

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 5

Masonry a Way of Life

May 2009

FROM THE EAST

Brethren:

Brother Justin Daza-Ritchie, Past Master of Liberal Arts Lodge No. 677 was our Guest Speaker in our May Stated Meeting. He talked about our Youth Orders, particularly the International Order of DeMolay. As I stated in our previous Trestleboards, we have been exploring the possibility of reviving DeMolay in our Lodge. As an initial step, I created a Demolay Committee and appointed a Past Councilor of the DeMolay as Chairperson.

After Worshipful Daza-Ritchie's short talk, it was regularly moved and seconded that we establish a Demolay Chapter in our Lodge. This motion was unanimously approved. As such, we filled-up the necessary form and paid the initial fee of \$100.00. The other week, I received an email from Worshipful Daza-Ritchie, informing me that the next step now for me is to appoint six (6) to ten (10) Brothers who will serve in the Advisory Council or Chapter Dads. I have already requested our DeMolay Chairman to give me names. Once I get the names I will sit individually with the Brethren before I make the appointments. I know that being a Chapter Dad demands total commitment, dedication and hard work. We are ready to face that challenge but we also need the support of all the members of our Lodge to make this a fruitful undertaking.

We raised Brothers Dan Ibanez, Ben Ponce and Rene Esmane to the sublime degree of Master Mason on May 9, 2009. Our Lodge did the degree of Brother Ibanez; Artesia Sunrise Lodge did the degree for Brother Ponce; and Torrance University Lodge did the degree for Brother Esmane. It was indeed a sight to behold three Lodges in a degree conferral. This is a clear testimony that Masons in harmony working together can accomplish a lot of things. Congratulations Brothers Ibanez, Ponce and Esmane. Continue to live on a daily basis all the teachings of Masonry. Remember to convince the world that on becoming a Master Mason you have become a better man.

I am relieved to report to you that our Treasurer, Worshipful Dana L. Wyatt, had a successful bypass heart surgery in the first week of this month. I was so happy to see him in the Lodge on May 16, 2009 when we presented the Hiram Award to Worshipful Alvin "AL" Fowler. Take it easy Worshipful Wyatt and we will continue to pray for your continuing and steady recovery.

Check the Trestleboards for upcoming degrees. Come and join us and enjoy the ritual and the fellowship. I am indeed thankful to the Brethren for their unconditional support to the Lodge and to me. The success of all our degrees and activities fall squarely on the support that it gets from its members.

Fraternally,
Morel R. Callueng
Worshipful Master

FROM THE SOUTH

Brethren, my apologies for not having any messages at our Trestle Board for the month of April due to the work incident that led to my termination in my job of almost 20 years. It was a very unpleasant moment and agonizing experience for us in the family. Anyway, let me extend my thanks to all the Brethren who had given me courage and support during the time of our misery. But, with your moral and spiritual help, the appeal letter sent by our Worshipful Master Morel Callueng, and the pressure coming from our labor union charging them of unfair labor practice, my company has re-instated me back to my work with full benefits. Once again, in behalf of my family, please accept my heartfelt thanks to everyone.

Brethren, our Lodge right now has improved impressively both in membership and fellowship. Our membership is growing so fast that we have to do conferral degrees with multiple candidates almost every week. Our fellowship after the conferrals are making all brothers, old or new, bond together in harmony and brotherly love. In addition, our game room is now equipped with 50" HD TV and Kareoke system which our Brethren and Ladies are having so much fun during their visit in the Lodge. Let us not deviate from this course but instead let us all join in making our Lodge the best in our jurisdiction.

Let us all congratulate and welcome our newly obligated Master Mason brothers Del Macapagal, Jun Valencia, Tony Halili, Dan Ibanez, Ben Ponce, and Rene Esmane. Allow me to remind you my brothers a portion of the 3rd degree ritual, which follows the charge **“the eyes of the fraternity are now upon you. Be just, be faithful, be true, and convince the world by your actions that upon becoming a Master Mason you became a better man.”** In addition, to our newly entered apprentices Jig de Jesa, Ed Labingpuno, Cris Bayani, Bert Legaspi, and Cris Paragoso... **welcome to the fraternity!**

In our May Stated Meeting, we voted unanimously to sponsor a DeMolay in our Lodge. This is now in the process and we are looking for volunteers to be advisers of our DeMolay. My brothers, this is a very significant move for us to bring back DeMolay in our Lodge. Please, volunteer yourself to be one of the advisers and be always ready to assist and train these young masons to be the future Grandmaster of our honorable fraternity. We will be counting on you!

Entertainment and Refreshment Committee

The Gardena Moneta Lodge Fellowship Basketball has finally ended last Sunday, May 17th. A fellowship followed in the Lodge to celebrate the event. Each team brought in some food, drinks and good wine. The Red Team took the Championship trophy and the yellow team took the 2nd place. White team got the 3rd place trophy and the Green team should have the sportsmanship trophy. In total, it was a very successful sports event for the Lodge where father and son played together or against each other in harmony and good camaraderie.

Many Thanks to the Following Brethren:

To Bro. Ed Labingpuno who prepared the dinner during their 1st degree conferral and celebrated his birthday in the Lodge with food and spirit.

Many thanks to our Brethren Del Macapagal, Jun Valencia and Tony Halili for doing the May Stated meeting dinner. The food was catered by bro. Del Macapagal's daughter-in-law which was very appealing and the service was very impressive.

To Bro. Dan Ibanez, Ben Ponce, and Rene Esmane who provided the lunch for four Lodges, (Gardena Moneta Lodge, Artesia Lodge, Torrance University Lodge and Beverly Hills Lodge) during their 3rd degree conferral. It was a very impressive degree conferral that was performed by each Lodges! For the love of Hiram... I salute you all my brothers for a job well done!

Flor Cabanatan
Junior Warden

Gardena Moneta 372 **Fellowship Basketball**

The Championship Games of our Fellowship Basketball was held on May 17, 2009 at the YMCA Gym in Gardena. The White team bannered by Inspector Charles Cross and Brother Arnold Infante played the Green team of Brother Satur Duenas and Flor Cabanatan for third place. The White Team prevailed and copped third place. In the finals, the Red Team of Worshipful Morel Callueng and Worshipful Fred Davis played the Yellow Team of Brother Rene Galeon and Chris Cabanatan. The Red team beat the Yellow Team after a hard fought game and was crowned the Champions. Trophy presentation followed after the games. Brother Flor Cabanatan, the Chair of the Fellowship Games donated the three trophies awarded to the Champion, 2nd place and 3rd place. Thank you Brother Flor Cabanatan, Brother Arnold Infante and Worshipful Fred Davis for your patience in organizing this Fellowship Basketball Tournament. We hope to hold one more event before the end of the Masonic year. Thank you also to all the team members for your support and cooperation. This was a noteworthy undertaking to promote fellowship among the Brethren.

Congratulations to all the participants!
Organizing Committee
Fellowship Basketball
Gardena Moneta Lodge
No. 372

When does a Master Mason become a real Master Mason?

The Old Past Master asked the Young Brother, "Are you a Master Mason?"

The Young Brother proudly answered, "Yes of course, I am! I was initiated, passed and raised. You raised me, don't you remember? I know the pass and words of all the degrees. I know all the due guards and signs.. I attend meetings regularly and contributes to Masonic charities. I pay my dues on time and I have a dues card to prove it. ... so I think I can definitely say I am a Master Mason. "

Then the Old Past Master asked again, "So you really think you are a Master Mason? But are you a real Master Mason?" And then continued, "You may do all the things you just told me but unless you think and live Masonry you are nothing but a third degree Mason - a Mason in Body, but not in Spirit; like a building devoid of occupant, a road leading to nowhere, an attractive though empty vessel, or a dog barking at nothing, but barks because he can and purely for attention only."

"So, are you a real Master Mason?" asked the Old Past Master again. The Young Brother got quiet and could not say a word. He went home feeling dispirited and mulled over what the Old Past Master told him all week. When he came back to the Lodge the next week, he sought the Old Past Master and then said, "Of course, you are right," the Young Brother said, lowly, "Here is my pin. Don't give it back to me until you think I am worthy to wear it". He then handed it to the Old Past Master. The Old Past Master smiled. "I think you would better put it back now," he answered gently. "None are more fit to wear the Square and Compasses than those who know themselves unworthy, for they are those who will strive to be a real Master Mason."

The time you start asking yourself the question if are a real Master Mason is when you are on your way to becoming a real Master Mason. For it is when you begin to doubt yourself that you will seek out, eventually understand the underlying principle what makes Freemasonry a great force as it is; for it is also the time when you start to believe that Goodness of Heart, Purity of Intention and Love of Virtue will make you a real Master Mason. And when you do it with humility and without fanfare makes that much more meaningful for in due course the eyes of the Fraternity will focus upon you. This is the very moment the Fraternity was waiting for, to intuit that you are now getting it; that you have arrived in your destination; that you have found what you are in search of; that you are now becoming one of them - a worthy Brother Master Mason.

And as one Past Grandmaster articulated, "Unless a Brother understands this, believes it, takes it to his heart, lives it in his daily life, love and labor in his Masonry—I say he is no Master Mason."

So...are you a real Master Mason?

Birthdays

01 Felipe Badiola
 02 Gene D. Provinse
 03 Richard B. Pingarron PM
 03 Craig McDowell
 04 Terry Young
 05 Nelson T. Sarian
 07 Edgardo L. Golpeo
 07 LeRoy Forehand PM
 08 Sidney Brickman
 11 Thomas Cantwell
 15 Alton G. McQueen
 21 Manuel T. Quitevis
 21 Edy M. Tuballa
 22 Mervin W. LaFond
 23 Arthur Howard
 25 Harold Perong
 26 Ronald Hawkins
 27 Casey Callender
 28 Kenny Pouder
 29 Serafettin Bayraktar
 30 Rolly Arillaga
 31 Walter Boehm

Hiram Award

On May 16, 2009 we presented the Hiram Award to Worshipful Alvin "AL" Fowler; an outstanding and exemplary Mason. We started the evening with a sumptuous dinner at our Recreation Room. After that, all the Brethren and Guests proceeded to the Lodge Room for the formal presentation. This presentation was a token of our thanks to recognize his selfless dedication to the cause of Freemasonry and the community. The affair was well attended. Our very own Inspector, Worshipful Charles Cross, of the 717th Masonic District made the presentation; while Worshipful Fred Davis, Inspector of the 705th Masonic District served as Master of Ceremonies. It was a very successful event and all the Brethren and Guests who spoke about Worshipful Fowler showered him with praises. A well deserved Hiram Award to you Worshipful Fowler.

Congratulations!

Pictures on our web site
 WWW.Mason372.org

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
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Constitutional Observance:
 Nathaniel Zipagan
ziptracker@gmail.com
Funeral: Ira Waterman PM,
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Hiram Award: Ken Martin, PM,
Ken@mason372.org
Investment Committee:
 Dana Wyatt, PM,
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Lodge Ambassador: Jose Bernabe
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 Victor Lerma PM,
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 Flor Cabanatan
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 John Rockwood PM,
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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 Friday @ 7:30
 Dinner @ 6:30

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 717th District

Charles Cross PM

June 2009 Calendar

June 5 – Stated Meeting Dinner –
 6:30 pm – 7:20 pm

June 5- Stated Meeting –
 7:30 pm

June 10 – OSI- 3rd degree, 1st Section

June 12- 3rd degree- Cris Bayani –
 7:00 pm

June 20 – 9: 00 am – 3rd Degree –
 Ed Labingpuno, Bert Legaspi and
 Chris Paragoso

June 24 - 2nd Degree –
 Joel Ros and Lee Razalan –
 7:00 pm

June 26 – Temple Board Meeting –
 6:00 pm