



EBBS AND FLOWS CHRONICLE

The Official News Bulletin of Cebu Lodge No. 128, F. & A. M.
Under the Jurisdiction of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of
Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines

Volume 1, Issue 1

March 2010

The First Newsletter of Cebu Lodge No. 128, F. & A. M.

With the theme of our Worshipful Master Douglas S. Tan

"Go forth and seek further; and ye shall find glory..."

Brethren, we would like to welcome you to our first newsletter, "Ebbs and Flows" symbolizes change and the regular flow of life, this will inform our long lost brethren of our current activities in our lodge and encourage them to join our activities this ensuing masonic year.

Stated Meeting: Every 2nd Tuesday of the Month, 6:30 in the Evening, at Cebu Masonic Temple, 70 A. Borromeo Street, Cebu City

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 60th Public Installation of Officers
- 2 Cebu Lodge No. 128, F. & A. M. Academic Excellence Award
- 3 Cebu Lodge No. 128, F. & A. M. Goes Countryside
- 4 Annual Communication (ANCOM) 2010 Corner
- 5 WM Douglas S. Tan Joins Demolay Advisors Meet
- 6 Message from the East
- 7 Plans for the Coming Quarter:
"Lets Paint the Lodge this Summer"
"Operation Manhood"
"Balik – Eskwela Program"

60th Public Installation of Officers

Held last January 30, 2010 at the Robinland Building, North Reclamation Area, Mandaue City.

The new set of Cebu Lodge No. 128 Officers were installed last January 30, 2010 at the rooftop of Robinland Building, North Reclamation Area, Mandaue City. The ancient ceremony was conducted by Very Worshipful Jose Y. Mateo as Installing Officer and Very Worshipful William S. Chu as Master of Ceremonies. It was jointly held with Mt. Moriah Lodge No. 252, F. & A. M.



WM Douglas S. Tan was installed as the new Worshipful Master while Bro. Marvin S. Sanchez as Senior Warden and Bro. Bryan Y. Teson as Junior Warden. The Keynote Speaker for the Evening was Bro. Samson U. Pelagio, Jr. of Tagum Lodge No. 204, an ordained priest and currently with the Philippine National Police as Chief of Destabilization/Ultra Rightist Group Section of the Internal Security Operations Division under the Directorate of Operations. It was a well attended affair with brethren all over the country witnessed the solemn ceremony. Brethren from BIRTH Inc. were also there to grace the occasion.

The ceremony was lavishly culminated by a beautiful firework display over the scenic Cebu International Port fronting Mactan Channel. Kudos to the new Lights! ❖

*60th Public Installation of Officers for the
Masonic Year 2010-2011*

Cebu Lodge No. 128, F. & A. M.

Academic Excellence Award

Going Public? Yes, Cebu Lodge No. 128, F. & A. M. went to a public school last March 29, 2010 to award its 1st ever Academic Excellence Award.



The awardees were the top 3 deserving students across grade level of Kalunasan Elementary School, a hinterland school in Cebu City. Special awards such as Cash Incentives and a bundle of school supplies were given to the top 3 graduates. Present during the affair was no less than the District Deputy Grand Master of Masonic District RVII-A, Very Worshipful Sixto Rey M. Orig. The awards were in a form of Gold, Silver and Bronze Medallion especially crafted for that memorable ceremony. This idea was conceptualized by the Master of the Lodge and was duly supported by the Senior and Junior Warden as well as the members. This award was in recognition of the public school system being the foundation of our country's greatness.

Having received very favorable feedbacks from the school principal, teachers and parents, the 3 Lights have strongly recommended to extend the award to other public schools next year. More focus will be those from the hinterland areas. ❖



Congratulations to the Graduates!

Cebu Lodge No. 128, F. & A. M. Goes Countryside...

Free Medical Evaluation and Surgical Operation
Aiding in Family Support by Encouraging Livelihood
Matching Skills with Opportunities

Being aware of our Lodge social responsibilities, the Lodge Officers and Members together with the Cebu Medical Team headed by VW Felix J. Vicuña, Jr. M.D. went to Asturias, a municipality south of Cebu for our annual Outreach Project.



(Bro. Marvin S. Sanchez Oversees Job Matching)

The project was dubbed “3 n 1” and was held at the town hall last February 27-28, 2010. It was a combination of a medical mission, job matching for employment opportunities and basic pang negosyo demo. The project was spearheaded by the Three Lights and Bro. Raymond T. Chiu, our Lodge Secretary.



(WM Douglas S. Tan Conducting Livelihood Seminar)

Local residents were also taught some basic “PANG NEGOSYO” lessons. Instructional materials from Dept. of Science and Technology (DOST) Cebu and some video clippings were shown and given to participants. Topics were chosen based on availability of raw materials present in their surroundings. A simple yet unique job matching was also done among group of young ones for possible employment opportunities in the city.

(Continued at Page 3 / Goes Countryside)

Annual Communication 2010 Corner

ANCOM 2010 is on April 22 – 24, 2010, SMX Convention Center, Mall of Asia Pasay City.



The Annual Communications of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines will once again be held this April 21-24, 2010 at the famous Mall of Asia, SMX Convention Center. Cebu Lodge No. 128, F. & A. M. will be sending our biggest number of delegates ever to this prestigious gathering of Masons. Our Lodge will be leaving on the 22nd of April, 2010 via Cebu Pacific Air and we shall be billeted at Kabayan Hotel. Those brethren who want to join the real fun and watch the beautiful sundown at the Manila Bay are encourage to signify their intentions now. Limited discounted airline seats and hotel rooms are available. Join the fun, **Join the Ancom 2010!** ❖

WM Douglas S. Tan Joins Demolay Advisors Meet...



WM Douglas “Nikki” S. Tan joins the First Lapu-lapu Chapter Order of DeMolay Advisors’ Meeting at the Club House of Bro. Janby Yu last March 14, 2010. It was a 2-day meeting with all the facets of the Order were presented. The meeting was organized by Bros. Ramil Huele and Dexter Macrohon, both DeMolay Masons who were also officers of the Philippine Supreme Council Order of DeMolay. Maktan Lodge No. 30, F. & A. M., Cebu Lodge No. 128 F. & A.M. and Cebu Bodies A.A.S.R. were the sponsoring Lodges of Lapu-Lapu Chapter Order of DeMolay. Members of Maktan Lodge No. 30 headed by newly installed Worshipful Master, WM Hudson Ong were also present. Plans and programs were discussed and agreed.

Among the major programs that were discussed were the programs on recruitment, fund raising and ritual works. Major changes on the schedule of regular meetings and Advisors’ responsibilities were also tackled.

The meeting culminated with a strong commitment for DeMolays to be the best example of today’s modern youth. ❖

(From Page 2 / Goes Countryside)

Several kids underwent cleft lip operation, around 6 women were treated for their goiter, 4 for hernia surgery and a number of oldies received cataract operation. Our very own VW Jesus M. Ravanes, MD performed the Cataract Operation.



(VW Jesus M. Ravanes @ Work)



Before Operation

After Operation

The group left Asturias with big and warm smiles from residents and for us a heartfelt gratitude for our contribution to society. ❖





Message from the East

Delivered By: Worshipful Master Douglas S. Tan

The First Point

Today marks the beginning of my administration and as worshipful master of this lodge, let me be the first one to cast the masonic light to this lodge.

As the world renowned author, Dale Carnegie wants to start any endeavor with the words, “First things First” thus; I will be the first to light your path as the humble servant of this lodge. The Masonic light I want to share with you is “The First Point”. Brethren, as masons what is the first point? Is it still fresh in your memory and if so, have you sincerely and faithfully practiced it in life? Or have you stayed deaf amidst the call of help from distressed brethren or have you simply ignored a brother so you can benefit at something.

The First Point which have been in existence ages ago and practiced within our Craft is “Foot to Foot” which denotes that we should not hesitate to go on foot and out of our way to assist a distressed worthy brother. A simple injunction which is easy to agree but somehow hard to implement. Though it is our duty to assist a brother we should always remember that such assistance should be within our cable tow and will not endanger or compromise the goodwill of yourself or your family. Yet, there are some who hid themselves as brother of the Craft and though morally wrong they will seek help from you and will judge you as an unworthy mason if you choose not to help them. We should always remember that any assistance, wages, or help is not a right but a privilege. Though it is our duty to fly to the relief of a brother. We should also think if he is worthy, meaning just, upright and true. We can not assist anybody who will ultimately cause evil things to flourish. Let’s face it, we are not a group of perfect men and though we strive to follow the immutable teachings in our Craft yet there are actually some who have entered the portals of our lodge with mercenary intentions. I have heard once during a wake of fallen brother, a person who is a non-mason exclaimed “Maayo gyud ning mag-mason diay ta kay kung mamatay ta daghan muduaw nato...” I don’t know if that person did petition to become a mason but how can we extend a helping hand to somebody who is not sincere.

What I have stated are an actually minor instance which is up to us to weight. Assistance from a brother sometimes is not automatic since it is mostly earned from the one seeking such help. After all what matters is not what you can get from Masonry but what you can give to masonry. For if you are an active member of the lodge and have humbly pursued the tenets of our fraternity through actions, once you are in distress, you don’t have to call the brethren for help, and they will just come to you. The brethren will see who is worthy and who are not. Worthiness can never be bought for it is through labor and persistence will you earn it. Moreover, assistance to a brother is the inherent practice of our fraternity. This separates us from other organizations because of the obligations we have taken and the mystic tie that we are bound. It is just that in circumstance that we have in our power to help, then let us do so, not only to our brethren but also to the entire humanity.

Now brethren I call on to all of you to observe the first point, for I know that I will be needing it as I walk with you through this masonic year. May you not turn your back on me if I seek assistance for the welfare of our lodge, may you guide me and whisper good counsel to my ear if I make mistakes in leading this lodge, may you not hesitate to assist me in the numerous lodge activities I’m planning to implement this year for after all... I HAVE NO HANDS BUT YOURS!

I hope you got my point and I hope this simple message and masonic gem will be engraved to your hearts. As man and masons we should always be ready to heed the call of our brothers for we are not only brothers in good times, but brothers come hell or high water until time shall be no more.

In closing, kindly ask yourself: have you ignored a worthy brother in need, have you stepped on a brother instead of helping him get up, have you helped somebody sincerely without expecting reward? Brethren with all these simple questions regarding The First Point...what have you to say to yourselves. Guilty or not guilty? ❖

The Hero Within

Delivered by: Bro. Rodolfo V. Ledesma, Jr.

“Our planet is filled with heroes, young and old, rich and poor, men, women of different colors, shapes and sizes. Each person has a hidden hero within; you just have to look inside you and search for it in your heart, and be the hero to the next one in need. The hero in you is waiting to be unleashed. Serve, serve well, serve others above yourself and be happy to serve.” This is the golden words of Teacher Efren Peñaflorida, a fellow Filipino and 2009 CNN Hero of the Year Awardee.

In some point of our lives, a lot of us probably are asking “Who is my Hero?” But have we ever asked ourselves, “How can I be a Hero?” What makes me a hero? I went over some news clippings, read a lot of stories of well known personalities but there is nothing more heroic than the acts of these persons whose presence may or may no longer be felt within the lodge.

(Continued at Page 5 / The Hero Within)...

Plans for the Coming Quarter...

“Let’s Paint the Lodge this Summer”



Discover your child’s artistic potential and unleash their creativity. Let them join the “1st Summer Art Class“, the first of its kind. This will be held at the Cebu Masonic Hall, 70 A. Borromeo St. Cebu City. Classes offered will be:

Art appreciation for kids 3 to 6yrs old and Drawing and Basic Painting for 7 to 15 yrs old. Classes will be every Tuesday and Thursday, 9:30am to 11:30 AM. Registration Fee is P3,500.00 inclusive of Art Materials. For more particulars please call:

Bro. Frederick D. Yu 0922-8202468
Bro. Raymond T. Chiu 0922-8208875
Mayette 256-1907

This will be opened to all kids including those without Masonic affiliations. Classes will start April 13, 2010 and ends May 20, 2010. ❖

“Operation Manhood”

Come this May 09, 2010, Cebu Lodge will spearhead another annual summer activity in cooperation with the Medical Team of VW. Felix J. Vicuña, Jr. M.D. This will be Operation “Manhood”. This will be a morning activity which will be held at South General Hospital, Naga, Cebu. Around 200 young boys are expected to benefit from this project.

So, come with us brethren, have fun and let us try to reminisce what we had during our time. ❖

“Balik – Eskwela Program”

Cebu Lodge No. 128, F. & A. M. will sponsor a Balik – Eskwela program this June, 2010. Highlights of this program will be the giving away of school supplies to various students from low income communities especially to those in the hinterland barangays. **Brethren who wish to share their blessings such as used but usable books, bags, school shoes and other school materials are highly appreciated. Monetary donations are most welcome. Please contact the 3 Lights for more details.**

To those who give more, more will be given. Join us as we share our bounties. ❖

(From Page 4 / The Hero Within)

Humble as they are, they are considerably successful in their chosen field of endeavor; they have given back to society more than what society has given them.

With full determination, they have tested the various terrains, climbed the mountain ranges, the rolling valleys, and crossed the unfriendly rivers and shaky sea waters of the Philippine archipelago in the name of charity. They have met with various cultures, people of different beliefs and classes but their determination to help people in desperate need never withered.

During the last Cebu Lodge No. 128 Stated Meeting, which was on March 9, 2010, we gave honor to the brothers who were once Worshipful Masters of our Lodge. These Past Masters of Cebu Lodge No. 128 were the brothers to whom I was referring to, the heroes of our Lodge.

A note worth mentioning, recently, a Past Master of Cebu Lodge No. 128 was recognized as one of the Outstanding Individual Awardee of Cebu City during the 73rd Charter Day. He was renowned for his never ending dedication in the promotion for better public health thru the conduct of various free medical missions both here and abroad. A warm salute to Very Worshipful Brother Felix J. Vicuña, Jr. MD, also one of the heroes of Cebu Lodge No. 128.

Brethren, no matter how small or how significant their contributions were, inside or outside the lodge, our Past Masters deserve due recognition, for they once ruled and governed our Lodge the best way they knew possible.

Now, we tend to realize that a hero need not have to die for his cause. He just has to defend his cause and try to move forward to pursue things and ideals that he greatly believes in, even if others doubt him. ❖



(MY2010 First Fellowship @ Ching Palace)

CONTRIBUTORS

WM Douglas S. Tan
Bro. Rodolfo V. Ledesma, Jr.

PHOTOS

Bro. Frederick D. Yu

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Bro. Raymond T. Chiu

“Go forth and seek further; and ye shall find glory...”