

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

Volume 09 Issue 1

Masonry a Way of Life

January 2009

FROM THE EAST

Brethren:

The 2009 servants of our Lodge were installed on December 13, 2008. They are all enthusiastically looking forward to serve our Lodge for the ensuing Masonic year. We certainly need the support and assistance of each and every member to ensure the success of our activities in our year. Committee membership and attendance on said activities would certainly translate to success.

I have scheduled a Layman's Night on January 14, 2009 at 7:00 pm. The purpose of this night is to bring non-Masons (particularly candidates and prospective candidates) and their families to be oriented about what Freemasonry is all about. This is one way of getting the candidates advance Masonic Education so that when they become members they would be already fully aware of the Vision and Mission of the Craft. I have no doubt that a candidate armed with proper education about the fraternity would have a better chance to return to the Lodge after he has received his 3rd degree.

As I sit in the Oriental Chair I can assure the Brethren that the Master's gavel will be used decisively and firmly, but tempered however with respect, courtesy, transparency, and sound judgment to ensure that peace and harmony would continue to permeate the halls of our Lodge.

As the Master Workman, I have laid out several activities for the entire Masonic year. The success of these activities would certainly depend on the support it gets from its members. Your 2009 offices cannot do it by themselves. We all love our Lodge, let us band together and in unison move it forward so that it will regain its proper place as a house of brotherhood, friendship, fellowship, and true camaraderie.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

Morel R. Callueng
Worshipful Master

FROM THE SOUTH

Brethren:

First and foremost, I would like to thank the Brethren for electing me as Junior Warden of Gardena Moneta Lodge 372. It is with great honor and privilege to serve along with the finest core of elected and appointed officers of the lodge. I am so grateful of your confidence and I will do my best to perform my duty to the best of my ability.

As we close the year's calendar, let us look back where we and our Lodge had been. As Past Master Ira Waterman described in his November 2008 Trestle Board; *"our lodge was in chaos, factions were rallied against each other with little regard for our Lodge or Masonry. Grand Lodge saw fit to take our Charter."*

And now as we go forward, let us not forget the challenges that we took and what had been accomplished in getting our Charter back. And as we enter a new Masonic year, let us focus collectively to give all our efforts and determination in making our Lodge truly successful.

Commitment, Participation, and Dedication of each and every one of us are the principal elements in making our Lodge one of the best in this jurisdiction. Let us all be committed and unite to work together in achieving the goals which Worshipful Morell had planned for our Lodge and Masonry, let us all endeavor to participate in all the Lodge activities, and dedicatedly, let us all join together in promoting each other's welfare and rejoicing in each other's prosperity.

Finally, may we all become better men and exemplary Masons and that harmony may once again prevail in our Lodge...

May the spirit of Christmas and the Prosperity of New Year be with us always.

May all our heart be filled with love, peace, and happiness through out the year.

Happy holidays to all the Brethren!!!

Fraternaly,
Flor Cabanatan
Junior Warden

Entertainment and Refreshment CommitteeMASONIC EDUCATION

Brethren, our Lodge and Beverly Hills Lodge # 528 will hold a joint Dinner Dance Valentines Day Celebration on February 13th, Friday night at Gardena Moneta Lodge Hall. Beverly Hills Lodge, as agreed upon, will provide the music of New Manila Sounds Band and we will provide the food. So for us brethren, it will be Potluck. Our lodge will provide a roast pig as the main course and flowers for our ladies. The Committee will coordinate the food and beverages for our Potluck during our February 4th Stated Meeting. Well, let's all commit ourselves to come, bring your dancing shoes, have fun, and enjoy the fellowship.

Flor Cabanatan

The Secrets of Freemasonry

The fraternity is often called a secret society. This, of course, implies that Masons conceal the fact of their membership, that they meet in secret, that their purposes are secret. Nothing could be more remote from the truth.

Masonry is definitely not a secret society. Its members make no attempt to conceal their Masonic affiliation, often proudly wearing rings or other jewelry marking them as Masons. Meeting places are prominently located and clearly marked. Dates and times of meetings are often advertised in newspapers or posted on bulletin boards. The history, the teachings, and many records of the order are available in any good public library. The rules and regulations of Masonry are in print and no effort is made to lock them away from interested persons. Minutes are made of its meetings and are often studied by those who are not members. These practices are clearly not those of a secret society.

Someone many years ago made the following statement: "Masonry is not a secret society, it is a society with secrets." Freemasonry does have some secrets it attempts to preserve. It has secret modes of recognition, which enable its members to quickly recognize each other as Masons upon their first meeting. The value of these secrets to members away from home is fairly obvious and it does not seem unnatural that the fraternity should wish to preserve them.

And Masonry has its secret ritual, its mode of instructing new members in the three symbolic degrees. This ritual originated, in large part, with the old cathedral builders earlier mentioned and has been handed down over the centuries. Most of the secret rituals are based upon writings in the Holy Bible and the writings of other great philosophers, so they are secret only in their unique adaptation and presentation. This ritualistic mode of instruction has proven remarkably effective over the centuries and its use, being peculiar to Freemasonry, has kept the fraternity apart from those that would imitate it. The lessons taught in the Masonic ritual are in no way secret, they may be obtained from many and various Masonic writings, available to all.

These secrets, the modes of recognition and the modes of instruction, are the only secrets Masonry has. The man who might be thinking of making application for Masonic membership solely out of curiosity concerning the secrets of Masonry will be well advised to let his curiosity lead him down other and less demanding paths.

How act are we?

Be aware that "feigned affection" is intolerable. It is blind, unhappy, masquerading, always lurking and easily provoked. It stinks and has no place in masonry whether so ever dispersed.

Brethren, "true friendship" is infectious, it brings out good fellowship and creates a spontaneous positive energy of reciprocity. It is enjoyable contagious, but more importantly, peaceful and responsible. It is the kind of camaraderie that all masons should endeavor to establish, develop, maintain and nurture towards each other.

"Masons by heart" are full of humility. They are kind, thoughtful, caring, sharing, inspiring, receptive and open-minded; productive and self-confident but not puffed-up.

Being a mason is only one thing, and becoming an upright mason is another. For, if we are just plain masons who studies not and obeys not those that which we were morally taught, and sees only those that which the naked eyes can see, then we are no better than anybody else, because even the blind can read with their fingers and can see with their minds.

Let us not overstep the boundary lines of our conduct. The least that we can do is to "improve ourselves", for unlike the "uninitiated", we have opened our eyes into the "three great lights". There are those that surround us who are not masons, yet possessing essentially good moral character and a desirable attitude. We should not lose sight of the use of those "valuable instruments" which were inculcated to us, for if a non-mason acts better than masons, then what more do we have? Nothing brethren.

Therefore, we must be vigilant of our own actions within and outside the lodge, that we may, each one of us, accomplish those that which we are destined to do while in this temporal world.

The Supreme Grand Master of the universe is watching us, by His beneficial grace; we may be able to find the eternal door, which will lead us to that Great White Throne where He reigns forever. In due time we will all be "squared" in accordance with the imprecations of our individual deeds.

Lucky are we, if we will be admitted into His lodge.

Fraternally,
Nathaniel A. Zipagan

My Brothers

I am impressed with the energy of our New Worshipful Master. He has an exuberant friendly personality. He is a practicing attorney, so be ready for his legalese in the Masters chair. I will leave it to him in his message to give you some incite into his back ground, his family, business and Masonry.

One of his endeavors is to inventory the lodge completely, I don't think this it has been done since I was master the first time. Brother Romeo Hernandez PM and I spent about a week listing everything in the building.

This has been a very interesting year for me as Master as this was my second time to serve as Master. There were many things that had to be accomplished for our lodge to regain our charter and again be an active part in the world of Masonry.

I will take this as my personal opportunity to thank each brother who stepped forward and volunteered to fill an officers chair.

Brother Ken Martin PM, Senior Warden, Thanks for assuming the Masters chair when my business took me out of town or my schedule made it impossible to attend and preside. You took the Trestle Board from nothing to a periodical every member looks forward to receiving.

Brother Al Fowler PM, Junior Warden, Thank you for your untiring efforts in getting the child ID program up and running. You done such a good job the City of Carson has asked our lodge to present our program during their various civic events.

Brother Victor Lerma PM, Assistant Secretary, You done a great job in spite of living a great distance from the lodge, being master of another lodge at the same time and your activities as a member of the Masonic Service Bureau. I thank you for your dedication in serving Masonry. Thanks for vouching for me at Grand Lodge when I couldn't find my dues card.

Brother Dana Wyatt PM, Treasure, I don't think even you know how many hours you spent toiling at putting our financial records back into condition, but I bet your family knows. You have done a job an accountant would probably charge ten thousand dollars or more and you done it in the name of Masonry for our lodge. Thank you.

Brother Jerry Sato PM, Senior Deacon, Your ritual is as proficient as when you were Senor Deacon the first time. Thanks for chairing the Pull Tab committee. You done all this for Masonry while making a career job change. I thank you for serving.

Brother Dana Ax, Thank you for stepping forward to fill the Junior Deacons chair. You proved Masonry is alive and prospering even in the world of airplanes.

Brother Dave Gurski PM, Senior Steward, Thank you for doing a great job. Your dedication is the true spirit of Masonry. You are well known for your dedication to Masonry.

Brother Jason, Cronin, Junior Steward, as our youngest officer it was great to see you uphold your obligation to answer the call of distressed masons and fill your chair during our meetings.

Brother Bart Bodner PM, Thank you for being Chaplin in spite of you health problems. You have a great voice and delivery of the prayers and charges. I share with you in your remorse of loosing your wife. I know it is of little solace but my brother, I have walked the same path.

Brother Roger Garst PM, You really didn't get to exercise your ritualistic expertise as Marshal due to the fact that our membership increase was zero for the year. Your involvement and great advice was always just what was needed.

Brother George Cronin PM, Tiler, George you seem to always amaze me by knowing where just about every thing is at the lodge building. You and your families dedication to Masonry is almost unparalleled. You, Roger Garst and Dave Gursky have the most dedicated of Masonic families. You all began in De Molay. Thanks for letting me in lodge when I forgot my dues card. I would have had be out side with you while Ken ran the meeting.

Brother Richard Pierce PM, Inspector. It was an enlightening experience working with you while solving problems for the return of our Charter. You have a somewhat terse way about you when attacking and solving problems. Congratulations, we did get the job done. Oh! You do make incredible salads!

Fred Davis PM, Inspector, Confidante, friend and brother. Well Fred, you got the ball rolling for the return of our charter at Rogers house. Great job,! I wonder where the lodge would be today, had you not possessed the foresight and confidence in us to call that meeting and put us to work in the vineyards of Masonry.

A great big thanks to all the committee chairmen. Each of you volunteered to chair a committee with no members. Now this takes a lot of nerve and determination. Each of your committees is important to Masonry, the community and our great country. Each of you took a committee in name only as there were no members until the volunteers came forward and filled the ranks and began working together.

Fraternally

Ira Waterman PM

Immediate Past and again Junior Past Master

Birthdays

- 01 Garry Taylor
- 01 Godofredo B. Lucero
- 02 Lawrence Lobach
- 04 Geoffrey Rogers PM
- 05 Reynaldo C. Dela Pena Jr
- 06 Thomas A. Elliott
- 06 David Harrington
- 09 Victor Medina
- 09 John Parker
- 10 Reynaldo Verdugo PM
- 12 Robert Trulove
- 13 James R. Collier
- 13 Johnny Thorne
- 13 Nick V. Pagaduan
- 14 Edward L. Tiu PM
- 14 Floro G. Luna
- 16 Marcelo S. Samson
- 16 Noel H. De La Rosa PM
- 18 Manuel D. De Guzman
- 18 Glenn E. Quillin
- 19 Jerry Sato PM
- 21 Rommel Macoy
- 21 Niceas A. Cassillan Jr
- 23 Robert Anderson
- 24 Ken Hope PM
- 26 Harold Franzlick
- 26 Rulon Stephenson
- 27 Vernon Sprinkle
- 28 William Cox
- 28 Dennis Iiao
- 29 Wellington Ho PM

February Calendar

- February 4, 2009
- 6:30 pm - 7:20 pm - Stated Meeting Dinner
- 7:30 pm - Stated Meeting

- February 11, 2009
- 6:00 pm - Temple Board Meeting
- 7:00 pm - 1st Degree Conferral

- February 13, 2009
- 7:00 p.m. - Valentine's Day Dinner and Dance Party-

- February 20, 2009
- 7:00 p.m - 1st Degree Conferral

- February 27, 2009
- 7:00 p.m. - 1st Degree Conferral

- Please Plan to attend.

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 Officers

- Master**
Morel Callueng
- Senior Warden**
Ken Martin PM
310-770-7422
- 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
- Junior Steward**
Rolly Arillaga
- Tiler**
George Cronin II, PM
310-324-2020
- Inspector 367th District**
Michael Baer PM