

# Gardena Moneta Lodge 372



Free & Accepted Masons of the State of California

Gardena Masonic Center

1250 W. 155th St., Gardena, CA 90247

(310) 329-3372

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*Masonry a Way of Life*

February 2009

## FROM THE EAST

Brethren:

In our Stated Meeting on February 4, 2009, we voted on the written motion presented during our January 7, 2009 to amend the By-Laws regarding the day of the Stated Meeting from first Wednesday to first Friday of the month. The vote was taken only after each member has been furnished the text of the written motion with a corresponding notification that the vote will be taken on February 4, 2009. I hereby formally inform all of you that the required 2/3 vote was garnered. We have already prepared the Grand Lodge approved form and will submit it to the Grand Lodge for the Grand Master's approval before the amendment can be effective.

Our Hiram Award Committee chaired by our Senior Warden Ken Martin, PM has recommended Alvin "Al" Fowler, PM to be the recipient of the Hiram Award this year. I adopted said recommendation and announced in our February 4, 2009 Stated Meeting that the Hiram Awardee for 2009 is Alvin "Al" Fowler, PM. The awarding will be done on May 16, 2009 at 7:00 pm. Please come and join us to honor this worthy Brother.

We have eight candidates on the pipeline for degree conferral. On January 30, 2009 we conferred the first degree on Mr. (now Brother) Saturnino v. Valencia, Jr. This month we have lined-up first degree conferral for six candidates. We have scheduled February 11, 20 and 27, 2009 for said conferrals. Come and join us and participate in these degree rites.

We are also exploring the possibility of reviving the DeMolay Chapter in our Lodge. You will hear and read more about this in the succeeding months. This desire is consistent with the mandate of the Grand Master to promote the Youth Orders. Also, in the succeeding months you will hear about the activity for our Widows. I will work closely with our Widows Committee to come-up with a concrete program for our widows. This is one way of telling them that we have not forgotten them. We intend to hold the event in July. As previously announced we scheduled the Valentine's Day Dinner and Dance Party on February 13, 2009. We have other activities for the year, i.e. Outstanding Teacher, Fire and Police Recognition, Constitutional Observance, etc. It is indeed shaping up to be a vibrant, active and busy year.

This is to reiterate my request to any Brethren to send us any article which you want to be published in our Trestleboard. This is our only way of communicating with one another and let us exploit it to the fullest.

Let us continue to band and work together to further the ends of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth.

Fraternally,  
Morel R. Callueng  
Worshipful Master

FROM THE WEST

Brethren:

After a number of years, your Lodge is finally getting back where it belongs. On Friday night, January 30<sup>th</sup>, we conferred our first "First Degree" on Mr. Saturnino V. Valencia, Jr. It pleased me after so long to see a full line of Officers ready and willing to get back to doing what we do best, "helping to guide good men from darkness to Masonic Light".

Your line of officers had an interesting time trying to get Brother Jun (as he's called) to relax. Jun is a strong, healthy, young man, and being in darkness was not about to go willingly. I even had difficulty getting him in Order and Due Form.

Changing Hats to your Officers Coach, I am very pleased to report that your current line of Officers have the "First Degree" ritual down pat. In the 20 years I have been a Mason, I have heard the First Degree Lecture done in the "Long Form" maybe three times. Once when Worshipful Zeke Martin gave it to me, the first time I did a First Degree as Master, and at Redondo Beach during a visit. Congratulations Morel on a job well done.

Changing Hats again, as Chair of the Hiram Award Committee, I am pleased to announce that Worshipful Al Fowler has been selected to receive the 2009 Hiram Award for outstanding service to the Lodge and community in maintaining, and supporting the Grand Lodge Child ID Program, and for his support of the Lodge over these last two trying years. Congratulations and many thanks Al for a job well done.

Ken Martin PM  
Senior Warden

FROM THE SOUTH

Brethren:

Let us all welcome our newly obligated EAM brothers, Jun Valencia, Rene Esmane, and Ben Ponce. May these Brethren devout and dedicate their life to the service of Freemasonry and become faithful brothers among us.

Also, my hats off to our Worshipful Master Morrel Callueng for his outstanding performance of the First Degree lecture in the long form. Well done Worshipful!

Please don't forget to extend your congratulations to worthy Bro. Al Fowler P.M. as the recipient of the Hiram Award 2009 this coming May 16<sup>th</sup>.

Our Stated Meeting has been proposed to be changed from first Wednesday of the Month to Friday. And this proposal has been voted upon during the February Stated Meeting and received a majority vote of approval from the Brethren. The purpose of this change is to bring more Brethren to attend our Stated Meeting being the following is a day-off for most of us. This change is expected to officially take its course upon the approval of the Grandmaster. For now, we will be having our Stated Meeting on the first Friday of the month under Dispensation.

Brethren, with all the good things happening we can almost foresee the good future of our Lodge. We have all the talents and we have all the resources. All we have to do is work together in harmony and we can accomplish our goal in making our Lodge one the best in this jurisdiction.

Fraternally,  
Flor Cabanatan  
Junior Warden

From the Secretary.....

Brethren:

We have already mailed the dues cards for the members who have sent their payments. We still have a lot of Brethren who have not yet send any payment. Please send your dues for 2009 the soonest possible time.

For those Brethren who have been delinquent for least two (2) years, we will be sending a letter in March to remind you to send your payments covered by the delinquency. If you cannot make any payment because of current financial situation, feel free to inform the Charity Committee about it. We can then inform the Grand Lodge about in what they call a remission of dues. You will not be suspended and will remain in good standing for the particular Masonic year.

Lastly, if you have moved, make sure to notify us of your new address and telephone number so that we can update our records. Come to the Lodge and join us in the several activities lined-up for this year.

Fraternally,  
Floro G. Luna, PM  
Secretary



### From the Treasurer

Brethren:

It is that time of year again when you have or will be receiving your dues notice.

After you have mailed your check, you may be thinking “what do they do with all that money?” Well Brethren I’m here to tell you that we don’t get “all that money”, What’s that you say, WE DON’T GET TO KEEP AND USE ALL THAT MONEY.

The Lodge sends you a dues notice for \$50 and the Grand Lodge sends us a “Per Capita Tax” notice for \$31 for each of our members. So of the \$50 you pay in dues, the Lodge gets to keep and use only \$19. We currently have approximately 270 active members in our Lodge and that give the Lodge an income of \$5,130 that we can use to fund the different programs that are planed for the year. We do get income from the investments that were made on our behalf by our Brethren when the Lodge was in better financial shape, from the Life membership fund that was created by those that have invested in life memberships so that they will help support the Lodge long after they have gone to that house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens, and by gifts, bequests and contributions.

Our country is currently going through some tough economic times and that translates economic times and that translates into a fact that our members are going through some tough economic times. Our new Master has some great programs planned for the ensuing Masonic year and we have worked hard to come up with a good budget to cover the cost of these programs and be mindful of the few dollars that we have at our disposal so I would like to urge each and everyone that is able, to turn off the T V, get up off the chair and come down to the Lodge and participate in these events and help make them a success, so as to insure that the money we are spending, is not wasted because of lack of participation. We will be glade you did and I’m pretty sure that you will be happy that you did and together we can bring this Lodge back from the brink of closure to a beacon in the community of Gardena and the Masonic community. Remember  
MASONRY IS MORE THAN JUST A RING.

Fraternally,  
Dana Wyatt PM  
Treasurer

### Entertainment and Refreshment Committee

Our Valentines Day Dinner Dance joint celebration with Beverly Hills Lodge was very, very successful. It was attended with over 150 guests and everybody has a good time. Everyone else enjoys the food, music, dancing and most all the fellowship among the Brethren. I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to all our Brethren and guest for your support, participation, donations and services in making this event a great success.

Our Gardena Lodge Fellowship Basketball League is proposed to start this coming March 8, 2009 at Gardena YMCA Gym. Proposed donation is \$20.00 each player to cover the cost of the gym and other expenses, uniforms not included. Please delete the previous game schedule I distributed in our last meeting. I will make another game schedule (this time ...using the right calendar year) and a new list of players for each team. For those who are interested to play basketball and you are not in the team yet, please let me know.

Fraternally,  
Flor Cabanatan

Birthdays

07 William O'Neil  
 09 Albert Bell  
 09 Irvin L. Aldrich  
 10 Teofilo A. Guadiz IV  
 10 Joseph Romero Jr  
 14 Maher H. Zarrouf  
 15 William Simmonds  
 15 Amando De La Rosa Enrico  
 16 Donald Lynch  
 16 Jerry Layhee  
 17 Vincent B. Valeriano  
 18 Morel R. Callueng  
 20 Edwin Monnie

Congratulations, Morel!

It looks like you'll have a good year.

I wish you the very best possible.

We need to put together some kind of a Square and Compass Club for us Gardena-Moneta members down here in South Orange County.

I'm still working and, sadly enough, I'm losing my night vision.

I like the idea of moving the Stated Meeting to Friday night. I hope it works out so you can make it a permanent feature.

I'm hoping to retire the end of 2019 so maybe I can get back into the swing of things and become more active at Lodge.

I should be pretty well finished up on my 2<sup>nd</sup> go-round of presiding in the York Rite Bodies by then too.

I'm glad to see that you are investigating your applicants again. I think this led to a lot of our troubles in the past by not sticking tightly to the CMC.

You're on a good track.

Stay the Course!

Gerry (Easton)

2009 Committee Chairmen

**Audit:** George Cronin PM,  
 George@mason372.org  
**Avery Brothers:** Morel Callueng  
 Morel@mason372.org  
**Budget and Finance:** Dana Wyatt PM,  
 Dana@mason372.org  
**Child ID Program:** Al Fowler PM,  
 Alvin@mason372.org  
**Civic Recognition Day:**  
 Michael Paysan  
 michaelpaysan@yahoo.com  
**Constitutional Observance:**  
 Nathaniel Zipagan  
 ziptracker@gmail.com  
**Funeral:** Ira Waterman PM,  
 Ira@mason372.org  
**Hiram Award:** Ken Martin, PM,  
 Ken@mason372.org  
**Investment Committee:**  
 Dana Wyatt, PM,  
 Dana@mason372.org  
**Lodge Ambassador:** Jose Bernabe  
 jose.bernabe.jxf4@statefarm.com  
**Masonic Education:** Oscar Leus, PM,  
 omleus@wisdomlaw.com  
**Masonic Service Bureau:**  
 Victor Lerma PM,  
 Victor@mason372.org  
**Membership:** Lorenzo Castaneros  
 lorenzo\_castaneros@dot.ca.gov  
**Membership Retention:**  
 Floro Luna  
 florogluna@yahoo.com  
**Public Schools:** Jose Bernabe,  
 jose.bernabe.jxf4@statefarm.com  
**Pull Tab:** Jerry Sato PM,  
 Jerry@mason372.org  
**Refreshment and Entertainment:**  
 Flor Cabanatan  
 florcabanatan@aol.com  
**Sickness and Visitation:**  
 John Rockwood PM,  
 JER0211@aol.com  
**Trestle Board Editor:**  
 Ken Martin PM,  
 Ken@mason372.org  
**Web Master:** Rommel Macoy  
 webmaster@mason372.org  
**Widows:** Roger Garst PM,  
 Roger@mason372.org

Stated Meetings

First Wednesday @ 7:30  
 All Master Masons are welcome.

2009 Lodge OfficersMaster

Morel Callueng

Senior Warden

Ken Martin PM

Junior Warden

Flor Cabanatan

Treasurer

Dana Wyatt PM

Secretary

Floro Luna

Assistant Secretary

Jose Bernabe

Chaplain

Cris Araula PM

Senior Deacon

Nathaniel Zipagan

Junior Deacon

Saturnino Duenas

Marshal

Lorenzo Castaneros

Senior Steward

Rommel Macoy

March Calendar

**March 6 – 6:30 – 7:20 pm -  
 Stated Meeting Dinner  
 7:30 pm -  
 Stated Meeting**

**March 14 - 10:00 am -  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Conferral**

**March 20 – 7:00 pm -  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Conferral**

**March 27 – 6:00 pm -  
 Temple Board Meeting  
 7:00 pm -  
 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Conferral**