who were not Masons were of lesser integrity. However it is evident that Masons were the benchmark or the gold standard of solid personal values.

So, the question is, are those values still worth something in society. The answer is found in looking at the matter from a different direction: Who do you want to do business with? Who do you trust? Who can you believe? Whose word can you take and consider it even better than a written contract? Who would you trust with your most valued possessions? Who would you trust to take care of your wife and children?

So what is the answer in today's modern age? Well, it's a matter of "supply and demand"! As the supply goes down the price goes up. Given the ever increasing lack of values in society the worth of those who have them has increased dramatically.

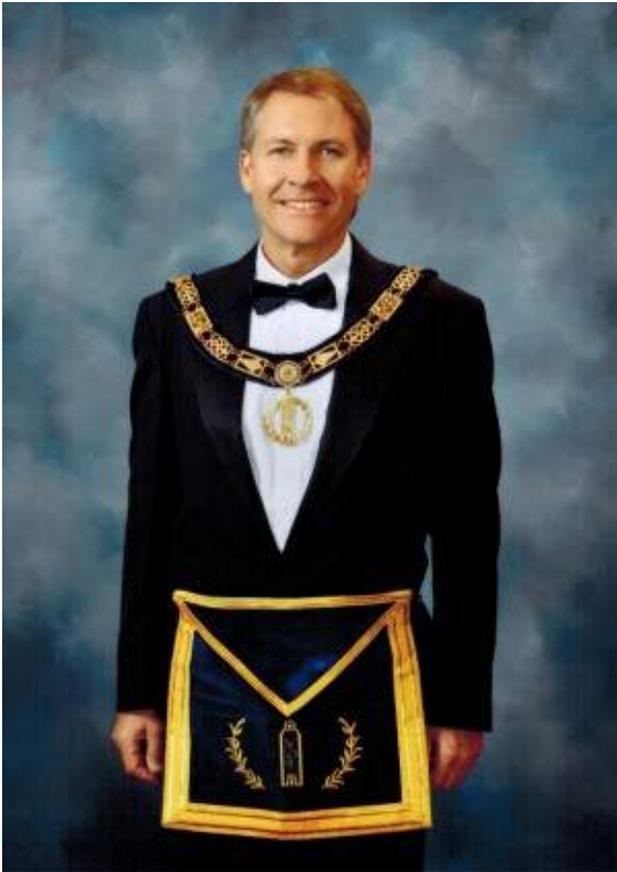
Now that has to add to your feeling of self-worth!

"It is said that imitation is the highest form of flattery and I've no doubt that our Masonic sayings entered the common lexicon by imitation."

- RW MICHAEL P. BAKER

From the Grand South

By RW Andrew L. Geiser, Junior Grand Warden



A Beautiful System Of Morality, Veiled In Allegory, Illustrated By Signs And Symbols. This is a direct form of Masonic rhetoric, and it's full understanding is embedded in the allegory of the Order.

A Beautiful System Of Morality: reminds us of God's system, or pattern, which He established for us to follow each day of our lives. That system is God's Moral Law. His Law is segmented into ten primary instructions that we know as The Ten Commandments.

Veiled in Allegory: reminds us that the Hidden Mysteries of Freemasonry can only be found and understood when we search our rituals, dictionaries and Holy Bibles for greater depth

and understanding in those things deemed secretive in Masonry.

Illustrated By Signs And Symbols: verifies the fact that Masonry is hidden and that it is secretive. Like the symbols that we display openly, our signs, words, grips, characters, etc., each carry a definite surface meaning. Yet, it is below that surface that we find the Spiritual, Material, Physical and intellectual allegories.

If, in the Lodge, we remove all signs, words, grips and hieroglyphics (symbols and characters), what remains is the craft and God's gift to mankind, which is the Holy Bible. Still, we have not moved Masonry; only the illustrations and modes of projection have been moved. The allegories of Masonry are still present, in the Holy Bible. This is to say that Masonry is no more, and no less, than, the study and practice of religion; and the guiding of our actions within the realm of God's Law.

Are We “Free From Restraint” or “At Refreshment”?

by MW Dennis S.A. Ing PGM, Grand Lecturer

The Master may declare the lodge "free from restraint" when there is a temporary pause in the activity of the lodge – for example, when the Stewards are preparing the candidate to receive a degree, or when there is a need to fetch an item of paraphernalia, or when it might be necessary to take a break for restroom relief, for cooling off a heated debate, etc. The lodge is “at refreshment” when the work may be interrupted for an extended period – for example, when an installation is moved to a different time or place, or when the lodge

wants to award a scholarship or a Golden Veteran's Award in the presence of the uninitiated, or when the lodge will be at labor in a different degree.

Duration alone, however, does not necessarily determine whether the lodge is "free from restraint" or "at refreshment". Most often the nature of the recess is prescribed by our ritual. Thus, preparing a candidate to receive a degree always occurs while we are "free from restraint", and the lodge is at refreshment for the purpose of conferring the second section of the Third Degree. This is so, even though the former procedure might take longer than setting up the lodge for the second section.

Why is it important to make this distinction? First, by custom the altar jewels are separated while the lodge is at refreshment. They remain together when the lodge is free from restraint.

Usually, the Worshipful Master directs the Sr. Deacon to "arrange the altar" after he declares the lodge to be at refreshment. (If he declares the lodge to be at labor on another degree, the jewels are, of course, so arranged.)

A major exception to the foregoing rule is while the lodge is setting up for the second section of the Third Degree. In this instance, the Jr. Warden executes the "will and pleasure" of the Master, by declaring the lodge to be at refreshment. Although not prescribed in the cipher, the Sr. Deacon should "break" the altar jewels during the break, while he is tending to the altar. When the Master makes the "sound of the gavel in the East" (investing of the Jr. Warden's jewel), the lodge is again at labor, and the Sr. Deacon should arrange the altar jewels. This is accomplished after the Sr. Deacon leaves the "newly obligated candidate", on his

way back from the Jr. Warden to the Sr. Deacon's place.

Note that the Lesser Lights are not extinguished while the lodge is free from restraint or at refreshment. They remain lit as long as the lodge is in session, even though there might be an extended recess, and are turned off only upon closing. Thus, everyone is "enabled to observe" the Great Lights until no longer necessary.

It is also customary for the miniature "pillars" at the stations of the Wardens to have identical functions during freedom from restraint and at refreshment. That is, during a recess – freedom from restraint or at refreshment – the Jr. Warden's pillar is up, and the Sr. Warden's pillar is down. When the lodge is at labor, the configuration of these pillars is reversed. The brethren are then supposedly able to determine, if not otherwise apparent, whether the lodge is at labor or in recess. This custom is said to be consistent with the authority of the Jr. Warden during the hours of refreshment, and the Sr. Warden's seniority while the lodge is at labor.

When a degree is being conferred, on hearing the Master declare the lodge to be at refreshment, the Sr. Warden should *always* take this opportunity to set up or stow the altar cushions, see that the altar jewels are properly oriented, etc. The Master should make sure that he has the proper working tools, and in the First Degree, the candidate's apron. Meanwhile the other officers and brethren should not stray too far, since the Master may soon rap his gavel in the east.

When the Master declares the lodge to be free from restraint or at refreshment, when is his order effective? The answer is: when he

completes the declaration (i.e., upon the declaration) – not when the altar jewels are arranged or when the Master raps the lodge down, if the lodge has been called to a different degree. (He does not rap after declaring the lodge to be free from restraint, since that would mean the lodge is back at labor.) This explains why the Sr. Deacon gives the sign of the new Degree *before* arranging the altar jewels – the lodge is at labor in the new degree immediately after the Master has made his declaration. The jewels are only symbolic of what Degree the lodge is laboring upon.

Finally, remember that when the lodge is called from a higher Degree to a lower one, the Master first declares the lodge to be at refreshment, “and labor resumed” etc. After working in the lower Degree, he then calls the lodge from refreshment in the original Degree, and labor resumed in the higher Degree. He does not declare the lodge to be at refreshment in the lower Degree, and labor resumed in the higher Degree. Once the lodge has been opened in the higher Degree, it is either at labor or refreshment in that higher Degree until closed in that higher Degree.

Kona Lodge F&AM

by WB Dan Miller PM

Brethren, Kona Lodge is doing very well these days. We have managed to grow our membership by 11% over the last year, and have several more applicants awaiting their degrees. Our progressive officers line this year contains only one retread (myself), and I can assure you that next year it will contain only first time officers.

Our Senior Warden, Brother Ben Spencer, completed his required proficiency for Master in March of this year by delivering the Master’s lecture in the Third Degree, in long form no less! Our other officers are doing equally well. This success did not come overnight; it took hard work and more importantly the dedication of each of these Brothers.

Kona Lodge confers all the degrees using our own officers and members to fill each role in the ritual. We also have a group of go-to Brothers who can ably fill in when one of our regulars are unavailable. I am very proud of our ability to confer the degrees correctly.

Our success is the result of a nearly 8 year plan by a group of Kona Lodge Past Masters to rehabilitate the lodge and put it on track to carry Masonry in Kona well into the future. There is not really any secret, it just needs a few willing and dedicated Brothers, Lodge Officers and Coaches willing to teach and allow the new brothers to thrive.

Leeward Lodge F&AM

by WB Raymund Llanes Liongson PM

Waipahu, HI >> We honor martyrs, heroes and great men in different ways. For members of Leeward Lodge, F & A M, it was by cleaning and restoring the luster of a monument in honor of a Masonic brother -- Dr. Jose Rizal -- who dedicated his time, talents and life to achieve for his people dignity, respect and freedom. Brother Jose Rizal was made a Master Mason on



November 15, 1890 at Logia Solidaridad # 53 in Madrid, Spain. He adopted the Masonic name *Dimasalang* when he was anointed under the Gran Oriente de España. He is said to have been influenced to join Masonry by Miguel Morayta, a Freemason and history professor at the Universidad de Madrid. Rizal affiliated with a lodge under the jurisdiction of Grand Orient of France on October 14, 1891, and was made honorary Worshipful Master of Nilad Lodge No. 144 (Manila) in 1892. There he delivered a lecture entitled “La Masoneria”.

On a cloudy Saturday morning, March 29, members of Leeward Lodge met by the Rizal monument at the Filipino Community Center. Armed with power washer, brass stain remover, and tons of patience and collective determination, they washed off sun-scorched

algae and mildew, and polished the monument marker dulled by years of oxidation and exposure to the elements of nature. Brothers who extended their hands were **WBs Manny Aquino, Jay Oliver Bajuyo, Raymund Liongson, Percival Sudiactal, Bros. Edwin Foster, Arnold Lactaoen, Nestor Muyot, and Felix Yaranon, Jr.**

Just when the task was about to be completed, the overcast turned to a downpour, prompting the brothers to setup an improvised tent and finish the job.

Honolulu, HI >> Three Leeward Lodge Entered Apprentice Masons were raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason on March 22 after completing the Grand Master’s One-Day Class. The three members are **Bro. Angelito L. Mercado, Bro. Francisco V. Bada, and Bro. Reuthea R. Yun.** The three new brothers were among the **33** candidates who receive the Third Degree of Masonry that day.

Other newly raised brothers, according to the Grand Secretary, **MW Marty Alexander, PGM,** are from the following Lodges: Hawaiian Lodge, 8; Schofield Lodge, 6; Honolulu Lodge, 5; Kilauea Lodge, 5; Lodge Maui, 2; Pearl

Harbor Lodge, 2; Kona Lodge, 1; and Lodge Le Progres, 1.

In July last year, the Grand Master, **MW Frank Condello II,** also held a One-Day Class that raised a total of 61 Master Masons, nine of whom were members of Leeward Lodge. To be eligible, candidates in the One-Day Class must have been at least initiated as an Entered Apprentice Mason. In his closing statement, the Hawaii Grand Master cited that while many Grand Lodges in the nation report falling

memberships, Hawaii is among the few Masonic jurisdictions that continue to maintain an upward trend.

Leeward Lodge, F&AM launched last month its newly redesigned website, reclaiming its presence on the cyberspace. The website contains stories and photos of Lodge activities, announcements, Masonic feature articles, and issues of *The Trowel*. Blog and forum sections are also available to provide venue for the Brethren to share their thoughts.

Site statistics report showed that the new website had about 3,500 views on its first 30 days alone, hitting its peak the week following its launching. To visit the site, go to leewardlodge.weebly.com.

Leeward Lodge newsletter draws encouraging feedbacks

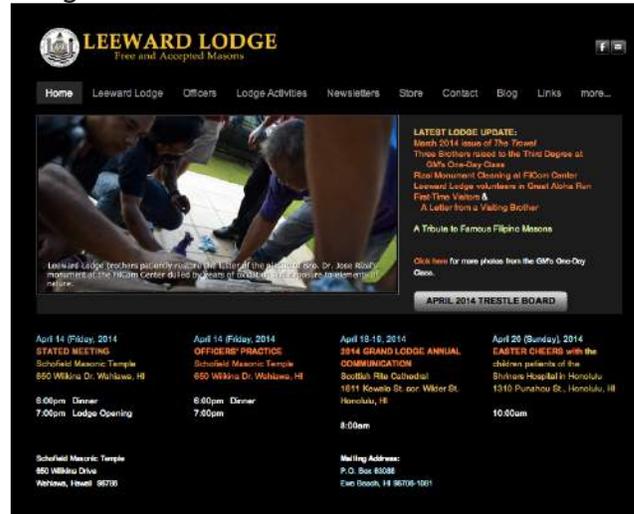
The Trowel, the monthly electronic newsletter of Leeward Lodge, received encouraging and inspiring feedbacks not only from Lodge members but from other Lodges in the jurisdiction. RW Andrew Geiser, Junior Grand Warden, described the newsletter as an “excellent publication” and encouraged the Lodge to “keep up the good work.”

“Outstanding!” commented **WB Cliff Jenkins** of Schofield Lodge. “Great layout, wonderful color, easy to read on computer, and most importantly highlights officers, brothers and lodge activities.”

“Great Newsletter! Good Job!” wrote **PGM Randy Chang**. “It is short and to the point. Great pictures and story follow-up. Congratulations to Leeward Lodge.”

“I love it!” simply quipped **Bro. Ronan Basat** of Leeward Lodge.

MW Marty Alexander, Grand Secretary, wrote: “I just have two things to say about your new newsletter -- AWESOME, AWESOME, AWESOME, AWESOME. Okay, that was four things.”



Honolulu Lodge F&AM: Charters of Alliance Ceremony

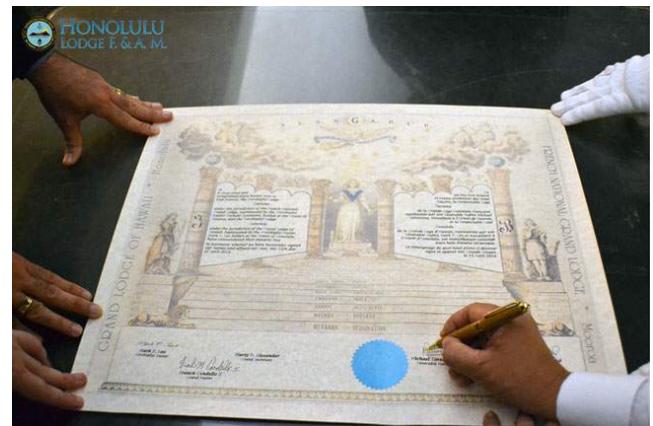
by WB Mark P. Leo

At the stated meeting in late 2013, Worshipful Brother Gilles Tisseraud moved that Honolulu Lodge form a unique bond with Loge Tiarama No. 1867. This was not a spontaneous event – it must be noted that Bro. Guy Moreau, a brother of both Honolulu and Tiarama Lodge has been tirelessly moving to establish this relationship for many years.

Without the help of our Most Worshipful Brother Secretary Monty J. Glover PGM, and our Most Worshipful Grand Master Frank M. Condello II guiding the necessary process, the events of April 15th would not have been possible.

The twinning of two lodges is similar to establishing sister cities. While those outside might create such relationships for encouraging tourism, business or other economic interests, within the craft, we do it to identify and recognize the lodge with which we have close Masonic ties. Loge Tirama is such a lodge.

As such, it is with great pleasure that we could formally establish this relationship between our two lodges.



Grand Lodge of Hawaii: Black & White Ball

by WB Mark P. Leo



Grand Master's One-Day Class

by WB Mark P. Leo

On March 22, 2014, The Grand Lodge of Hawaii F&AM held a Grand Master's One-Day Class at the Honolulu Masonic Temple, where thirty-two Entered Apprentice Masons were passed and raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. We'd like to congratulate those thirty-three brethren on becoming Master Masons, and would like to express our sincere thanks to everyone who helped make this day a success.



Thank you for reading!

*Remember to submit your articles and pictures to
newsletter@hawaiifreemason.org*