



Issue No. 2

June 2006

Marikina Lodge No. 119 celebrates 59th Founding Anniversary

by VW Rey Cadiz

Last May 20, 2006, Saturday, the brethren of Marikina Lodge No. 119, Free & Accepted Masons of the Philippines celebrated their 59 long and glorious years of happy fellowship & camaraderie at the NCO Clubhouse in GHQ, Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo, Q.C. After 59 long years of existence, Marikina Lodge proved to be a strong lodge to reckon with as evidenced by the entry of many petitioners who applied for membership. To date, the lodge is powered by its 60 regularly attending active members, 15 dual members and 10 honorary members. During stated meetings you could see that the lodge room is jampacked, not to mention the attendance of visiting or sojourning brethren and that it needs more chairs and space.

The affair was a very successful one though the celebration was very modest and simple, yet the brethren enjoyed very much each others company. It was really a venue for fellowship and renewing ties and more bonding for members.

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The brethren, sisters, children and friends of Marikina Lodge No. 119 pose for posterity during the 59th Anniversary Celebration.

Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines
Masonic District NCR-F
Capitol Masonic Temple, Quezon City

ACTIVITIES FOR MY 2006-2007

MAY - DISTRICT REORGANIZING

- Installation of GLI
- Organization of District Council
- Briefing on IMES 2006-2007 program
- District turnover Ceremony

Lead Lodge: ALL LODGES IN DISTRICT NCR-F

JUNE - GOOD CITIZENSHIP MONTH

- Observance of Phil. Independence Day
- Observance of Dr. J.P. Rizal birthday
- Masonic Information/Friendship Day
- Support Public Schools program

Lead Lodge: ANG TIPOLO LODGE NO. 334

JULY - PHYSICAL FITNESS & SPORTS MONTH

- Physical Fitness Program
- Induction of District Past Master's Guild
- Lodge History-every lodges in short history to be submitted in June

Lead Lodge: T.M. KALAW LODGE NO. 136

AUGUST - REMEMBERING OUR NATIONAL HEROES MONTH

- Observance of M.L. Quezon Day - Quezon City Lodge
- Observance of M.H.del Pilar birthday

Lead Lodge: MARIKINA LODGE NO. 119

SEPTEMBER - HONORING SENIOR MASONS

- Testimonial Dinner to Senior Members/Past DDGM of District 11.
- Sunshine visitations to non-attending Members (Lost Sheep's Reach Out)

Lead Lodge: JUAN SUMULONG LODGE NO. 169

OCTOBER - IN MEMORY OF OUR DECEASED BRETHREN

- Fund Raising Campaign-Golf Tournament - Mandaluyong Lodge No. 277
- Lodge of Remembrance
- Widows and Orphans Day

Lead Lodge: SILANGAN LODGE NO. 19

NOVEMBER - THE MASONS AND HIS ENVIRONMENT

- NCR-Multi-District Convention NCR-F DISCON

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For 59 years, our Lodge has illuminated the paths of many of our brothers, many of whom have excelled in virtue and excellence in their careers. My thanks and praises to all the Past Masters of Marikina Lodge No. 119 because without their wisdom and leadership, our Lodge will not be able to withstand the trials, temptations and hardships of a rough and rugged road.



I thank everyone who attended our 59th Anniversary Celebration held last May 20 at EP Club. To SW John & family, JW Bugs, VW Greg, VW Rolly P. Ubaldo and family, VW Rey N. Cadiz & kids, WB Paul, WB Johnny, Bro. George F. Catameo & family, Bro Arnel & family, WB Noy & family, Bro. Domingo S. Angel, Bro. Jun Camilet Jr., Bro. Conte & Bro. Ed Pasco & family. Visiting brethren VW Harry S. Gonzalez, (DGL Masonic Dist NCR-G). Bros. Orly Valenzuela, Toytoy Fruto, Melchor Rivera & Pol Duldulao, especially to the chairman IPM Dante & family, *Maraming salamat po!!!* You made the occasion very memorable.

Now that our Lodge is approaching its 60th year, let us renew our bonds and remind ourselves of our obligations. The signs of our times are challenging, and gives every person a cause to worry. Even our self-worth as human beings is being downgraded by materialism and false sense of value. Each individual is electronically connected to the Globe, and yet, he feels alone. We are bombarded with violence and betrayal - even our own government and our own leaders. Is it any wonder that humans now feel more defeated and depressed than they have at any point in history?

Brethren, let us bear in mind those valuable Masonic lessons of temperance, fortitude, prudence and justice. Let us continue to spread brotherly love and affection. Let us **THINK, SPEAK, AND ACT AS MASONS**, so we may become **MASONS IN CREED AND IN DEED**. Then maybe, we can influence non-Masons to do the same. May the GAOTU bless us all!!!

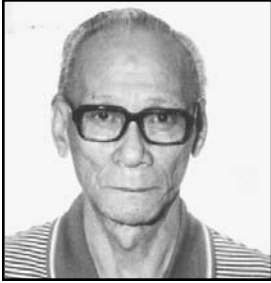
Fraternally and sincerely,

Bro. Miguelito M. Cruz

Worshipful Master, 2006

FREEMASONRY AT ITS TRANSFORMATION AND BEYOND

by Bro. B.J. Torres, PAGES (147)
Researcher/Compiler



No Masonic historian has been able to establish the exact date as to when non-operative members were accepted into the Craft, however, we can consider some circumstances which may have led to their admittance.

In the 15th and 16th centuries, the operative lodges depended upon various civic officers and patrons for the permits and licenses required for the practical operation of the lodges. It is likely therefore, that these magistrates, sheriffs and other dignitaries would have had a close relationship with the lodges under their jurisdiction and it is quite possible that at the several feast days and holidays celebrated by lodges, they would be invited to join the festivities. Once the presence of these officials had been established at the various social events of the operative lodges, it would only require the passage of time before the interests of their party could be furthered by their presence at the business meetings of the lodges. This is but one of the several circumstances when non-operative masons were accepted into the Craft. There were still other circumstances which are documented.

In the year 1600, the records of the Lodge of St. Mary in Edinburgh-Scotland, show that John Boswell of Auchinleck was present at an assembly of Lodge. Boswell was not an operative mason, but whether he was admitted a visitor or a Brother, is not stated. According to the archives of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, the first recorded non-operative mason attended at a Lodge meeting in the year 1634.

In 1641, Roger Morey was initiated and then accepted as a member of Lodge St. Mary. While in England, the first recorded acceptance of non-operative masons was on the 16th of October 1646, when Elias Ashmole and Henry Mainwarring were initiated. According to the manuscripts held by the United Grand Lodge of England, the words “accepted as a Freemason” were used to describe a Brother, who had been admitted to the Fraternity, but were not operative masons.

There are still other similar circumstances which need not be cited for our purpose. Thus, the question now arises: “What made these emi-

ment people join the Fraternity?”

Masonic historians could only speculate the main reason for eminent people of science and literature and other fields join the Craft because of the “code of ethics”, referring to the Ancient Laws of as early as the year 926, more particularly the “Old York Constitution of 926”. It contains Fifteen Articles defining the duties and responsibilities of the Master, and Fifteen Points defining the duties and responsibilities of every mason. This Constitution made the Craft well-organized aside from the fact that the rules and regulations were actually lessons of morality making the masons then as real gentlemen and adhering to the principles of brotherly love and charity.

Other code of laws were that of the Constitution of Edward III, the Regulation of 1663 which contained the Ancient Installation Charges and the Ancient Charges of Makings. All of these code of laws contain teachings of love of God and regular attendance to one’s church.

The transformation or transition actually was more gradual and not abrupt.

By the start of the 18th century, the building of great cathedrals practically came to a standstill, throwing away many fine artisans out of employment. Non-operative masons then began to dominate the lodges. Operative elements were completely discarded except so far as its influence is exhibited in the choice and arrangement of symbols, and the typical use of its language, and then shortly thereafter the rules and regulations were changed to become metaphysical sense - relating to the transcendent or to a reality beyond what is perceptible to the senses, highly intellectual or philosophical, and hence was born the Speculative Freemasonry as we know and practice at present.



Marikina ...
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Going back to the history of the lodge after 59 years, it has endured the lapse of time and the ruthless hands of ignorance and has produced two (2) great Mayors of the fast progressive & industrialized city in the persons of the late WB & Hon Mayor Gil Fernando, two time Worshipful Master of the lodge and had served as Mayor for three (3) terms or a total of 12 years. He is the father of former Mayor and now Metropolitan Manila Dev Authority (MMDA) Chair Bayani Fernando popularly known as "BF"; WB & Mayor Rodolfo Valentino, also two (2) time Worshipful Master of the lodge who served as Mayor during the Aquino Administration.



The Lodge also have members in other government sectors like Local Water Utilities Administration (LWUA) handling sensitive positions like that of WB Daniel "Danny" Landingin, Deputy Administrator for Finance and many others who are Dept Managers and Project Managers.

The composition of the lodge today are from the AFP also holding sensitive positions; from the PNP the same and one star General or Police Chief Superintendent was produced in the person of Bro. Nelson Estares, Decom of 1970, who retired recently. And also from the private and other government sectors.

Through the leadership of its Past Masters' who later rose to hierarchy both in the District and Grand Lodge levels, they have handled the affairs and management of the lodge very well during the past years making it financially stable, without batting an eyelash, we owe to them what is Marikina Lodge today.

Brethren and families in attendance are; WB Mike M. Cruz, SW John B. Briones & family, JW Richard M. San Juan, IPM M. Dante J. Ypil & family, VW Greg C. Mendoza, VW Rolly P. Ubaldo and family, VW Rey N. Cadiz & kids, WB Paul A. Fernandez, WB Johnny T. Flaviano, Bro. George F. Catameo & family, Bro Arsenio L. Bantayan & family, WB Jose "Noy" A. Balite III & family, Bro. Domingo S. Angel, Bro. Pedrito D. Camilet Jr., Bro. Conte A. Sabate & Bro. Edgardo F. Pasco & Family.

Visiting brethren: VW Harry S. Gonzalez, (DGL Masonic Dist NCR-G). Bros. Orly Valenzuela, Toytoy Fruto, Melchor Rivera & Pol Duldulao.

Grand Lodge ...

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- Environmental Projects
 - Observance of Andres Bonifacio Day
 - District Convention - NCR - F
- Lead Lodge: MANDALUYONG LODGE NO. 277**

DECEMBER - THE GREATEST OF THESE IS CHARITY

- GLP Anniversary
 - Subordinate
 - Gift Giving
 - Observance of J.P. Rizal Day
 - Lodge Leadership and Planning Seminar
- Lead Lodge: T.M. KALAW LODGE NO. 136**

JANUARY -TRANSFER OF LODGE LEADERSHIP

- Proficiency Examination of Elected Lodge Officers
 - Installation of Lodge Officers
- Lead Lodge: MARIKINA LODGE NO. 119**

FEBRUARY - LOVE MONTH

- Ladies Night
 - Installation of Lodge Officers
- Lead Lodge: ANG TIPOLO LODGE NO. 334**

MARCH - HONORING PAST MASTERS/AWARDS NIGHT

- Past Masters' Night
 - Recognition and Awards
- Lead Lodge: MANDALUYONG LODGE NO. 277**

APRIL - RENEWAL OF COMMITMENT TO GRAND LODGE

- Honoring District Officers
 - 91st ANCOM
- Lead Lodge SILANGAN LODGE NO. 19**

COMMITTEES

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Masonic Education | JUAN SUMULONG MEM LODGE # 169 |
| 2. Sports and Youth | SILANGAN LONDGE # 19 |
| 3. Sunshine | ANG TIPOLO LODGE # 334 |
| 4. Outreach/Charity | MANDALUYONG CITY LODGE # 277 |
| 5. Ways and Means | JUAN SUMULONG MEM LODGE # 169 |
| 6. Fellowship | TM KALAW MEM LODGE # 136 |
| 7. Newsletter Publication | MARIKINA LODGE # 119 |

District handover ceremonies



Above left: Incoming District Deputy Grand Master Ed Tolentino formally accepted the stewardship of District NCR-F from Immediate Past DDGM Philmore Balmaceda in a simple but solemn ceremony held last May 25 at the Capitol Masonic Temple. Above right: Immediate Past District Grand Lecturer Rogelio Torrices presents a plaque to VW Philmore. Below: Fellowship at Kowloon Restaurant.



THE RIVER DELTA

WM Mike Cruz
Publisher

VW Rey Cadiz, WB Dante Ypil
Bro John Briones, Bro. Bugs San Juan,
Greg Mendoza
Contributing writers

Send materials to lathala@gmail.com

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**VW Rey Cadiz
WB Dante Ypil
Lathala Printing Press**

*Birthday celebrants
for the month of JUNE*

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

**VW Ronald Fabian (2)
Bro. Nelson Estares (4)
WB Zito Ochoa (4)
Bro. Pedro Pagunuran (6)
Bro. Dominador De Castro (7)
Bro. Tony Munsayac (22)
WB Rudy Masiddo (26)
WB Rudy Valentino (26)
Bro. Jojo Holanday (27)**