



4th Quarter 2009

The Hawaii Freemason

The official newsletter of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge
of Free and Accepted Masons of Hawaii

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From the Grand Master

Aloha and Happy Holidays Everyone!
Not only are we upon the Holiday Season, culminating in New Years Day festivities, but we are in the midst of our jurisdiction's Lodge Officers Installation Season as well. It is coincidentally appropriate that we ring in and celebrate the arrival of the New Year at the same time we also celebrate the incoming of the new leadership in our lodges.

During this period, we are filled with the excitement of what new lies ahead of us this year and of our expectations as well. I know there will be a certain amount of internal division or lack of participation because the brothers that some wanted to see get elected did not make it, but it is a time to rally and support the new ideas that the new officers bring with them. A lodge cannot grow and succeed without the support of all of its members working together.

Don't get me wrong. Sure, we want to congratulate and laud the new officers coming in but we shouldn't feel like we are sweeping out the old and in with the new. It should be an Auld Lang Syne feel to it. While we are welcoming and pulling together behind the newly installed officers, let's not forget to say thank you to the officers going out of office, especially the Worshipful Masters of the lodges, for all of their hard work, dedication, devotion and all the time spent for the benefit of the lodges and its membership this last year.

Coincidentally, the #1 New Year's Eve song used throughout the world is Auld Lang's Syne. The most popular version of it was written in 1788 by you guessed it, Brother Robert Burns.



As the constituent lodges either have or will soon be ending their Masonic year, so will this Grand Lodge year be coming to a close as well in April. Much is being planned to make this year's Annual Communications an enjoyable experience for all those in attendance. I hope that many of the brothers are able to attend both days of the AnCom as it is not just for the voting members of this jurisdiction but for ALL Master Masons, members and visitors alike. More information and registration forms will be coming out soon.



Marty Alexander
Grand Master

As part of the AnCom events, we are working toward dedicating a Masonic Memorial Stone and Plaque at Punchbowl National Cemetery. We are asking for contributions from the members of this jurisdiction for this project so that we can indeed call it a Hawaii Masonic Memorial. If you are interested in contributing to this project, please contact Worshipful Jeremy Hollaway who has been appointed the project leader on this. You can either contact him at (dommiel757@yahoo.com or 808-554-7790) with any questions you might have or if you prefer, you can send all contributions to him at Schofield Masonic Lodge, PO Box 860033, Wahiawa, HI 96786. Make the checks payable to Schofield Masonic Lodge and be sure to write "MEMORIAL" in the "for" portion on the bottom of the checks.

By now, I hope that most have seen the changes in our Grand Lodge website. It has

(Turn to next page)



gone from one that is not only information based but also one that offers tools to make a lodge's job easier. While it still has the traditional Masonic Links and contact type information on it, there is a current and up-to-date as possible calendar of events; there is a gazette showing many recent events; there is a section that announces important notices and deadlines; there is a resource section that provides forms and applications for the lodge secretaries to download and use; there is a Grand Lodge section that provides historical information on the formation of the Grand Lodge of Hawaii, a list of our Past Grand Masters and a complete year by year officers list as well. There is also a lodge locator for visitors to our islands. There is much more and I hope that you will take the time to visit it. On the pages that have a picture slideshow, place your mouse cursor on different areas of the slide show to control it in various ways. The address is HawaiiFreeMason.org

We are also finalizing an updated Hawaii Cipher book that is unique for our jurisdiction and should be ready soon. I won't say any more as our Grand Lecturer, Most Worshipful Dennis Ing, has been spearheading this project and he will have more information for you in his article.

Another thing of significant note is a report that there were only 2 United States Masonic jurisdictions that had an increase in membership this last year and Hawaii was one of them. Even our 3rd quarter alone shows an increase of 9.66 percent in membership from the start of the year and we are now up to 1758 members. We can all speculate as to what the specific reasons might be for this surge in membership, but it all boils down to the hard work and pride in Masonry of each one of you.

In ending, let me leave you with, Brother Robert Burns's version of Auld Lang Syne. If you would like to see it in English plus several other translations as well as a more in depth history of it, Wikipedia.org has a great explanation: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Auld_lang_syne

AULD LANG SYNE

Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
and never brought to mind ?
Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
and auld lang syne ?

CHORUS:

For auld lang syne, my jo,
for auld lang syne,
we'll tak a cup o' kindness yet,
for auld lang syne.

And surely ye'll be your pint-stowp !
and surely I'll be mine !
And we'll tak a cup o' kindness yet,
for auld lang syne.

CHORUS

We twa hae run about the braes,
and pu'd the gowans fine ;
But we've wander'd mony a weary foot,
sin auld lang syne.

CHORUS

We twa hae paidl'd i' the burn,
frae morning sun till dine ;
But seas between us braid hae roar'd
sin auld lang syne.

CHORUS

And there's a hand, my trusty fiere !
and gie's a hand o' thine !
And we'll tak a right gude-willy waught,
for auld lang syne.

CHORUS



Brother Robert Burns





From the Deputy Grand Master



Aloha Brothers,

Here we are, year 2010 is right around the corner and New Year's resolutions are being made. But let me be a little nostalgic for a moment and look back into the past. I would like to share this poem with you.

"They All Came Just For Me"

*Something big is going on here, or so I thought that night.
As Masons came to gather 'round the great and lesser lights.
One from here and one from there. From places far and wide.
They came to do I know not what, as they gathered there inside.
But from each man, I was greeted with a smile and voice of cheer.
One said, "so, you're the candidate, the reason that we're here."
I scarcely knew just what he meant, for this was my "first degree".
There must be much for them to do before they got to me.
Surely these guys would not travel for the sake of just one man.
Yes, there must be much for them to do, before my part began.
The "Brother Tiler" was my company as I waited at the door.
to step into this brand of new realm I had not known before.
They shared with me the Three Great Lights and some tools of the trade.
That I might learn a thing or two of how a man be better made.
When at last I had been seated in the brotherhood of men
The Master then began to bring the meeting to an end.
And with all things then completed, they stayed a little more.
To eat and drink and share a laugh before heading toward the door.
But as we left, I understood and then began to see.
That they all came for one reason. They all came, just for me.
Dear brothers, I pray every Lodge will make new ones like me
feel as welcome as these brothers did when they held my first degree.
Thank You Brothers!*

– from Bro. Richard L. Jenkins for the brothers of Cass Lodge 412, Grisswold, Iowa

It was a good year for the Grand Lodge of Hawaii. We initiated and raised 57 new Masons at the September Grand Master's Class. Although I don't have exact numbers, many Lodges have raised many more new Brothers throughout the year. Although new membership numbers are good, how many have we lost due to 'lack of interest'. Did you notice in the reading of the above poem Brother Jenkins immediately felt a sense of belonging, of being special? Perhaps some of our brothers have lost that sense of belonging. Just food for thought as we begin this New Year.

So my Brothers, we begin our journey into the year 2010. There is no doubt in my mind that the year will bring its own unique set of issues and challenges. It is my wish for the New Year that we remain hopeful, that we maintain a sense of humor, that we express thankfulness each day, and most of all that we have love and joy in our lives.

Charlie Wegener
Deputy Grand Master





From the Grand West

Aloha and Fraternal Greetings from the Grand West,

Well, the Holiday Season is once again upon us and we find ourselves wrapped up in the bustle of day-to-day demands — shopping for gifts for our loved ones, preparing the feasts to enjoy, and trying to tie up all those yearend tasks at work.

This is also a busy Masonic time of the year. Annual elections and installation of Lodge Officers, last second qualifications for those who like to give heart palpitations to their Officer's Coach, Master and Inspector, Christmas Parties, Visitations and so many other things.

Yet my Brothers, let us not forget that when we gather with our friends and families to celebrate the Season in whichever way we choose, let us not forget our Brothers who may not have anyone with whom to spend and enjoy the Holidays with.

It was always a tradition in my family, a military one, that on special holidays we would invite over to our house a handful of the young single Airmen who didn't have duty or anywhere else to go. Instead of spending it alone in the barracks, they were able to share in the warmth and love of our family, enjoy a good meal, and experience a small bit of home away from home.

So take a moment and ask yourself if there are any Brothers in your Lodge who may not have anyone special to spend the Holidays with. Stretch forth that hand of Brotherly Love and affection and invite him to spend a little time with you and yours.

May the Great Architect bless and keep you and your loved ones safe and secure and bring you all a most joyous holiday season.

Merry Christmas!

Monty J. Glover
Senior Grand Warden





From the Grand South

In the previous issue of this newsletter, I indicated our Jurisdiction's membership increased by 57 during the September 5th 'Fast Class' which brought a total of approximately 100 new Master Masons throughout our Lodges. This additional figure undoubtedly contributed significantly to our reported increase in membership by almost 10% (9.66%, to be exact) to 1,758 members.

An esteemed Brother indicated in an email related to our membership increase he feels "we are on a roll", and for whatever it is worth, I also agree with his statement that "members beget members." However, I cannot help but wonder where these *new* members might be, if only basing my observation on my own Lodge's regular attendance – where, on the average, I note no more than 12 members in the columns with *very few* new members. Granted, there is a marked increase of attendance during monthly stated meetings (average of 30 in the columns), but, again – *only a few* members seated with us "old timers".

Perhaps I was too hasty with my remark in our previous Newsletter that "*it is now up to the Lodges to guide our new Brethren through their Masonic journey*", as it is up to those who have been around for 'some time' to 'educate' new Brothers. But the new Brother must also '*be there*' to receive education, as it definitely takes "*two to tango*" – the Lodge and those who endeavor to keep it going will certainly be there, but without the other, i.e., new members, who will be given guidance? The Worshipful Master can design plans on his Trestleboard, and, in fact has done so, but, other than those who regularly attend Lodge, who else will benefit from it?

I leave this subject with the thought that these new members (and those who will join our ranks later) will take our place and carry on with our Fraternity; how to prepare them for this eventuality must be seriously acted on by all – sooner rather than later!

In closing, as we prepare to once again celebrate the most joyous time of the year and get ready for the advent of a new year, let us pause to say thanks for the blessings we have been so abundantly given and for our families and friends who have been so supportive of our endeavors. Let us also keep in our thoughts and pray for the safety of those who are in far-off lands, those who are away from their loving families and friends, who constantly face danger in defense of freedom and those who cannot defend themselves!

May everyone have a Blessed and Merry Christmas and even better health and fortune during the upcoming Happy New Year!

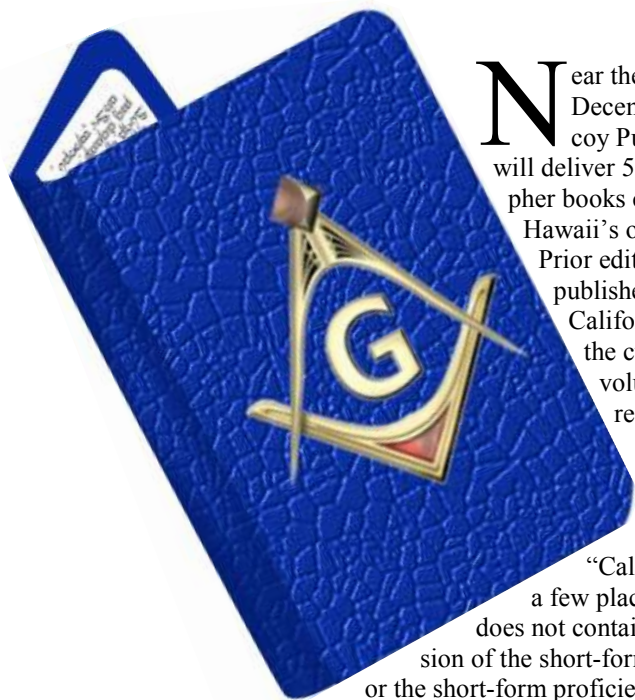
Antonio M. Ligaya
Junior Grand Warden





News from the Grand Lecturer

Updated cipher, ritual workshop coming soon



Near the end of December, Ma-coy Publishing will deliver 5,000 cipher books containing Hawaii's own ritual. Prior editions were published for California, and the current volume still refers to

"California" in a few places. It also does not contain our version of the short-form closing, or the short-form proficiency (which California does not use). These and other corrections are now contained in an addendum, which has been distributed with every cipher (but sometimes not).

The new publication will incorporate these changes, and correct even more typographical errors found throughout the book. It also will include the ritual practices that are unique to our jurisdiction: pronouncing the name "in full" in the First Degree, starting the perambulation scripture "nth of the A".

One change may take awhile to get used to. In the Third Degree the instruction is to omit the sentence referring to the Monitor if you are proceeding with the long-form lecture. That instruction has been eliminated. When the Monitorial portion ends, the lecture continues by describing what "is not Monitorial". If you omit the prior reference as now instructed, the later reference to the Monitor hangs in the air, so to speak, since that is the first reference in the lecture to a Monitorial portion. Since the long-form lecture is "optional", whether or not you eliminate that sentence will make little substantive difference. It also enables those who

give both long and short-form to remember the (now-omitted) sentence more easily.

Ritual Workshops

Starting in late January, we will hold monthly Ritual Workshops, each of which will cover a specific portion of the Ritual (e.g., Opening, Closing, Rodwork, delivery of the token and signs) and enable discussion of particular ritual problems. Attendance by Inspectors will be mandatory. Officers Coaches and Lodge officers and those interested in becoming an officer may also attend.

The sessions will be held on different days of the week before a Lodge meeting (with the permission of the Master, of course). We'll usually start at 5:00 pm and continue for about an hour. Announcements of dates and times will be made at least a month in advance.

One of the Districts in southern California has a Ritual Workshop at noon on one of the Fridays each month. The workshop has been so successful that they are thinking of expanding the sessions to more Districts.

Schools of Instruction

Under the HMC one of the duties of an Inspector is to hold schools of instruction for the officers of the Lodges. To my knowledge only two such schools have been held this year. After the "installation season" is over, we will hold more schools. Please consult with your Inspector about holding a school of instruction for your new officers. I am also planning to visit the neighbor islands for that purpose.

Funeral certification

A new Masonic Funeral Qualification test has been distributed for qualifying Masters. The HMC requires all Masters to be certified as capable of conducting a Masonic funeral, and this "open book" test (along with the reading of certain passages of the Service) is required for certification. Please contact your Inspector (or me) for a copy. It is important for all Masters to be able to conduct a funeral with dignity, sensitivity and comprehension. But it is even more important for him to



know what to do when he learns of the death of one of his members.

HMC Quiz

Knowing and understanding the Ritual is only part of the job of a Master or Warden. He is also required to know those portions of the HMC relating to the administration of a Lodge. Sometimes in the rush to recite a qualifying lecture or a qualifying lecture, we forget that we also have to learn portions of the HMC. New Pillars should get ahold of a copy of the 2009 quiz (it will change slightly each year), and study the Code diligently. This will make qualification for higher office easier, but more important, knowing the Code will assist you in running your Lodge.

Start early

Finally, many of you now realize that qualification deadlines are difficult to meet, especially when you are planning installations, appointing new officers and preparing budgets in addition to your regular duties. The key is to start early. The HMC does not specify a date when you must qualify. So you should set deadlines for yourself. A good "rule of thumb" is to be fully qualified by the end of summer. This will require you to know the "work" of your next office by mid-July, and the lecture by mid-August. And, as always, we advise all officers, especially junior officers, to know the ritual and floorwork of at least two places ahead of you.

MW Dennis S. A. Ing, PGM
Grand Lecturer



UPDATES

by *WBro. Keith N. Isaacson, PM*

Schofield Lodge has had a wonderful year in 2009. We have had a new Master (Jeremy Hollaway) who has not been a retread since 2003 and we really had needed some new ideas. Wor. Hollaway has done an outstanding job in leading us this year with a lot of fresh ideas and enthusiasm.

He has also been in the Temple Association and we have had a number of improvements in the Lodge facility. Currently we are having our downstairs floor retiled and it looks great. Lights have been added on the outside as well as some other security features thanks to a new fast class member.

For some reason, this year has produced many more applications than usual. We had 10 members come out of the Fall Fast Class and we had some other members go through the Spring Fast Class as well. October and November produced six new applications a piece. So we have been wonderfully busy with degree work.

We also had a past Senior Warden return from Iraq, and, he is now willing to take on the task of Worshipful Master. So we will have another brand new Worshipful Master (Rich Gallano) to lead us into 2010.

Schofield Lodge wishes to extend a happy holiday greeting to all the Lodges and Brethren of Hawaii and stop in and join us any Tuesday night!

The official newsletter of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge
of Free and Accepted Masons of Hawaii

RW Antonio M. Ligaya
Editor

Bro. Raymund LI. Liongson
Design and Graphics Editor



GOINGS and

COMINGS at

HAWAIIAN LODGE

WBro. Alexander A. Escasa, Worshipful Master

Season's Greetings from Hawaiian Lodge!

Congratulations to all the newly elected and appointed officers of the respective Lodges in this jurisdiction. On behalf of all the brethren of Hawaiian Lodge, I wish you all the best in the ensuing Masonic year.

During the months of October and November, we:

- initiated six candidates to the Entered Apprentice Degree,
- participated with the Grand Lodge and the various Filipino community associations in raising funds for the typhoon victims in the Philippines,
- attended and participated in Honolulu Lodge's special "Third Degree Under The Sea" at the USS Bowfin Museum,
- donated \$500.00 for the building of a Masonic Memorial at the Punchbowl Cemetery, and
- held our annual Thanksgiving dinner at the Lodge.

The members of our New Temple Association are moving forward in obtaining a conceptual design of the new building and are negotiating with the York Rite and the Order of the Eastern Star for equal ownership of the property.

In December, we are looking forward to installing our 2010 corps of officers and celebrating our annual Christmas dinner.

Lastly, Hawaiian Lodge wishes you a **merry Christmas and a joyful New Year!**

Aloha A Hui Hou!





WB Mike Baker
Worshipful Master

Greetings Brethren, and once again the end of another year is upon us. Kona Lodge has had a rather busy and industrious year. We lost a few members due to the recession and a few from just moving off island. The good news is that we have also gained a few from affiliations and from raisings to Master Mason. We ended up about where we started, around 80 and still strong.

We have three members ready for raising and one petition for affiliation. We will be adding four new members during the first quarter of this year.

The Grand Lodge announced that this jurisdiction has increased its membership by almost 10% this year. Masonry is definitely on the upswing.

We had a pleasant surprise at our September Stated Meeting when our very own Bro. Peter Wikeen presented two checks totaling \$300 to add to our scholarship fund and the temple building fund. It never ceases to amaze me that when it is least expected, a Brother leads by example and gives us that shot in the arm to motivate us. Thank you Brother Pete; I applaud your efforts!

At the September Stated Meeting, also, Bros. Ben Spencer and Ivan Villasenor gave great First Degree proficiencies. Incidentally, on behalf of the Lodge, I want to thank Bro. Villasenor for volunteering to prepare the great dinner.

On Labor Day, we held a successful Child ID event at the Episcopal Church below Konawaena High School. Worshipful Lee Meyerson, Sister Betty Meyerson, Bro. Wikeen, BJ Wikeen and Bro. Bob Forester processed 83 children. Once again we were well represented in the community during this, our third, Child ID event this year!

(See next page)

First time visitors at the Stated Meeting: Taken November 4, 2009 at the November Stated Meeting, Bro. Stephen Sommerrock of Hancock Lodge #101, Greenfield, IN, Bro. Alan Ashby of Wayfaring Emerald Lodge #213, Eugene, OR, Bro. Frank Hoak of Diablo Valley Lodge #448, Creek, CA. Standing left of Worshipful Mike is WB John Lang PM, visiting from Canada. Worshipful John is long time visitor that makes it an annual occurrence to visit our lodge on his Island vacation. In the second row is WB Scott Snoek, PM. Worshipful Scott has been absent from the lodge for quite a while and it was a pleasant surprise to have him back.





The rest of the quarter saw Kona Lodge raising Bros. Cesar Felix and Tony Sunseri. We were also visited by Bro. Ed Lawson, from Fredrick Franklin Lodge #14, Plainville, CT, who acted as our Chaplain in our Degree Conferral and gave the perambulation in the AF&AM version, and treated us with the Canadian Charge. Dinners were prepared by Bro. Hector Robles and Sis. Betty Meyerson for two separate Degree Conferral meetings – both of which were excellent and enjoyed by all in attendance!

We extend our sincerest appreciation to WB Bob Self, PM, our outgoing Senior Warden, as well our best wishes for a full and speedy recovery from his scheduled knee surgery next year.

On behalf of WB A. Lee Meyerson, PM, our Secretary, I would like to gently remind those concerned that Lodge dues are due by December 31, 2009; in order to pay our per capita tax to the Grand Lodge by January 15th, we need your help in being prompt in your payment

At our November Stated Meeting we elected our 2010 officers. Here are the results:

Elected Officers:

Master: WB Michael P. Baker, PM
SW: WB Dan J. Miller, PM
JW: Danilo B. Ebias
Treasurer: Robert S. Foerster
Secretary: WB A. Lee Meyerson, PM

Appointments:

Chaplain: James Rath
SD: Rocco C. Landi
JD: Ramon Villasenor
Marshal: Peter D. Wikeen
SS: Hector Robles
Tiler: Robert L. Brogan

Left to right:

*Brother Gary Campbell from Fresno 247 in California,
WM Mike Baker, Brother Ed Lawson from
Fredrick Franklin 14 in Plainville Ct.
Both Visiting brethren are Chaplains
at their respective lodges.*

As you can see from the above list I have the pleasure of serving once again as Worshipful Master for the ensuing Masonic year.

Mark your calendars for December 5th. The Annual Installation of officers will start at 10:00 AM. A potluck BBQ Picnic will follow at the Old Kona Airport. We plan to sit down at 1:00 PM to eat. Please plan to attend as we will be having the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Marty Alexander, as our installing officer.

After the Installation we will be dark until the January Stated Meeting.

(See next page)





WB Lee Meyerson, PM (left) receives a check for \$150.00 to the scholarship fund and a check for \$150.00 to the building fund from Bro. Pete Wikeen. Bro. Pete never ceases to amaze us with his recycling efforts.



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Frank Jung	Dec 3
Peter Wikeen	Dec 4
Leo Wittner	Dec 7
Scott Snoek., PM	Dec 8
Bob Shimamoto, PM	Dec 9
Michael P. Baker, PM	Dec 22

Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



Left to right: Bob Forester, WB Lee Meyerson, PM and Betty Meyerson are shown manning the Child ID table on Labor Day at the Episcopal Church Fair in Kealahou. They processed 83 children that day. Brother Pete Wikeen and BJ Wikeen were also a huge help that day.



News from the

Order of the Eastern Star

By **Sis. Resurreccion A. Escasa**

*Deputy in Hawaii for the Most Worthy Grand Matron,
General Grand Chapter*

At the 46th Triennial Session in Tulsa, Oklahoma (Oct 30 to Nov 5, 2009), Sister Rennie Oton and Brother Frederick "Fred" W. Clarke were installed Most Worthy Grand Matron (MWGM) and Most Worthy Grand Patron (MWGP), respectively, of the General Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star. Sister Rennie was a Past Grand Matron of Texas and Brother Fred was a Past Grand Patron of Nova Scotia. They will head the 1 million or so members under the GGC, the largest fraternal organization in the world which both women and men may belong to and nurture deep fraternal bonds.



The Order of the Eastern Star enhances spiritual values, but it is not a religion. While this is an Order composed of people of deep spiritual convictions, it is open to all faiths, except to those of no faith. Its appeal rests in the true beauty of the refreshing and character-building lessons that are so sincerely portrayed in its ritualistic work. The stated purposes of the organization are: Charitable, Educational, Fraternal and Scientific; but there is much more to it than that. Dr. Rob Morris, the Poet Laureate of Masonry, founded the Order using the beautiful and inspiring Biblical examples of heroic conduct and moral values.

There are 6 Eastern Star chapters in Hawaii: Hilo No. 1, Lei Aloha No. 3; Harmony No. 4, Maui No. 6, Leilani No. 8, and Mid-Pacific No. 10. Come and sign-up for membership on any of these chapters and enjoy the warm fellowship and camaraderie with the members.

Sister Carole DeMoss, Past Grand Matron of Nebraska and former Deputy in Hawaii is the 2010-2012 Ambassador to the Philippines for the MWGM. Sister Rexie Escasa, Past Matron of Lei Aloha Chapter No. 3 is the new Deputy in Hawaii to the MWGM for the 2010-2012 triennium. Call her at (808) 224-5100 (cell), (808) 625-2179 (home) or e-mail her at raescasa@gmail.com for additional information.



The International Order of the Rainbow for Girls

Please be sure your calendars are marked for this year's Grand Assembly which will be held beginning with the banquet Friday July 5th at St. Stephen's Center off the Pali Highway. Saturday July 10th will be an initiation at Scottish Rite, and we encourage all our Masonic family witness the great ritualistic work the girls perform. We are hoping to have transportation available from the various Masonic lodges to facilitate our out-of-town guests and Masonic Brethren who would like to carpool to St Stephen's, as this is a new venue, and, despite the location being on island, many have never been out there. Our girls will be staying in the dormitory facilities at St Stephen's which will enable a different variety of fun night activities Saturday evening. Again, all are invited to join us.

Grand Official Visit for our Grand Worthy Advisor Christine Heintz is scheduled for January 9 at Schofield Masonic Lodge.



Susan Bierman
Supreme Deputy (Acting)

