

# Hawaii Freemason

The Newsletter for the Hawaii Mason

## Ladies of the Grand Lodge

“Over the next few months we’ll be introducing the women behind your leaders. In this issue we’re focusing on the Grand Pillars’ Ladies . . . “

Page 7



## Working and Growing Together

By Most Worshipful Dennis S. A. Ing

Why were Hawaii Masons perfectly content for thirty years to be the only state without our own Grand Lodge, and to be governed by the Grand Lodge of California? Because we would (and did) break away at great expense. All our members relinquished their privileges in California’s Masonic retirement and nursing facilities, to which they had been making annual contributions. We left with a truly modest treasury, about 3,000 Masons and twelve Lodges, some of which were struggling, and we became the smallest American jurisdiction. Gone were free the trips to the California AnCom for our Masters and Wardens (and sometimes their wives). Gone were the developmental funds and ample resources of one of the wealthiest jurisdictions in the country.

Next May will mark our Grand Lodge’s 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary. We now have eleven Lodges and our membership has declined by about 43% since 1989. Our treasury has become even more modest.

A few Ancoms ago we finally began to realize that we could not

Continued on Page 4



## Inside

Page 2 Deputy Grand Master’s Message

Page 3 From the Grand West

Page 4 From the Grand South

Page 6 History of Royal Arch Masonry in Hawaii

Page 7 The Ladies of the Grand Lodge of Hawaii

Page 8 Happenings Around the Lodges and Concordant Bodies

Page 9 Recent Pictures from around the Jurisdiction

The Hawaii Freemason is a publication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Hawaii

## Deputy Grand Master's Message

By Right Worshipful Marty Alexander



I would like to start off with a quick report on the Grand Lodge Representatives program. There has been a lot of activity so far with 11 appointments (4 still pending) so far just in 2008! The Grand Lodge Representatives program is only effective when the Representatives are active in their roles and foster two-way communication with the jurisdiction that they are assigned to.

Worshipful Nicolas H. Lopez, PM, Representative to the Grand Lodge of Puerto Rico, just recently returned in April from their Annual Communications and sent in a wonderful report along with some great pictures, below and on page 5, from his visit. I know some other GL Representatives have traveled lately as well. Please send in some pictures if you have any.

Next on the agenda is a report on our Grand Lodge's Strategic Planning Committee. Many Grand Lodges on the Mainland, including our sister Grand Lodges in the Western Conference, have long since established long range programs by which not only to develop Freemasonry in their jurisdiction but more importantly help it evolve.

Most of these programs have been given the name of "Pillars of Progress", so in taking a cue from them, we are in the process of developing our own long-range program. The name, "The Five Paddles of Progress" has been adopted. Most of you have already heard of it from one source or another. Its goal is to develop continuing programs which have more than a one year life span and carry our vision into the future for the next five years, ten years and beyond and to help our

organization to not only thrive and prosper but also benefit from increased

*Continued on Page 5*



*Worshipful Nicolas H. Lopez, PM, visits the Grand Lodge of Puerto Rico Annual Communication*



The Brothers of Hawaiian Lodge, lead by Worshipful Orlando Ragudos, celebrate their Lodge Widow's at their annual Widow's Night. See p 8.

## What's happening in your Lodge?

The Hawaii Freemason is your source for information on what's happening around the jurisdiction. We need your help. If you have an upcoming event, a noteworthy past event or just want to share what's been going on in your Lodge please let us know so we can share that with your Brethren from the other Lodges. Send your submissions to the Jr. Grand Warden by the end of September, December and March. Include any pictures you would like to share as well.

# From the Grand West

By Right Worshipful Charles Wegener

Aloha Brothers,

It does not seem possible that two months have passed since AnCom when the body of brothers honored me by selecting me to serve you for another year. Where has the time gone and there is so much to do.

The Grand Master, Most Worshipful Dennis Ing has started on his official visits to the Lodges. Brothers, the Grand Lodge is here to serve you. Your advice and opinion are invaluable to the Grand Lodge. Without your input we run the risk of stagnation. The Grand Lodge is intent on GROWTH, my brothers, not just in numbers but also that we may become better men and women as we continue to make our world a better place. Let us hear from you.

On Friday, the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, Kailua is holding its Annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade and the Grand Lodge plans to be a part of that parade. We hope that each one of you will line up with us and march proudly, united as Masons down the streets of Kailua. The Grand Lodge is also extending an invitation to the concordant bodies to join us. Let us all enjoy and celebrate the anniversary of our nation's birth and honor the men and women who have served or are serving to secure the freedoms we hold dear.

Ko'olau Lodge is again manning the Masonic display booth at Kaneohe Bay's BayFest Festivities. Shriners, DeMolay, Rainbows, Eastern Star, Scottish and York Rite bodies, Daughters of the Nile, Ladies of the Oriental Shrine, all the concordant bodies, this is a wonderful way to get the message out, that Freemasonry is alive and well in Hawaii and we welcome everyone to join our ranks.

Have you set the date of Friday, September 12<sup>th</sup> in your calendars? Tickets are now on sale for the Black and White Ball to be held at the Hale Koa Hotel Fort DeRussy Ballroom. For \$60.00 a person, you will enjoy a prime rib buffet dinner and dance to the music of Wasabi. Cocktail hour begins at 6:00 PM with dinner at 7:00 PM. Shriners, Scottish and York Rite bodies, Eastern Star, Daughters of the Nile, Ladies of the Oriental Shrine, all the concordant bodies, bring your friends and join with the Grand Lodge and celebrate being a Mason.

I would like to leave you with a little poem attributed to a past resident of the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania, and is entitled:

"Definition of a Real Man"

One who has self-confidence but does not show it;

One who can be courteous in the face of discourtesy;

One who keeps his word, his temper, his friends;

One who wins respect by being respectable and respectful;

One who has a steady eye, a steady nerve, a steady tongue, and steady habits;

One who is silent when he has nothing to say;

One who is calm when he judges, and humble when he misjudges.

May I suggest to each of you, that if we take that poem to heart, that if we accept and discharge our duties and responsibilities in this world, that if we live by the principles of our Masonic order, then we may join in spirit with Washington, Franklin, Morris, and those others who labored throughout that hot Philadelphia summer over 200 years ago, to secure the blessings of liberty for ourselves and for our posterity.

A hui hou:

Charlie





Continued from Grand Master's Message on page 1...

pretend we were still part of the California Grand Lodge. We could not afford expensive travel or extravagant expenditures. We had to live within our means. That meant balanced budgets, trimming our expenses and making every effort to expand and retain our membership. This year we intend to take all these goals seriously.

The formulation and adoption of a long-range strategic plan will be the most important step in accomplishing these reforms. Our programs cannot merely have an optimistic and promising start, only to be dropped or directed elsewhere in the following term. A program may take years to reach fruition and to blossom into reality. No longer should a Grand Master think of waiting to begin his plans during "my term".

A good example of this is our SGW's "Black & White Ball". One of our "Five Paddles of Progress" is community involvement, not only because of the need to promote "good works", but also because Masonry must come out of "hiding". We need to be as prominent in the community as we were in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. And we hope that our inaugural formal dinner-dance this September will become an annual event, that it will involve partnering with a major charity, and that it will become a "happening" that the public will want to attend. Indeed, what fun it would be to celebrate a joint installation (which Hawaiian and Le Progres are planning to initiate this December), followed by a gala "Black & White Ball" – an annual public event that will be covered by the media. Well, maybe not this year, but in the future ...

The strategic plan will also require us to become technologically proficient and efficient. I previously reported that California experienced a net membership growth in 2006 of about 6%, and that 70% of its new members were acquired through some contact with the internet. In our own jurisdiction Honolulu Lodge has had a similar experience, and web pages have become a "must" for every Lodge.

Many of us were surprised at the negative groundswell against the proposal to adopt HIFilemaker. Perhaps we could have improved on the manner in which it was introduced, but certainly no one could (or can) quarrel with the concept. Day after day, the Grand Lodge encounters questions concerning our members – which Lodge and/or bodies they belong to, Masonic history, widows, etc. We simply must have a common database among all the Lodges and the Grand Lodge. There is no good reason to require the Grand Secretary to manually enter data he receives from the Lodges, which is duplicative and increases the chance for error. It's time for everyone in our small jurisdiction to be on the same data page.

I cannot over-emphasize the advantages of computerization for the Grand Lodge and for all constituent and concordant bodies. Postage savings alone are significant, and (although not ideal) we will eventually be taking advantage of online video-conferencing, not only for neighbor island Lodges, but also to keep in touch with Koolau, Schofield and Leeward.

Continued on Page 5



## From the Grand South

By Right Worshipful Monty Glover

Aloha and Fraternal Greetings from the Grand South Brethren,

First and foremost I would like to thank all the Brethren for their vote of confidence in electing me to serve as your Jr. Grand Warden for this Masonic year. I am truly honored and I promise to do my very best in serving you and making the Hawaii Jurisdiction all that we know it can be.

This promises to be an exciting year and I am looking forward to all the projects that Most Worshipful Dennis and Right Worshipfuls Marty and Charlie have lined up. Being the new guy in the line I am watching and learning as much as I can. Most Worshipful Dennis has a great team this year and we are all truly working as a team.

One of the ideas that has surfaced this year under the leadership of our Grand Master is the concept of continuity. This is vital to our survival as a Grand Lodge and I believe also for the Lodges. We must stop the starting over every year from the beginning. We need to adopt projects and changes that will have the support and commitment of those who follow us. Because of this the Grand line isn't working on things for just the current sitting Grand Master but also for projects and ideas for the Deputy GM and the SGW and JGW's years. We can work on them now and allow them to mature. After all if it's a good idea why should it wait for a specific person to be in the Grand East?

Continued on Page 6

## Continued from GM's Message Page 4

And it is this “keeping in touch” with each other that will be the cornerstone of our progress. We all are part of this Grand Lodge, and we need to work together. We need to share ideas. We need to make our respective contributions to common programs. We need to help each other.

Finally, as was suggested earlier, the ultimate point of all this is to grow and nurture our membership. There are a few among us who are clinging to the ideal notion that “quality” is better than “quantity” – i.e., it would be preferable to have a handful of virtuous oldtimers sitting around a cribbage table reveling in memories of the “good ol’ days”, than to have a bunch of newbies who never attend Lodge.

Well, all the studies are to the contrary. It is axiomatic that in every relatively large population of volunteer organizations, only about 10% are really active. Another 10% is moderately active, and there are a heck of a lot who are fairly inactive, even among oldtimers. So if we only acquire 10 new members, only one of them will be active; if we get in 100, we can count on 10 of them to supply our officer corps.

Just think of what might happen if we acquire more than a hundred. And what might happen if we start to nurture and bring back to Lodge those who have strayed away. If we become more efficient in communicating with one another, if we share ideas about leadership, membership recruitment and retention of existing members, if we work together in all of this – we will no doubt grow and flourish. Aloha.



*Worshipful Nicolas H. Lopez, PM, visits the Grand Lodge of Puerto Rico*

## Continued from DGM's Message Page 2

leadership and organizational skills.

The Five Paddles of Progress are the proposed supports that will hopefully lead us to the achievement of our Mission and Vision Statement. They are broken down into these categories:

- *Grand Lodge Organization*
- *Education and Technology*
- *Family Involvement*
- *Community and Public Relations*
- *Fraternalism and Cooperation with Concordant Organizations*

An initial draft was developed by the Grand Master and the Executive Committee as a model from which to have a starting point. From there, it went to the members of the Strategic Planning Committee for their review and suggestions. Then it went into your hands (the members of this jurisdiction) for your review and suggestions. After that, it went back to the Strategic Planning Committee for a draft rewrite which included suggestions and input from the whole jurisdiction. Then after all that, it is now back with the Executive Committee to formulate a final draft that will be placed before this Grand Lodge at the next Annual Communications for its support and adoption. It is a plan that truly represents a wide cross-section of our fraternity because it has given everyone the opportunity for input into the development of this Masonic Jurisdiction. A current draft of the Five Paddles of Progress will be made available soon on the Grand Lodge website or if you would like a copy before then just ask me and I will gladly send a copy to you via email.

And now before I sign off, just a little fun piece of trivia I found on the Internet...

The Lord's Prayer contains only 56 words. Lincoln's Gettysburg Address contains but 266 words. The Ten Commandments contain only 297 words. The Declaration of Independence contains a mere 300 words. The Master Mason's Obligation has 771 words (more or less depending upon jurisdiction) But, a recent U.S. Government order setting the price of cabbage, contains 26,911 words !!!

What that is supposed to mean, I don't exactly know, but there has to be a smidgeon of wisdom in there somewhere!

Until next time,

Aloha.

## Grand South from page 4...

As editor of the Hawaii Freemason I urge all of the Lodges and Concordant Bodies to submit articles and news about the happenings of their Lodge or Organization. If there are special events coming up that you want participation from the other Lodges and Masonic Bodies please let me know well in advance so that the Grand Lodge can get the maximum participation possible.

If you have suggestions or comments about the Hawaii Freemason please let me know. You can e-mail me at [gloverm002@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:gloverm002@hawaii.rr.com) and I will do my best to implement your idea.

The Grand Lodge is also adopting the Keiki ID program as its Grand Lodge Charity. On the mainland Child ID programs are jurisdiction-wide, and are not limited to one Lodge or a few Lodges. The Grand Lodge isn't going to "take over" the project but more assist with pulling together the human and other resources of the whole Jurisdiction so the program will be more widely recognized and hopefully be more active in our community. We are also looking at the possibility of partnering with HPD and the Hawaii Department of Education. I'm going to be asking for two Brothers from every Lodge to step forward and be trained in the program and from there they will be able to train others in their Lodges.

Lastly I am here to serve you. If there is anything I can do or assist with please let me know.

Be well until we meet again.



## Hawaii Royal Arch Masons Begin 152nd Year By Very Reverend John Connell

Royal Arch Masonry is the complement of the Master Mason's Degree. It is the unfolding into a second volume, the history of that which was "lost" to its final recovery. Without the Royal Arch, the Master's degree is like a "song half sung, at tale partly told, and a promise unfulfilled."

Royal Arch Masonry first came to Hawaii when a group of Master Masons petitioned the General Grand Chapter for a charter in 1857. A dispensation was granted on June 10, 1857, and on September 1859, Honolulu Chapter No. 1 was given a charter.

King Kamehameha IV and John Owen Dominis, consort of Queen Lilioukalani, were the first candidates exalted by the new High Priest Charles W. Vincent. King David Kalakaua, a later Hawaiian Monarch, was exalted and served as High Priest in 1883.

Honolulu chapter celebrated the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its dispensation by exalting 112 candidates in 1857.

Following World War II, the growth of population on Oahu dictated the need for a second chapter on the "Windward" side of the island. On October 14, 1960, Kalakaua Chapter No. 2 was chartered in Kailua, Oahu, in honor of the memory of King Kalakaua.

Two additional charters were subsequently granted by the General Grand Chapter. Kamehameha Chapter No. 3 was formally constituted in Hilo, September 27, 1972, in Hilo, Hawaii, in honor of King Kamehameha IV. Soon thereafter, a fourth chapter was chartered October 2, 1975, in Wahiawa and was designated Duke Kahanamoku Chapter No. 4. The name was chosen in tribute to one of Hawaii's greatest athletes, a world and Olympic champion swimmer, and a companion of the Royal Arch. By 1975, the total membership within the four chapters had passed the 700 mark. Duke Kahanamoku Chapter had only 22 members and Kamehameha Chapter had 44, but they were active chapters. Kalakaua Chapter had grown to 69 members, but many of these were Masons who joined the York Rite in the islands and then moved on to other places in the world. The bulk of the York Rite Masons were the 589 members of Honolulu chapter.

With four active chapters, it was felt that there was a need for the formation of a Grand Chapter in Hawaii. So on January 6, 1977, the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons International was officially assembled at the Masonic Temple on Makiki St. by the Most Excellent Gordon R. Merrick, General Grand High Priest. There were eleven representatives from eight state jurisdictions as well as one each from the District of Columbia, Canada and Japan. After the Grand Chapter of Hawaii was formally Constituted, Robert C. Kong was installed as Charter Grand High Priest, William H. Sack as Grand King, and Charles H. McAllister as Grand Scribe. Having

Continued on Page 8



## The Ladies of the Grand Lodge

### LADY CHARLYS, OUR GRAND MISTRESS



Charlys (pronounced SHAR-liss) Mirikitani Ing graduated from Punahou, earned her B.A. in Bible Studies at Wellesley College in Massachusetts, and her M.Ed. from UH Manoa. For four years she taught math to grades 1 through 10 at the UH Lab School.

After giving birth to a daughter, Kristin, Charlys started ballet training, an avocation she had abandoned since grade school. To her surprise she was asked to audition for the Honolulu City Ballet, and was chosen as one of that company's original members, and eventually rose to the rank of principal dancer.

When the City Ballet folded after four years, Charlys became a cofounder, principal dancer and artistic director of Hawaii Ballet Theatre, a community-based professional company managed by her husband, our Grand Master. At one time, HBT was the most prominent dance company in Hawaii, presenting dance concerts throughout Oahu, the neighbor islands and in Los Angeles. Now 28 years old, the company limits its activities to an annual "Nutcracker" at Leeward Community College Theatre.

Since 1990 Charlys has been the director of the dance program at Punahou School, among the largest dance academies in the State. She is considered one of the finest ballet teachers in the islands, and has mentored hundreds of young dancers.

She and Dennis have been married for more than forty years. Their daughter Kristin earned a B.A. at Yale and an M.Ed. at Harvard, was a professional dancer in Broadway musicals for several years and is now the assistant director of the dance department at Harvard, where her husband Brian attends law school.

### LADY AMBER, OUR DEPUTY GRAND MISTRESS



Amber Alexander was born and raised in Michigan. She is an alumna of Northern Michigan University, Michigan State University and a graduate of the University of Hawaii. Being an adventurous person, she became a red belt in taekwondo as well as a

divemaster in SCUBA. For the last 17 years, she has been working as a paralegal and office manager for a law firm in Wailuku on Maui, as well as co-owner of a condo cleaning company in Kihei. But what keeps her busiest, and what she enjoys most, is being mother to her two boys, David, who just turned seven and Casey, who is about to turn four. And when she is able to find time for herself, she enjoys running every morning, yoga each week, reading whenever she can sneak it in and traveling.

### LADY MAUREEN CABANADO GLOVER



Maureen is originally from Imus Cavite in the Philippines. She has a Bachelor's degree in Business Management. She moved to the United States in March of 2007, and shortly thereafter she and Right Worshipful Monty married. She is the Sister of Leah Condello, Worshipful Frank Condello's wife. She currently works as a teller at Hawaii National Bank. She enjoys swimming, shopping, and watching movies. She is still getting used to the United States and is enjoying herself and looking forward to starting a family.

Continued from Royal Arch on page 6...

our own Grand Body marked a new era for masonry in Hawaii.

On September 10, 1981, a charter was issued to Kona Chapter No. 5, located in Kailua-Kona on the island of Hawaii. However, due to low membership, the chapter became inactive and the members affiliated with Kamehameha Chapter No. 3 in Hilo. A few years later, due to the transient nature of the high percentage of military members, Duke Kahamoku Chapter No. 4 found it difficult to continue, and their members affiliated with Kalakaua Chapter No. 2 in Kailua, and Honolulu Chapter No. 1.

In recent years there has been a resurgence of interest in the York Rite, and interest has been expressed in establishing a Chapter on the island of Maui. Many new members have been initiated in both the Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, the Council of Cryptic Masons and the Commandery of Knights Templar. Also, plans are being made to celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first Chartered Chapter in Hawaii.

For further information you may ask any York Rite member.

## Lodge Happenings

### Ko'olau Lodge

By Scott Waracka, PM, Master

Ko'olau is currently working on getting the new incoming Master (Keaka Hashimoto) qualified (thank goodness) and as such we are performing the 3rd degree on VR John Connell's son Seth this upcoming Wednesday. The following Saturday (19th) we are having our annual get together, where we invited prospective members from Bay Fest over and have them meet the members of Ko'olau. This event with the annual Bay Fest has become one of our highlights of each Masonic year for Ko'olau and with a pretty small core of members we get a great turnout.

We have one 1st degree to put on in July and are in the process of investigating two others so we are anticipating much degree work (along with a few 2nd's and another 3rd) in the near future.

It is very exciting times for Ko'olau as we have almost a full slate of officers and all are looking for future light by being proficient officers in the near future

### Hawaii Lodge Remains Fully Enguaged!

By Antonio M. Ligaya, PM

Hawaiian Lodge has been quite busy thus far. Specifically, during the second quarter just ended, six petitions for memberships were received, and we initiated three new members, passed three, and raised two in addition to the three who went through the Grand Master's Fast Classes; the conferral team that raised the couple of Brothers in the "regular" manner wore period costumes, recently donated by WBro. Wilson "Da Coach" Camagan and his family, in the second section of the Degree's conferral.

Sixteen of our members, however, were suspended for non-payment of dues, and, as a consequence they also had to be suspended by other Masonic Bodies they may be members of.

The Lodge also either hosted or actively participated in several events during the April – June 2008 period. Among these were our annual "A Tribute to Our Widows" Night at the Pagoda Hotel in early April, the Grand Lodge Annual Communication and Election of Officers (April 18 - 19), and the Filipino Fiesta Parade in Waikiki (May 10). We also remembered our Brethren who have gone to the Celestial Lodge above during our annual Memorial Day Observance Ceremony at the Hassinger Columbarium (Makiki Cemetery) on May 26. Several of our members also joined the Scottish Rite, while still others went through Aloha Shriners' Cold Sands Ceremony in the Spring. We continued our monthly Lodge "Golf Outings", which of late has become a welcome tradition!

We also hosted eight brethren from other Lodges/Grand Jurisdictions, presented 50-year membership certificates to a couple of brothers as a courtesy to the Grand Lodges of Illinois and Minnesota, and separately received our new Grand Master – MWBro. Dennis S. A. Ing (himself a member and Past Master of Hawaiian Lodge) and WBro. Donovan W. Young, our Grand Lodge Inspector, for their respective official visits. Three of our Brethren – Bros. Ron Tish, Dante Caguiat and WBro. Phil deAquino – were also recognized with individual Special Veteran Certificates which recognized their long years of membership in our Fraternity, which, among them total 95 years!

The immediate future has the Lodge holding a "Military Night Conferral Degree", visitation with our Brethren on the neighbor islands, and a "Past Masters' Night Conferral" as well as a "Past Masters' Recognition Night."



## Hawaiian Lodge cont. from page 8

On behalf of our current Master, WBro. Orly Ragudos, and the Brethren of Hawaiian Lodge, an open invitation is extended to all Brethren to visit with us on Wednesday evenings – with the first Wednesdays of the month (meeting starts at 7:30 pm, with dinner preceding) and other Wednesdays (starting at 7:00 pm) either for degree conferrals, officers' practice, or fellowship!



Bros Mark Dixon, Mark Stilt RW Glover and VR John Connell



Most Worshipful Ing talking to our Prince Hall Brothers

Kailua 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade Pictures

The Family of Freemasonry



A Red Fire Truck provided some welcome relief from the marching

# Grand Lodge to hold Black and White Ball

The Grand Lodge of Hawaii will be hosting a formal Black and White Ball at the Hale Koa Hotel on September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2008 in the Fort DeRussy Ballroom. No Host Cocktails at 6PM with a Prime Rib Buffet to follow. Dancing music provided by Wasabi. Proceeds to benefit the Grand Lodge Building Fund. This event is open to the public and tickets are available from your Lodge Secretary or Grand Lodge Representative for \$60. Get your tickets early and come and enjoy a night of fun as only Masons can !



**BLACK & WHITE BALL**  
Dancing to Music by Wasabi



Prime Rib Buffet  
No Host Cocktails

HALE KOA HOTEL, FORT DERUSSY BALLROOM  
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2008  
6PM - NO-HOST COCKTAILS  
7PM - PRIME RIB BUFFET  
HOSTED BY: THE GRAND LODGE OF HAWAII  
\$60.00 per person