

MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

GRAND LODGE OF HAWAII SUMMER 2012

FROM THE GRAND EAST

MW Antonio M. Ligaya



Aloha Brethren! As I said during my inaugural remarks, I am humbled and excited — humbled by the honor you have bestowed on me, and excited by the opportunity to serve you in this office for the next 12 months. My ascension to the Grand Oriental Chair is, truly, the culmination of my 31-year Masonic career, and I am, indeed, thankful for your trust and confidence. Rest assured that I will do my utmost best to deserve it!

As I anticipated, informal feedback from throughout our Grand Jurisdiction with regard to my Decision 2012-01 has been mixed. There are even comments that I must be the most unpopular person in the Grand Lodge primarily because of this decision. Let me assure everyone that I am not here to be popular — but to do what I believe is for the best of the Craft, at least in our Jurisdiction.

So why and how did I come up with that Decision, as some might want to ask.

The following, although not all-inclusive, hopefully, will shed some light: I have been observing most, if not all, of our Lodges have been employing what is supposed to be the optional short form — be it the beautiful lectures of our degrees, the degree proficiencies, or even the manner by which we close our Lodge meetings — as the norm by which business and degree conferrals are conducted.

On lectures, I've been invariably told too many times the candidate will just get bored with the regular (or "long form") lecture, or will not understand it anyway. I've also been informed the regular form of closing a Lodge just takes "too much time" that could otherwise be spent in fellowship with one another after Lodge — hence the optional short form in both!

I disagree — I believe we need to share as much information, particularly through our lectures, with our Brothers, especially those new initiates whose thirst for knowledge we must quench as much as we can; anything less is unacceptable!

I also submit that a Brother who is only required to learn the obligation and modes of recognition cannot rightfully be declared proficient in the degree he was supposedly examined on. After all, subsequent to initially receiving the degree, and even the next one, was he not told "to commit to memory a certain portion of the lectures" of what he just received before he can be advanced to the next degree? Keep in mind, in all likelihood, only the optional (or short form) lecture was given him, to begin with, so he "won't get bored"; when his time to return his proficiency comes, such examination will be even shorter — practically without asking anything about the lecture. With that in mind, is he proficient and, did he really learn?

With regard to the closing of the Lodge, I can't even remember how many times I've been asked after a Third Degree conferral is closed in the regular (or "long") form — if such is a "new way" of closing the Lodge. Frankly, I am surprised they were not even aware that such manner of closing the Lodge exists! Also, for the sake of discussion, with the exception of probably only a couple of Lodges, how many stay around to enjoy fellowship with one another after Lodge, other than having refreshment — or could this be the fellowship alluded to? Again, as I reported during our installation, *"we owe it to those who came before us — those who handed this great Fraternity down to us — to, at the very least, keep it in the same state it was left to us, or, even better, to improve it that we may be able to pass it on to those who will come after us in the best shape we can bring it up to!"*

I am not naive to believe those presently trying to qualify for the next higher position in our lodges are now giving the lectures and/or returning proficiencies in the regular form. I realize there are those who are doing the requisite qualification requirements in the optional short form, hoping they can do so by the

end of June, thus “beating the deadline” as Decision 2012-01 takes effect on July 1. I am perfectly fine with that, but I really look forward to their subsequent performances in the regular form, and, I do not entertain any doubt that they will do just fine – using the regular form!

I am pleased to report, based on Grand Lodge Inspectors’ feedback on their visits thus far, that our Lodges remain actively engaged and are doing great, save perhaps a couple. I can’t wait until we start our official Grand Lodge visitations in the near future to witness first-hand the excellent work our Lodges are doing!

Some of our Grand Lodge officers accompanied me in attending a couple of other Grand Lodge Annual Communication (AnCom) and Installation of Officers. A week after our own AnCom, I and my wife Fé were joined by WBro. Wilson Camagan (Grand Marshal) and his wife Maria, WBro. Alex Escasa (Grand Lodge Inspector), WBro. Manny Aquino (Grand Lodge Inspector and Potentate of Aloha Shriners), and Hawaiian Lodge Brothers Percy Gallego and Vic Reyes (and wife Gladys) visited with the Grand Lodge of the Philippines for their AnCom in Naga City, Camarines Sur, in southern Luzon, Philippines, and in mid June I and our Deputy Grand Master, Right Worshipful Frank Condello, along with my wife, attended Washington’s AnCom in Vancouver, Washington. Our Senior Grand Warden, Right Worshipful Rick Huston went with his wife Karen to Portland, Oregon for the Annual Convention of the Daughters of the Nile at the same time. It was truly great to meet new Brothers and renew acquaintances with others from other Grand Jurisdictions, and I highly recommend everyone to consider making visitations with Lodges from other jurisdictions as well.

On a more serious note, Brethren, I offer you the following as food for thought:

10 GUIDES FOR FREEMASONS

1. I am the representative of my Lodge and of all Free and Accepted Masons. Whatever I do or say reflects directly upon myself and my fellow Freemasons everywhere and our good works.

2. I am responsible for what my Lodge and Freemasonry represent. They can be no more than what my fellow Freemasons and I make them.

3. I should not criticize what my fellow Freemasons do for Freemasonry unless I have a better suggestion and I am prepared to do it myself.

4. I must remember that the fact that I bear the name, Master Mason or Freemason, is not enough. I must continue to be worthy.

5. My fellow members and I are our Lodges and Freemasonry. Without our active support they cease to exist.

6. My Lodge does me a favor by calling upon me. I am not doing the Lodge a favor by serving. It is both an obligation and a privilege to help the Lodge and Freemasonry.

7. I should treat my fellow Freemasons with the same respect, honor, and understanding that I would like to receive from them.

8. It is not a right to be a Freemason, it is an honor. I should respect that honor by abiding by all of the precepts of my Lodge, my Grand Lodge, and Freemasonry as a whole.

9. Whatever differences my fellow Freemasons and I may have, we are all bound together by the bonds of our loyalty to The GAOTU, our families, the Lodge, and Freemasonry.

10. The willing Master Mason and his understanding family are the lifeblood of the Lodge and Freemasonry.

Finally, as we move on in this new Grand Lodge Year, may I remind you that communication must be paramount for us to succeed in all our goals. There is work to be done, and we must do it if we are to ensure our future. The future starts here. It starts now, and it starts with us. The future starts today!

I again enjoin you to always remember in your prayers our men and women proudly wearing the military uniform of our great country who remain “on watch” on foreign soils in the name of the freedom we all cherish and defending those who can not defend themselves, as well as the civilian personnel who support them, and their families – may God, the Supreme and Great Architect of the Universe, forever keep them under His Care away from all harm, and may they soon be back home safely to their families!

God bless us all!!



2012 GRAND LODGE OFFICERS

FROM THE DEPUTY GRAND MASTER

By: RW Frank M. Condello II, Deputy Grand Master



Aloha brethren! Our Grand Lodge year just began a few months ago and we have already been busy. MW Ligaya and I traveled to Vancouver, WA to attend the Grand Lodge of Washington's Annual Communication. We had a wonderful time and enjoyed their brotherly hospitality. Congratulations to MW Dean Heinemann and his corps of officers who were installed on June 9th. I also attended the Annual Communication of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Hawaii in early June. Congratulations to MW Covington and his corps of officers! If you ever have the chance to visit lodges outside of our jurisdiction or attend a Grand Lodge event in another state, I encourage you to do so. It is a nice way to see how other jurisdictions perform their ritual and a chance to bond with brethren from around the world. While in Vancouver/Portland, I had the pleasure of meeting for lunch

with quite a few brethren from Hawaii who just happened to all be in the same town at the same time. You never know where a brother might show up. We are truly a worldwide fraternity.

As you all know, MW Ligaya has made a decision that requires all of the brethren from this jurisdiction to perform long form lectures for the degrees and also requires all candidates to give their proficiencies in the degrees in long form. This goes into effect on July 1st, so I sincerely hope that the brethren have been working on this over the past several months. If not, you will have a rude awakening come July. Please work together to learn your work and please spend extra time with the candidates so they can memorize the long form proficiencies. It will be a challenge for all, but we can achieve with perseverance what MW Ligaya has decreed.

I am writing this in advance of the Fourth of July parade in Kailua, but I know this event will be a great one for all involved. We will have pictures of all of the marchers for your enjoyment. I would like to thank you in advance for all who attend and thank you to Ko'olau Lodge for sponsoring this event as they do each year. I will also be pleased to see my son, Frank III, march with the DeMolay boys in the parade. We are truly a family of Freemasonry and proud of it!

I also want to thank Kauai Lodge for a wonderful Summer Solstice beach BBQ that occurred on June 23rd. Most of the Grand line made it and enjoyed themselves very much. Kauai Lodge may be small, but they have a lot of heart and aloha!

As the year progresses, please work with the Grand Lodge for the betterment of all of the brethren. I hate to see the "us vs. them" mentality that seems to be the norm. The Grand Lodge is not here to micromanage the lodges, but to ensure that they follow proper protocol with ritual and follow the Hawaii Masonic Code and traditions of our fraternity. If you have a question or a comment, please bring it to us. We are approachable and will work with you in a brotherly and respectful way. We also expect the same from you. Always be honorable in what you do as Masons. If you fail to live by this, you fail to live up to your obligations as Masons. I have made a personal commitment to visit the lodges throughout the year on an informal basis as your Deputy Grand Master. I want to get to know the brethren better and see how you operate. I also want to get your input and answer any questions I can on behalf of the Grand Lodge and MW Ligaya. We can be proud of our fraternity and our jurisdiction.

We are hard on ourselves, but we do excellent work and require more than many other jurisdictions that I have visited with respect to ritual work and qualifications.

Now that Makiki Temple is completed and the lodges have moved in, I expect that the four lodges that meet there will have a newly inspired vigor to improve their ritual work and perform excellent degree work in the beautifully remodeled temple building. To the lodges that don't meet there, if you are in downtown Honolulu, please come by and see the new building.

Lastly, I thank the brethren for their trust and look forward to strengthening our craft by walking the talk; serve humbly and with honor and you will be rewarded tenfold.



On the left RW Bruce Vesper, DGM of Washington State and Frank at Ancom. On the right MW Tony with myself and the outgoing GM of Washington, Mike Sanders, and the incoming GM of Washington Dean Heinemann at the Washington State Ancom.



MW Monty Glover, Myself, RW Rick Huston, Wor. Bob Schultz, WB Dale Palileo, and WB Jeremy Hollaway, all Masons from Hawaii that were in Portland at the same time.

From the Grand West

By RW Rick Huston, Senior Grand Warden



Aloha Brethren! What a great time to be a Mason in the great state of Hawaii!! We have so much to be thankful for. We are seeing more and more interest in our Masonic fraternity from both inside and out! Several of our Lodges are experiencing increase in membership, and our newer Masonic Brothers continue to seek further light by becoming involved in community events and Lodge activities, and most importantly, expressing a desire to learn more. I recently accompanied the Grand Master, MW Tony, RW Frank and WB Wilson Camagan, for a visitation to Kauai Lodge. What a visit that was! We actually joined the Kauai Brethren for their annual Summer Solstice Picnic – at the beach of course! There were great tasting hamburgers, hotdogs, side dishes *and, of course, as is the custom of Kauai Lodge excellent fellowship.* [Most Worshipful, can you do a Grand Masters Decision announcing that is how all Hawaii Lodges will officially receive you?!!!]. Kauai Lodge is also showing growth, initiating new EA's [whom we got to meet] and affiliations!! Outstanding Kauai Lodge!!

Of course we would be remiss if, in our giving thanks to the Great Architect, we failed to take a moment and reflect on the new Makiki Temple! After years of hard work, planning, crunching numbers, negotiating, frustrations, by so many outstanding Masons, we now have a Temple we can be proud of!! Each and every Mason in our jurisdiction, especially our off-island Brethren, need to plan a visit to see this remarkable temple, something we will brag about and enjoy for years to come. I would do it an injustice if I tried describing this beautiful monument to Masonry!

I recently returned from Portland, Oregon where I accompanied my wife to the Supreme Session, Daughters of the Nile, another heartwarming experience of Masonry in action. Close to 900 lovely and dedicated ladies contributed their time and efforts to help the children of Shriner's Hospitals. The Grand Master of Masons in Oregon and the Imperial Potentate and many of his Officers were also in attendance. While there several of the husbands, toured the new Grand Lodge of Oregon, the Al Kader Shrine Center and the Scottish Rite. At the Grand Lodge I spotted a photograph that sums it up for me, I tried my best to capture a good shot of it on my cell – but I think you get the message - If you can't quite read the caption, it reads **“Does your best friend know from whence you came?”**



The Scottish Rite Cathedral in downtown Portland is actually beyond description, and I'm sure if I had not been so mesmerized during the tour I could re-call some of its history which was explained by our guide during the tour. What I can tell you is that it is an old beautiful building, three stories with everything from hard wood floors and stair cases, to stained glass windows [which now hang on their walls in the downstairs social]. The building is large enough to house an old fashioned amphitheatre where the Rite degrees are held, a Masonic Blue Lodge, a chapter room for OES/Daughters of the Nile and much more. Yes, indeed, I have had a couple of weeks of submersing myself in Masonry – and I can tell you that you can never get enough. I once again encourage all the Brethren of this jurisdiction to take advantage when travelling and take the time to visit other jurisdictions.

From the Grand South

By RW Michael P. Baker, Junior Grand Warden



"A Voice from the Outer Islands"

I would like to thank all the brethren who have supported me in this effort and I promise to use every resource at my disposal to be worthy of the honors that have been bestowed upon me.

On the right is a poem that was emailed to me and that I would like to share with all of you. Pay particular attention to the last stanza of this poem "*May you live your life upon the level, and May you part upon the square.*" That stanza is what you will be measured upon when the time of labor has passed and are you are raised to that Celestial Lodge above which time will never close.

Knowing that there are some brothers in some Lodges that do not get along, do not like each other, or are engaged in some type of spat or disagreement, I had thought about writing an article on the need for harmony. I was, of course, going to start with the first tenet of our Craft: Brotherly Love. However as I was thinking through just what I was going to write, reality struck!

The third tenet of our Craft, Truth, is where I am going to start. The truth of the matter is that there are just some men that, no matter how hard they try, are not going to get along. What causes bad blood between brothers really doesn't matter. It can be something as simple as a personality conflict or as serious as some real or perceived slight. Many of these conflicts between brothers cannot be settled or remedied and the result is a disruption of the peace and harmony of the Lodge. That said, let me say that I do realize that, if either one of the conflicted brothers was to be in dire need of aid, either one would supply that aid. They would do this, not because they are friends, but because as Masons they are obligated to.

I believe the solution lies in this true story that happened to a friend of mine. He was an elected politician and very conservative Republican. Going to his first meeting he was walking down the hall beside a fellow legislator; a woman who was an extreme liberal and ardent feminist who hated Republicans. As they approached the door to the meeting room, he took a quick two-step, reached out and opened the door for her. She stopped, turned to him, put her hands on her hips and snarled, "You didn't have to open the door for me because I'm a woman!" He smiled and said, "Ma'am I did not open the door for you because you are a woman. I opened the door because ... I am a gentleman!" She smiled and went in. From that day forward they always treated each other with total deference and respect. Although they were never friends, you would never know it from seeing them in public.

There is great honor in being a Mason. There is a wonderful dignity in being a gentleman. We don't have to personally like everyone, but at least we can behave as Masons and "gentlemen", treat others as you would like and expect them to treat you, and not sully the reputation of the Fraternity, since the outside world will naturally tend to judge the Fraternity by the deeds and actions of its members.

Brothers, a good an true read!

"The Old Masters Wages"

I met a dear old man today,
Who wore a Masonic pin
It was old and faded like the man,
Its edges were worn quite 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,
Jubalo 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 their
due."

The word, the sign the token,
The sweet Masonic prayer,
The vow that all have taken,
Who've 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 over fifty 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 upon 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 Masonic brothers,
The only secret is to care,
May you live your life upon the level,
May you part upon the square.

Aloha from the Grand Secretary

By Marty Alexander, PGM



Aloha Everyone,

Well, as the Grand Lodge fiscal year is just beginning, our lodges' year is all but half over. With it being that time of the year, we would like to remind our secretaries, treasurers and temple associations of a few deadlines quickly approaching.

What: Treasurer's Semi Annual Report

Due: August Stated Meeting

HMC Section: 2546/4th

What: Secretary's Semi Annual Report

Due: August Stated Meeting

HMC Section: 2548/2nd

What: Temple Associations Annual Report:

Due: July 15th

HMC Section: 2305/5th

We will be keeping a spread sheet on these to record when they are received and contacting those from whom they are not received.

A note to lodge Secretaries: in Compliance with HMC 2548/3rd, the Grand Lodge is requesting a copy of your report as well for your lodge's records. Also, please remember, this is a financial report not a membership report and the standard form is available on ROLLS.

A note to Temple Associations: if you do not have a current copy of the Temple Association financial report, it is available on ROLLS as well, please ask your lodge secretary to provide you with a copy of it.

We will be sending out a mid-year Membership Summary to all lodges soon so that your lodge can reconcile your actual membership stats with what you have reported on ROLLS. Please let us know if you have any questions on these as we want to avoid any discrepancies when dues card time gets here in a few months. To coincide with that, the Secretary Workshops will be scheduled a little closer to Dues Card time so that we will hopefully make that time of the year go a bit smoother for all of us.

The proceedings for our 2012 Annual Communication as well as the updated Hawaii Masonic Code have both been distributed to all the lodges and are available through your lodge Secretary.

Fraternally,
Marty Alexander, PGM
Grand Secretary

Grand Lecturer

By Dennis A. Ing PGM



Embracing the Ritual

Now that the Grand Master has required all lectures, proficiencies and closings to be performed in full form, all of us will find ourselves spending a lot more time with the cipher. In subsequent articles I intend to set forth what I think is the best and easiest way to learn our ceremonies. It's no great mystery. You will find a number of articles on the internet with helpful tips and tricks on improving your memory and recitation. For the present, however, I would like to suggest what I think is the most important asset you will need for the job immediately ahead of you.

Several years ago, I told the officers of a lodge I was coaching that in order to be a good ritualist you must love the Ritual. By this I meant that you had to love its vocabulary, you had to love its meaning and you had to love to recite it. If you have such love, you will not only learn the words, but you will also speak them more confidently and accurately, and display the charisma that should be the hallmark of every officer.

In other words, the first hurdle to overcome is your approach, your attitude. We always admonish officers to start memory work as early as possible, and it's much easier to start (and learn) when you approach your task with a positive attitude. This is the foundation of motivation, the spark that makes you want to learn the Ritual and will keep you focused on what might otherwise be considered sheer drudgery.

How does one approach memorizing the Ritual with the proper attitude?

First, embrace the Ritual as a whole. Keep foremost in mind that our Blue Lodge Ritual consists of only three Degrees, much of which repeats itself. The openings and closings are almost identical, and the circumambulations and challenges ("examinations") are quite similar. So once you learn the ceremonies of the First Degree, you can spend more time simply learning the similarities and differences among the Degrees. For example, is it "angle of *the* square", or "angle of a square"? Does the Master speak of an obligation "like *that*" or like *those*" you have heretofore taken?

Second, embrace the Monitor. Not only does the Monitor contain most of the lectures, but also it is in plain text, conveniently reduced to a pocket-sized book which you can take everywhere and use without the necessity of translation. I suggest you study the monitorial portions of the Ritual first. This will help you to get used to our ceremonial language, which is often not part of our regular speech. The late Bunny Wong, Hawaiian Lodge's beloved officer's coach, always carried this little book with him so he could study whenever he had a spare moment. You should try it.

Third, embrace the language. At the outset ask a coach or a more experienced officer whether your translation of the cipher is correct – e.g., is it "trustworthy" or "trusty"? Make sure you understand the definition and pronunciation of every word. Then believe in your heart that the Ritual's archaic vocabulary and syntax actually make memorizing and learning easier, not more difficult. You will have to concentrate more intensely to remember such contorted phrases as "...by doing to him as, in similar cases, you would that he should do unto you" (as opposed to the more familiar expression of the "Golden Rule"), and to recite words we don't use in everyday conversations, like "kind office" or "countenance". Convince yourself that it is the very strangeness and exoticisms of these words and phrases that will help you remember them.

Fourth, embrace the opportunity to perform. The lodge room is a very supportive environment. It is a place where the motto we repeat at every workshop and school of instruction has true meaning: "*We strive for perfection, knowing that we are not perfect.*" This should be (and is) the attitude that prevails in the Lodge room. Everyone there – each member and officer – has gone through the agony of memorizing and reciting some part of the Ritual. Everyone has made mistakes, and no one (yes, no one) has been perfect. Thus, you should have no fear while practicing or performing in the lodge room. You will be surrounded by men who will be hanging on every word you speak, and who will suffer through every

difficulty you might have. In fact, you should look forward to gentle criticism. I always asked my coaches whether they had any corrections, and joked that if there weren't any, it must have been because they weren't listening or watching.

Finally, embrace the improvement in your memory. You should realize that for many reasons the more you practice and perform, the easier it becomes to memorize. Your brain actually undergoes physiological changes because of the "mental exercise" of memory work. While you learn the Ritual the synapses of certain areas in your brain become more efficient – a fact proven in many neurological studies. By the time you become the Master, you might be a genius.

As mentioned earlier, I hope in later articles to give you my specific suggestions on how best to tackle a memory assignment. One of them will be to find "milestones" or "markers" in the passages assigned to you, in order that you not lose your way in the middle of the passage. These milestones will become small targets in your memory work and delivery. One way to place a marker is to look for phrases to embrace. For example, like me, you might find special beauty in the passage: "...and all eyes seemed directed toward Jerusalem, as if to witness the splendid display of the Wisdom of Solomon", or "...an example my brother, worthy of all imitation." These are phrases and words you might learn to love, and if so, you will relish the enjoyment of reciting them with the solemnity and sincerity they deserve. You may also begin to look forward to reaching these little milestones, and this process will enhance your success in memorizing the entire lecture.

There is no shortcut or substitute for getting "down and dirty" with the task at hand. Get started now. As we are told in the Nike commercial, "Just do it..."

I was not in favor of mandating the full form lectures and proficiencies, but any contrary arguments are now simply moot. The die has been cast. And I urge all of you officers and candidates alike to embrace the Ritual, not with resignation, but with enthusiasm, optimism, cheerfulness and, yes, love.

(End)

Pearl Harbor Lodge

By Worshipful Master Andrew L. Geiser

“Man in the Arena”

When I was a teenager, someone gave to me a framed copy with the following quotation on it:

“It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles or where the doer of deeds could have done better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood, who strives valiantly, who errs and comes up short again and again, because there is no effort without error or shortcoming, but who knows the great enthusiasms, the great devotions, who spends himself for a worthy cause; who, at the best, knows, in the end, the triumph of high achievement, and who, at the worst, if he fails, at least he fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who knew neither victory nor defeat.”

The person who gave it to me was not at the time, nor is he now, a Mason. But he was the grandson of two Mason's, the son of a man who spent a few years in DeMolay, and is now the brother of a Mason. I spent many of my most formative years reading and re-reading this wonderful piece and it gave me great comfort in time of failure and has always inspired me. I never knew until today that the man to whom this quote was attributed was a Freemason, the 26th President of the United States, Theodore Roosevelt.

I do not know why I am at this time motivated to share it with so many of my friends. However I do hope that many of you are as deeply touched by this wonderful thought as I have been for so many years.

Andrew L. Geiser, Worshipful Master,
Pearl Harbor Lodge
June 2, 2012

Kilauea Lodge

By Worshipful Master Graham Paul Knopp

I bid you Fraternal Greetings from Kilauea Lodge! I am happy to report that Kilauea Lodge is healthy. Although we have had a number of lean years we have a solid group of dedicated individuals and we now have what appears to be a steady stream of dedicated applicants to receive the degrees. But what is more, our practices and meetings are enjoyable and when we depart, I think, we generally feel refreshed and better for the experience. With any luck we will have three or more raisings this year! (This is a solid number for our small Lodge.) Kilauea Lodge faces challenges, as any Lodge does, that are best faced with the principles of Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth.

I have had great difficulty finding a subject for this submission. The only thing I that can discuss here with any real expertise is that of my own experience in Masonry. I was raised only about five years ago and now am Master of my Lodge. The lean years I referred to above largely made the rate of this progress this possible, in addition to the fact that I simply showed up. I don't at all mean to be glib with this statement. Many evenings I was fatigued, or had other priorities, but I usually made the circuitous drive along the gorgeous Hamakua Coast from my home in Honoka'a. This points to the modicum of discipline that I possess and am thankful to my parents for, and which, I can only conclude, will generally take a Brother far in Freemasonry. The ritual can be learned with a small amount of study each day, thereby making molehills out of mountains.

On this point, the greatest obstacle to progress for a Lodge officer seems to be resistance toward regular study, which doesn't make sense. The cumulative benefit of ten or even five minutes of study a day is terrific. How hard is five minutes of study a day? Indeed, a charge can easily be learned with only five minutes of study a day over a period of a month. As our "careers" in Freemasonry usually span many years this habit can yield valuable results.

So in a relatively short span of time I have found myself Master of Kilauea Lodge. At first I was bewildered by the responsibility of having to find the appropriate position for people, as my mind seemed to have difficulty grasping this seemingly simply task, not to mention the fact that I just don't seem to be a born leader. And while this task is still difficult, with the support of my Lodge I have made real progress, and I now look forward to sitting in the East.

To digress for a moment, I frequently hear Brothers described as not being "born leaders". Not naming names, mind you (I offer my own), but I have heard plenty of brothers judged in this manner. It is clearly preferable to be led by leaders who are born leaders, or at least have developed some strong leadership skills. It is a fair point to make that our leaders are elected from the Brethren and that an ability to follow well would include choosing appropriate leaders. We are all unique, with skills and talents of varying degrees, and contrasting weaknesses.

Apart from my difficulty with management, I also sometimes have a hard time both telling and getting jokes. As a case in point it took me weeks to finally get this joke:

"A giant termite walks into a bar and says, 'Is the bartender here?' " But with the support of our Masonic Brothers, I have been able to strengthen my weaknesses and can now deliver a joke with some competence.

The rather obvious point here is that we are not usually born with leadership skills (and perhaps we should be wary of those who are). We learn these skills. Many of us learn such skills from our families, in school, in service to our country, or in the workplace, or perhaps not. For some, it does not happen until we reach the ripe age of 40 years old and we find ourselves politely nudged in that direction by our Brethren. We all should be so lucky. We should all be so lucky as to be Freemasons.

Kauai Lodge

Aloha, my Brothers of the Garden Isle, we just had our Summer Solstice Party on June 23rd which was also the day of the Grand Master's visit. Over 35 lodge members, family members, guests and candidates welcomed MW Tony, RW Frank, RW Rick and W Wilson to our island at Lydgate Park. As is always the case there was a cornucopia of foods running from poke, mochi, potato salad, mac salad, corn casserole, fruits, hamburgers, hot dogs and numerous desserts which were all accompanied by each attendee's favorite beverage. W Chris did an excellent job of coordinating the event as our JW was in Thailand and not available.

The Lodge has been quite busy these last few months and it looks as though we will be busy for the next several months. We have one EA waiting for his 2nd Degree, two EA's are being coached on their proficiency, one candidate is ready for his initiation, and a potential affiliate was given an application at the last meeting. We have had to reschedule degree work on several occasions due to the work schedule of those involved but hope to complete the EA and FC work by September or October. The summer months are difficult as vacations are scheduled; we have a difficult time assembling the necessary members for degree work. Once all of the applicants and the three EA's finish all of their degree work it will increase our membership by almost ten percent. Believe me, it is a great feeling to see the increase happening in our Lodge.

If any of the Brothers are on Kauai's on the 1st or 3rd Wednesday join us at Aloha Beach Resort at 6:00m pm. Fraternally, Karvel

Below is our Summer Solstice Party on June 23rd which was also the day of the Grand Master's visit. Over 35 lodge members, family members, guests and candidates welcomed MW Tony, RW Frank, RW Rick and W Wilson to our island at Lydgate Park.



Courtesy of our Historian Brother Herman Wilson



Kona Lodge

By Worshipful Master J. Daniel Miller



Aloha my Brothers. Kona Lodge is certainly alive and well. We have had quite a few Degrees to put on so far this year despite the fact that we are a rather small Lodge of around 80 members, a number of whom are only part time residents of Hawaii Island. We have an active and dedicated corps of officers and a cadre of members who continually support our Lodge. Being situated in Kona makes us convenient to many vacationing Brother Masons, and it is not unusual to have 2-3 visitors at our Stated Meetings and Degrees. Over this past year we have had many visitors from all parts of Canada, especially in the wintertime. I guess some folks just don't like snow and ice all that much. We were pleased to have had the Grand Master, Most Worshipful Monte Glover and other members of the Grand Lodge visit us during our annual Beach Picnic last year, which is always a festive occasion. I can assure you that no one went away hungry.

We will again have a visit this year by Most Worshipful Tony Ligaya at our Picnic on July 28. The Grand Master has agreed to present a Hiram Award to Brother Russ Robinson for his dedicated service to the lodge over many years, as well as a McKee Award to Brother Bob Foerster, who has served as Lodge Treasurer for several years. Both of these Brothers richly deserve these awards. This event is open to all family and friends as usual. We expect a good turnout. Visitors from other Lodges are most welcome.

Kona Lodge and Kilauea Lodge have had discussions among ourselves on how to increase the camaraderie and fellowship between the two Lodges, despite the fact that we are nearly 100 miles apart. Fortunately, many members of both Lodges are dual members. We have talked about staging a family outing event somewhere halfway between. Fortunately there are a number of venues available.

Some of the Community activities in which Members of Kona Lodge participate include Child ID events, which are held during fairs and community events. Kona Lodge sponsors two Scholarships annually, one to each of the two public high schools in West Hawaii. This year since we had numerous applications from both schools it was a difficult task to pick the recipients among so many deserving scholars. We certainly wish we had more resources to expand this program. These scholarships are funded solely by contributions from our members and an on-going recycling program. We recycle deposit containers and contribute the proceeds to the fund. Several of our Lodge members are also Shriners and active in the Kona Shrine Club, where we participate in several parades. This year several members journeyed to Hilo to participate along with the Hawaii Island Shrine Club in the Merrie Monarch Parade. This was a large event with over 120 entries, and was very well attended with huge crowds.

Lastly, and perhaps most important, Kona Lodge was honored to have Right Worshipful Mike Baker elected as Junior Grand Warden, at this year's Annual Communications. We have no doubt that he will serve the Grand Lodge as diligently and well as he has served this Lodge over the years.



Left: Presentation of Scholarship to Miss Rachael Bianchi from Kealakehe High School May 9, 2012. Left: RW Mike Baker, Right: J. Daniel Miller PM. WM. Middle: Presentation of Scholarship to Mr. Trevor Yamagata from Konawaena High School May 9, 2012. Left: Bro. Russ Robinson, Bro. Bob Foerster, and on right is Bro. Pete Wikeen. Right: 3rd Degree for Brother Jessie Kunishige

Hawaiian Lodge

By Worshipful Master Raymund Liongson

Greetings Brethren,

Time flew so swiftly . . . and we soared and glided. The first half of the year proved to be very productive. We continued to effectively deal with the challenge of running our meetings and degree work in a room three times smaller than our Masonic Temple. We can take pride of our collective achievements in the past months -- from our usual undertakings to our new initiatives. We have raised three Master Masons, received two affiliations, and initiated and passed several more that are now on their Masonic journey.

The Masonic education for members, HMC seminar for officers, and our participation in the Schofield Lodge Masonic Instruction speak of our commitment to learn more about Freemasonry beyond the ritual. I thank MW Dennis Ing for conducting these sessions. Our support for public education was also manifested in our Adopt-A-School program at Aiea Elementary School and participation in the Read-Aloud program at Puuhale Elementary School. We continue to invest in the youth by maintaining our \$10,000-Scholarship for deserving and needy college students.

Community service and involvement were evident in our agenda. Our participation in the Great Aloha Run was phenomenal with over 100 Masons passing water to over 30,000 runners and walkers. The Keiki ID event during the Filipino Fiesta at the Kapiolani Park attended by thousands of people was also a success. These activities have created opportunities for us to come face-to-face with the community as Freemasons, and have made the latter learn more about us.

Some of our brethren have decided to advance their Masonic participation by joining other Masonic bodies such as the Mystic Shrine, Scottish Rite, and York Rite. We wish them well. There is much to learn from these other bodies and they certainly enrich a Mason's network.

We cannot be myopic and parochial. Hence, we have made efforts to cultivate inter-lodge relations and learn from our brethren beyond our lodge. Some of us have visited other lodges in their stated meetings and degree work. Early this year, Hawaiian Lodge officers flew to Kauai to perform a third degree conferral to raise a new brother. Our Lodge also entered into a "twining" relation with LuzViMinda Lodge in the state of Washington.

We took time to show our love and appreciation for our wives and sweethearts – our extensions, who continue to understand and inspire us. We also honored the widows in our Lodge and showed them that we care for them. These we did at our Sweethearts' Ball and Widows' Night. We have not forgotten our brethren who have departed this life. We have honored them with our work on the columbarium and the Memorial Day observance.

It is an impressive list of undertakings that we have achieved together and I thank all the brethren who have contributed in every manner to make them happen. Let us keep the momentum.

May Brotherly Love prevail and every moral and social virtue cement us.

Hawaiian Lodge carries out Child ID Program



Busy and festive! This will aptly describe the Keiki (Child) ID participation of Hawaiian Lodge at the Filipino Fiesta on May 5th. Held at the Kapiolani Park in Waikiki, the Keiki ID project was in collaboration with the Grand Lodge of Hawaii. The premier tent space was made available through a \$2,500-sponsorship from the Hawaii Community Foundation written and submitted by WB Serafin “Jun” Colmenares.

A string of parents and children lined up for Masonic Child IDs, resulting in the using of about a hundred cards. Sixteen Freemasons showed up to carry out the operation. Visiting Masons from the continental U.S. also dropped by to support and congratulate the volunteers.

The Filipino Fiesta is an annual program of the Filipino Community Center that draws thousands of community people. The participation of the Lodge certainly promoted visibility of the fraternity in the community.

Annual Summer Picnic set for July 15

The annual Hawaiian Lodge Summer Picnic has been scheduled for Sunday, July 15, 2012, 9:00am-3:00pm at the Shriners’ Waimanalo Beach Club. Please RSVP by July 8 to the Junior Warden, Bro. Kevin Perdue. Send completed form to 87-1879 Holocono Place, Waianae, HI 96792-3712. There is no fee but we request that you put in your RSVP for in order for us to estimate the amount of food we need to prepare. All Hawaiian Lodge widows are cordially invited to join us. No phone reservations, please. A reservation form is available on the lodge website: hawaiianlodgefreemasons.org.

Adopt-A-School Project

HL Freemasons undertake project at Aiea Elementary



Brethren of Hawaiian Lodge dig a hole on the ground to prepare it for a ceremonial tree planting at Aiea Elementary School.

Not only are Hawaiian Lodge Freemasons speculative; they can be operative as well. Such was the case when six brethren volunteered to help Aiea Elementary School in cutting and pulling weeds, preparing the outdoor stage, putting together a green house, and digging holes on the ground for a ceremonial tree planting by early graders. Bro. David Gomes, chair of the Adopt-A-School committee, thanked the volunteers for their impressive work. "The principal was so amazed at how good everything looked and she expressed her deepest appreciation," he wrote in his email to the volunteers. The Adopt-A-School Project at Aiea Elementary School is now on its fifth year.

Hawaiian Lodge holds HMC Seminar

Officers of Hawaiian Lodge gathered for a one-day seminar on the Hawaii Masonic Code (HMC). Held on March 24, the HMC instruction focused on Sections of the Code directly affecting lodge management and operation. MW Dennis Ing, PGM, GL conducted the very informative session. RW Richard Huston, PM, JGW also spoke on "Masonic Leadership" and stressed the three tenets of Freemasonry as its basic foundation. The Grand Master, MW Monty Glover, also attended the seminar and updated the officers on the latest activities of the Grand Lodge.



Hawaiian Lodge officers listen to MW Dennis Ing, PGM, GL, as he discusses sections of the HMC.

In the post-event evaluation, the officers expressed that the seminar was "very useful" and recommended that a follow up instruction on the HMC be made.

Century-old columbarium gets a facelift



The century-old Masonic columbarium in the Makiki Cemetery along Pensacola St. in Honolulu gets a facelift after getting repainted on March 17, 2012. Ashes of brethren who have travelled to “that undiscovered country, from whose bourne no traveler returns” are safely deposited in this over a century-old columbarium. The resting place was built in 1900 and named after WB John A. Hassinger who served as Worshipful Master of Hawaiian Lodge in 1868-1869. WB Manny Aquino headed the committee that worked on the structure.

Memorial Day



Departed brethren remembered



Twenty-six brethren and friends gathered on Memorial Day at the Hassinger Memorial Masonic Columbarium to pay their respect for the departed brethren. Led by the Marshal, Bro. Angel Santos, the Chaplain, three Pillars, and members of the Lodge marched into the columbarium for the brief ceremony. With the evergreen and roses of red, white and yellow, the brethren remembered those who have departed this life, as well as were enjoined to contemplate their mortality on Earth. A mourning refreshment followed the ceremony.

“Twinning” proposal with LuzViMinda Lodge passed

Members of Hawaiian Lodge passed at its April 2012 stated meeting a motion making LuzViMinda Lodge its “sister” Lodge. LuzViMinda Lodge is under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Washington. Its name is a popular acronym for the three main island groups of the Philippines: Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao. It was granted its perpetual charter, with the assigned number “317” in the roster of lodges of the jurisdiction, at the 150th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Washington in Tri Cities, WA. Also known as LVM Lodge No. 317, it is recognized as the first Filipino American Lodge in the state of Washington.

Treasurer gets Hiram Award



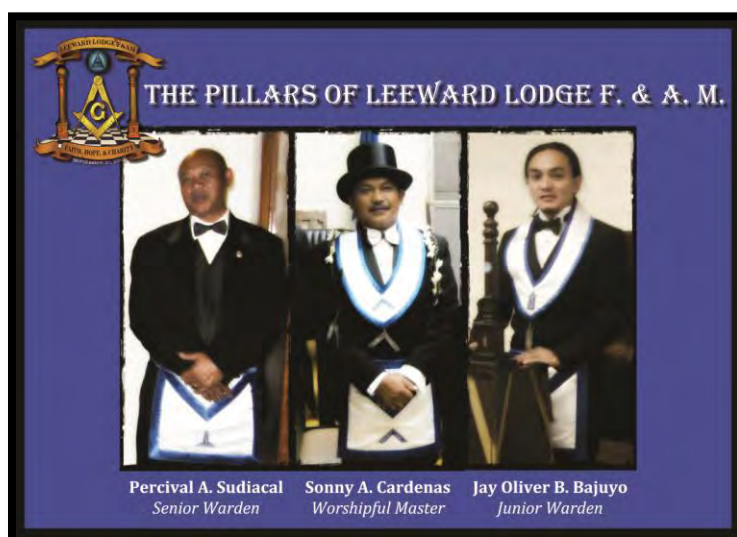
Hon. Alberto Alarcon, Treasurer of both Hawaiian Lodge and the award was given during the 2012 Annual Communication (ANCOM). The Hiram Award is given by the Grand Lodge, upon nomination by the Grand Master or by the Master of any Lodge, to any Master Mason who has rendered distinguished service to his Lodge.

MW Monty Glover reads the citation of the Hiram Award given to Hon. Albert Alarcon.

Leeward Lodge

By Worshipful Master Sonny A. Cardneas

Leeward Lodge meets every 1st Friday of each month for Conferral Practice or Degree Work & Fellowship (Starts at 6:00 PM). Meets every 2nd Friday of each month for STATED MEETING (Refreshment at 6:30 PM, Meeting at 7:00 PM). Also meets the Wednesday following the monthly Stated Meeting for Conferral Practice or Degree Work & Fellowship (Starts at 6:00 PM).



Leeward Lodge F. & A. M. on its 10th year, continue to take good men and making them better. With 189 members to date, the first chartered lodge under The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Hawaii endured the test of time and continues to carry on the principles of *Brotherly Love, Relief & Truth*.

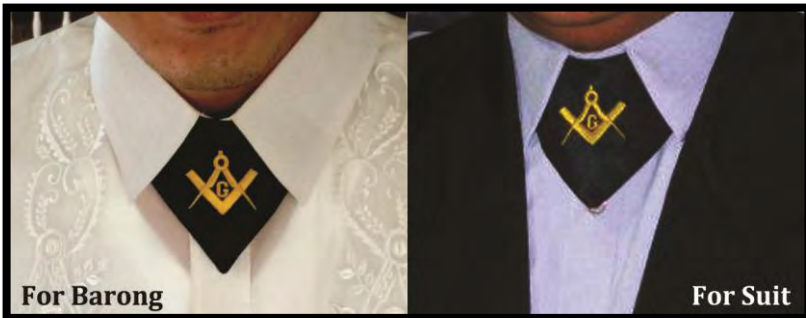
Last March 14, 2012, the Lodge performed a courtesy 3rd Degree upon Bro. Wilson Gacayan, of Caribbean Lodge, Guantanamo Cuba. Bro. Gacayan was warmly welcomed by the brethren of Leeward Lodge and he expressed his intentions of becoming a member of this lodge. The 2012 Officers of Leeward Lodge F. & A. M.



From left to right (Bro. Chris Acosta, Bro. Alexander Magbag, Bro. Nomer F. Javier, Bro. SW Percival A. Sudiactal, Bro. Rowel Fajardo, Bro. Roland Ressurreccion, Bro. Omar Sarinas, WB Sonny A. Cardenas, Bro. Arnold Sarinas, Bro. Albert Washington, Bro. Alfredo Sarinas, Bro. Enrique Sabal, Bro. JW Jay Oliver B. Bajuyo, and WB Feliciano Dela Cruz Jr.)



The Lodge also conferred the Entered Apprentice Degree upon Bro. Ryan Adams Estrada last April 18, 2012.



Lastly, we are selling a beautifully crafted double sided tie with Square & Compass to all Master Masons who wanted to avail it, as an effort to support Leeward Lodge. Ties are sold for \$15 each. Contact Bro. Arnold Sarinas @ 808.343.8544. Mabuhay!

Aloha from the Lodge Maui Masonic Family

Here are just a few quick notes to let everyone know what has been happening in our small part of the world.

First, our Maui Shrine has been putting on *Sunday morning breakfasts* on the 1st Sunday of each month at 9:00 am. They really and truly go all out with tons of food. I have no idea how they stay in the black!

Our Eastern Star is going as strong as ever. They have welcomed three new members so far this year! They are an integral part of our Masonic Family. The Worthy Matron Lynne Pelosi invites all OES member to visit when visiting Maui.

Our Scottish Rite Valley is very proud to announce that it has just award 13 - \$1,000.00 scholarships to high school students from Maui County. Ten of the thirteen recipients came to a banquet in their honor, along with their friends and family. In total, we had 43 people at the banquet.



We are about to vote on a change of meeting date. After meeting on the same date/time for many years on a Friday at 11:30 during the day, we will change to a Thursday evening at 6:30 at night in hopes of building attendance amongst the younger members. We were also very proud to have our Deputy SGIG, Illustrious Kenneth Berry, visit us a few meetings ago and look forward to putting into effect all the new ideas he has brought us.

Congratulations to Brother Patrick Soco, who just joined Scottish Rite Masonry and a thank you to the Valley of Honolulu who let him go through their Reunion. Our Valley has a Spring Reunion coming up on July 7 with 3 candidates participating in it. It will be for the 4th through 14th degrees and we will complete the 15th through 32nd Degrees with a Fall Reunion.

Our Blue Lodge is busy as well with degree work and practices since we have eight candidates at various stages of their Masonic journey. We also welcome a few Brothers who have just relocated to Maui and have/are affiliating with Lodge Maui: WB Robert Martin and Brother Neil Clevenger. While we say hello to some new friends, we also say goodbye to a faithful brother who was always ready to lend a hand whenever called upon. Brother Patrick Soco has just received his orders from the Navy and will be heading out to boot camp in September. Good luck Brother Soco!

As busy as we are with our degree work, our brothers have been even busier with work going on around the lodge. We have scored and stained our front side walk to make it look like flagstone along with adding a Square and Compass as you walk in the front door, added extra seating to our back lanai area, and added a covered area on the other side of the back yard to

match the one we built last year on the other side. We have added a safety hand rail for those walking up and down the step in the East.



Well, that's about it from the island of Maui for now except that, our Scottish Rite and Eastern Star bodies will be dark for the months of July and August and their meetings will resume in September. Otherwise, our blue lodge will keep working on.

Please stop in, or at least call, if you're in the neighborhood. You can contact us through our secretary at 808-870-4303. Aloha!

Schofield Lodge

By Worshipful Master Darryl Lajola

The year, 2013, will mark a very important milestone for one of Hawaii's oldest lodges. Schofield Lodge will turn 100. For any lodge, hitting that century marker is a great achievement in its own right, but the members of Schofield, all past and present, should be especially proud that the lodge has, thus far, withstood the tests of time. You see, Schofield Lodge has been, and still is, predominantly composed of men serving in the armed forces, resulting in their stay in Hawaii being very limited. The average brother usually has a 3-year assignment here on the island. After those 3 years pass, in most cases, the brother packs up and heads to his next location. Since the start of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, their short time here is cut even shorter due to deployments. Because of this, we see our membership dwindle dramatically throughout the course of the year.

This has been the characteristic of Schofield Lodge as far back as one could remember. For those who frequent Schofield Masonic Temple, they might have noticed a newspaper article hanging on the wall in the banquet hall, dating back to the 1970s, chronicling the lodge's situation back then, which is not much different from what I've already stated. That's just *one* of the stories recollecting how Schofield has been through the years. It also has to be taken into account that, since its charter in 1913, there have been other wars that have taken place: World War I, World War II, The Vietnam War, etc, which would have demanded the military members of the Lodge to bear arms and fight for our country overseas. Although we are extremely proud to be sending our brothers out into the world as better men, every time our brothers leave to fulfill their patriotic duty to their country, it leaves a void in the lodge that is always difficult, if not impossible to fill.

So why is it that Schofield has been able to last for the past 100 years, despite the constant and dramatic changes in attendance? A big reason could be that the Past Masters have done such an outstanding job in making sure the lodge constantly stays in the right direction. Another reason could be that other lodges in our jurisdiction have always lent a helping hand whenever Schofield needed one. But I think the biggest reason, and the reason I believe is Schofield's greatest characteristic, is that the members who walk through those temple doors every week truly understand what masonry is all about, and that they grasp how valuable their dedication and motivation is, not only to the craft, but also to the lodge.

My year as Worshipful Master has taught me many things thus far, but none greater than the realization that every member has something to contribute to the lodge in his own unique way. Although it is challenging at times to have such a diverse group of men with different personalities agree on certain topics, it is never questioned that they have the lodge's success as their main priority. There's no doubt among the brethren that our harmony is strong, and that the bonds we form, which seem to transcend through the boundaries of distance and time, is what makes our time spent at lodge so memorable. The fact that the members work so hard as a unit to see the lodge succeed is the driving force for why Schofield Lodge is blessed to be turning 100.

I'm very excited for this historical milestone for the lodge and for the brethren. That century marker is something to be truly proud of, and can only be matched by the lodge sticking around for the next hundred years. Being able to reach that next landmark won't be easy, however. It'll take a lot hard work and great men to lead the way, but after having the honor of getting to know the remarkable brothers of Schofield Lodge since my arrival, I have no doubt we will get there.

Long. Live. Schofield.



Members and officers of Schofield Lodge



Daughters of the Nile Celebrate!

Queen Janet Larson, Pr. Royal Barbara Sheeder, Pr. Tirzah Eileen Skinner, Past Queens Joan Navales, Sylvia Ching, Susan Schultz, Joellen Webb, Karen Houston, Gail Longstreth and Stella Carter traveled to Portland, Oregon to attend the 96th Annual Supreme Session June 10-14, 2012. The highlight of the Session was the installation of Suzie Schumacher, PQ of Zuliema Temple #13, Ashland/Medford, Oregon as Supreme Queen. Also, Sharon St. John, PQ of Yucca Temple #74, Albuquerque, New Mexico was installed as Supreme Princess Badoura. Pageantry Unit members Pr. Tirzah Eileen Skinner, Pr. Royal Barbara Sheeder, Past Queens Sylvia Ching, Joellen Webb, Gail Longstreth and Stella Carter performed a beautiful hula to *Waikiki*. The audience showed their appreciation with a standing ovation and cheers.

Queen Janet took great pleasure and honor in announcing the following Supreme Appointments:

Supreme Appointive Officer

Supreme Princess Zenobia PQ Gail Longstreth

Supreme Appointees

Supreme Temple American Flag Escort PQ Joellen Webb

Supreme Temple Nile Banner Escort PQ Debbie Bagwell

Supreme Temple Canadian Flag Escort PQ Diane Hall

Supreme Goodwill Ambassador (Pacific & Mountain Area) PQ Rexie Escasa

During the Session, the Daughters of the Nile Foundation presented its annual donation in the amount of \$1,681,204.66 to Imperial Potentate Mike Severe of Shriners International.

Supreme Session offered all who attended fun, fellowship, business meetings and the opportunity to hear about new membership ideas and protocol during afternoon seminars. Of course, the "Shop Til You Drop" marketplace offered a fantastic shopping experience for all.

Mark your calendar...November 10, 2012 Ladies Fashion Show & Luncheon
Details and tickets will become available later this summer

For information about Daughters of the Nile contact:

PQ Joellen Webb, Membership/Public Relations Chair/Hospital Liaison

Egyptian Temple #33 Tel. #455-7433 webbj033@hawaii.rr.com



Inaugural Speech

By: MW Bro. Antonio M. Ligaya, Grand Master
Scottish Rite Cathedral
21 April 2012

THE FUTURE STARTS TODAY!!!

Most Worshipful Sirs, Right Worshipful Sirs, Very Worshipful Sirs, Worshipful Sirs, Distinguished and Honored Guests, Brethren All – Aloha and Mabuhay!!! Magandang hapon po sa inyong lahat, at maraming salamat sa inyong pagdalo. Good afternoon and thank you very much for honoring us with your presence!

I thank our *Installing Team*, [led by Most Worshipful A. Lee Skinner, Past Grand Master, our Installing Officer, Right Worshipful Severino “Ben” Malajito, Past Senior Grand Warden, our Installing Chaplain, Worshipful Wilson Camagan, Grand Marshal, our Installing Master of Ceremonies, and Installing Organist Sister Leloy Banks, Past Worthy Matron, Order of the Eastern Star], for our most dignified ceremony. My sincere appreciation also goes to *Illustrious William “Pete” Holsomback*, personal representative to the Deputy of the Supreme Council of the Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite of Masonry, for hosting us in this beautiful cathedral. I am also grateful for the attendance of so many Brethren from near and far!

I will be forever indebted to *Pilar Lodge No. 15*, of the Grand Lodge of the Philippines – my Mother Lodge – where I was made a Mason over 31 years ago, *Sagamihara Lodge No. 13*, and *Yokosuka Lodge No. 20*, both of the Grand Lodge of Japan, where I served as Master (*pro-temporé*) in 1985, and Master in 1993, respectively, and our own *Hawaiian Lodge*, which entrusted me its stewardship in 2005.

I am also grateful for the association I’ve had with and lessons learned from such Brothers as *MW Oscar Jayme* – whom I’ve known since before either of us were Masons over 30 years ago, *MW Dennis Ing* – whose wise counsel is often sought and valued, *MW Lee Skinner* – indeed a big Brother I look up to, my co-workers in our Grand Lodge, both past and present, such as *MW Charlie Wegener*, *RW Frank Condello*, *RW Rick Huston*, *MW Marty Alexander*, and *Hon. Bert Alarcon*, and our newest team member *RW Mike Baker*, *WBros. Ed Abutin and Alex Escasa* – a couple of great friends in and out of the Lodge, and on and off the golf course, who’ve never been known to mince words to provide straight-forward advise, and others too numerous to mention by name! I especially commend *Most Worshipful Monty Glover* for his leadership and managerial skills in the manner he faced and dealt with challenges during his term!

Finally I want to acknowledge the presence of, and introduce to you, the people who’ve been very supportive of me in all my endeavors in life, my most ardent fans and cheerleaders – my family; *from New York*, my oldest daughter *Michelle*, my son-in-law *Ashan*, our little princess *Nailah*, and my second daughter *Janice* and her fiancé *Ryan*

Allison, and *from Mililani Mauka, in Central Oahu* – my third daughter *Theresa Angela* – a Past Worthy Advisor of Leilehua Assembly of the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls, my youngest daughter and current Grand Worthy Advisor of the Hawaii Assembly of the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls *Catherine*, my mother – *Catalina*, and last but definitely in no terms the least – *my best friend, roommate, most trusted confidante, and wife of over 35 years – Fé*.

[I look forward to seeing you all at tonight’s Installation Banquet at the Hale Koa Hotel’s “Waikiki Ballroom”, which will start at 6:00 p.m. with a cocktail hour and subsequent dinner buffet, and dancing . . . Tickets are still available . . .]

Brethren – I stand before you in the Grand East both humbled and excited — humbled by the honor you have bestowed on me, and excited by the opportunity to serve you in this office for the next 12 months.

This Masonic Year's pin is inspired by the sun, stars, this slice of paradise we call home, and the ever-present Square and Compass of our Fraternity. The sun and stars, which I borrowed from the flag of my native Philippines – where I first saw light, where I spent my formative years, and where I became a Mason – and which serve as constant reminders of my proud heritage, are emblems of that Masonic light in search of which every Mason travels. The islands of our beautiful State emblematically symbolize the Brethren in our Grand Jurisdiction united as one in supporting our beloved Institution – prominently represented by the Square and Compass in gold. Finally, the theme I've set for this term reminds us to move forward towards tomorrow!

During my quest for an Office in the Grand Lodge, I reported, "My goals are not different to those who have gone before me – *"To improve the position of our Fraternity in the community, to serve the Brethren to the best of my ability, and to expound the virtues of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth."* Realizing not one person can do everything alone I enjoin you my Brethren in these efforts and, with your support and assistance, leverage on past lessons learned and devise new strategies to improve the state of the Fraternity in this Jurisdiction, while implementing programs that will:

Revitalize our Brethren, which will in turn revitalize our constituent Lodges,

Restructure our Lodges, and give our younger Brethren more 'ownership' of Lodge affairs, as I believe the future of any organization – especially of ours – lies in the hands of its younger members, and,

give our Order more *Relevance*; we must strive in changing the community's perception of our Order for the better – and encourage the Brethren to 'come out' of the Lodges and get more involved in community affairs."

Those goals remain the same, and as they dovetail our Grand Lodge's *"Five Paddles of Progress"*, I now charge our Lodges to devise or improve programs and strategies, while optimizing such avenues as the Masters and Wardens Association, among others, for its successful execution, and, I will remain available and very much accessible, at all times, to steer the course and provide oversight, guidance and assistance every step of the way.

This afternoon, I do not want to dwell on the past, for while Freemasonry has a past, it is not passé. I would rather have us learn and grow from, than re-live, those experiences in moving forward to a brighter tomorrow!

The famous Irish playwright, co-founder of the London School of Economics, and only person to have been awarded both a Nobel Prize in Literature and an Oscar – George Bernard Shaw – said, *"We are made wise not by the recollection of our past, but by the responsibility for our future."* I agree, and I say, tomorrow is the future, and *the future starts today!*

My vision of our Fraternity is that of one with inspired members – so inspired that they make Lodge meetings one of their priorities, one whose members would never even think of demitting from. I also envision our Craft cultivating and improving the minds of our members in everything they do, which will only cause more free-thinking men to knock at our doors to seek admission. I see our organization doing tremendous good for our communities that is well-known thus serving as a magnet that will attract community leaders to our Lodges, indeed a highly-regarded organization where the vast majority of the citizens know the good work the square and compass stand for.

I know you share this vision, which Very Worshipful Alden Sarmiento, Past Grand Lecturer of Washington, who is among us today, in a few words so eloquently and profoundly summed up when he said, *"we need to be an organization that members want and not just an organization that wants members."*

The strength of Freemasonry in this jurisdiction is directly proportional to the strength of our Lodges. Now, more than ever, is the time for all of us to pull together with determination to help strengthen our Lodges, the foundation of our Fraternity, so Freemasonry can guarantee a bright future for both our members and society in general.

I agree with Most Worshipful Brother and Chief Justice Reynato Puno, Past Grand Master of the Philippines, when he said, *"Masons may err, but that does not make Masonry wrong. Masons may fail, but their failure is not the failure of Masonry"*, and, *"If Masons fail, it is because of lack of Masonry in them. If Masons do not make a mark, it is because they have lost the marks of Masonry."*

I firmly believe that a proper and sound Masonic education should be the foundation of a productive life as one goes through his journey in our Fraternity. I submit that knowledge of our esoteric work in the degrees, lectures and other aspects of our rituals should not, by themselves, be the only focus in building our foundation; a good knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the Hawaii Masonic Code (HMC) should also be a primary goal. A good Masonic education, therefore, must not only concentrate on the

rituals, but must also emphasize knowledge of the HMC. Moreover, the reading, publication and dissemination of materials emanating from research Lodges, research clubs, research organizations, or research committees of this or any other jurisdiction must also augment a proper Masonic education. Accordingly, Lodge Masters, working hand-in-hand with the Coaches, and the Lodge Inspectors – under the guidance of the Grand Lecturer, should follow this through, and I have no doubt we can only succeed!

We owe it to those who came before us – those who handed this great Fraternity down to us – to, at the very least, keep it in the same state it was left to us, or, even better, to improve it that we may be able to pass it on to those who will come after us in the best shape we can bring it up to!

It seems we might have become complacent and indifferent, if not apathetic, perhaps in a rush to ensure we increase our ranks with new members even at the expense of quality! If so, this is unacceptable and a disservice not only to the Craft, but more importantly to those members who might not have been given the proper tools to learn better – our Brothers who will carry on after us when we will later be either too old to attend Lodge or would then be gone to that Celestial Lodge, because, perhaps they did not know any better, and, those of us who are supposed to failed to teach them! Today, I call for an end to indifference, and for putting a period to our collective apathy!

Accordingly, in an effort to initiate actions that will hopefully start to turn this situation around, I am serving notice that after this present Quarter – or effective July 1st – all lectures, proficiencies and related subjects (such as the closing of the Lodge, as an example) for all degrees shall be given in the Regular Form, often referred to as the “Long Form”. I believe there is sufficient time between now and the end of this Quarter – or 71 days – to learn, or re-learn, as the case may be, these subjects. This notice will be formalized through a Grand Master’s Decision, or Edict, with §2068 of the Hawaii Masonic Code (HMC), and the subject, “Master Mason Short Form Proficiency” in the Appendix of the HMC, given full consideration.

MWBro. Puno stated, *“We simply can no longer materialize as Masons when convenient to do so and dematerialize when inconvenient; we cannot be part-time Masons and part-time profane!”* Brethren, we must practice those obligations we all took on becoming Masons, and we must, indeed, go beyond the rituals we went through and practice out of the Lodge those great lessons we, hopefully, learned in it. Masonry must be our way of life!!!

Albert Pike reminds us that *“Masonry is action, not inertness. It requires its initiates to work actively and earnestly for the benefit of their Brethren, their country and mankind...If we but eat and drink and sleep and let everything go on around us as it pleases; or if we live to amass wealth or gain office or wear titles, we might as well not have lived at all ... Remember that life’s length is not measured by its hours and days, but by that which we have done for our country and our citizenry”*

In closing – to our Masonic forebears, I say: *Thank you for this great Institution and your legacies; to future Masons, I say: We will make ourselves worthy of your emulation to the best of our abilities; to the present Masons, I say: Although we must not forget the past, let us not dwell in it; remember, there is no future in the past! There is work to be done, and we must do it if we are to ensure our future.*

The future starts here. It starts now, and it starts with us.

“The future starts today!”

Marami pong salamat; Mahalo nui loa; thank you very much!!!

God bless us all!!!

Grand Lodge of the Philippines' Annual Communication



Philippine AnCom: "MW Tony Ligaya strikes a pose with MW Chibu Uson, Grand Master of Manitoba, MW Franklin DeMonteverde, PGM of the Philippines, and other Brethren during a lull in the Grand Lodge of the Philippines' Annual Communication in April"



From the Kauai visitation:
WB Wilson, MW Tony, RW Frank and RW Rick – Kauai Island at Lydgate Park

4TH OF JULY PICTURES

