



# SOUTH WEST LODGE NO. 283

1140 "B" Avenue  
National City, CA 91950

## Trestleboard

Tel: (619) 477 - 4488  
Website: <http://lodge283.freemason.org>



Volume 133 – Issue 6

STATED MEETING – First Thursday of each month, 7:30PM  
Monthly Newsletter

JUNE 2020

### FROM THE EAST,

"Freemasonry, notwithstanding, has still survived."



As I read the quote over and over like a mantra, I find it to be poignant, hopeful and it resonates more than ever during these confusing and uncertain times. While the Coronavirus continues to sweep our nation and hold our Masonic activities at our Lodge to a standstill, we as Brethren have found ways to preserve our positive atmosphere and affect our community creatively. Zoom meetings have allowed the opportunity for fellowship and brainstorming for ways to help our neighbors directly affected by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Our small conversations have allowed ourselves to reach beyond the four walls of our personal homes and touch the lives of those in need. And as I reflect back on what we have already accomplished, I am in awe and inspired by the men of South West Lodge who embody the teachings of our Craft.

Due to the overwhelming generosity of our Brethren, we were able to raise an astonishing amount of funds which were then allocated to multiple causes: We partnered up with Porky's Lechon and were able to provide sustenance in the form of delicious hot plates to more than 250 medical staff members of Paradise Valley Hospital—the healthcare HEROES—in order to show our appreciation and support for their sacrifice and hard work. A portion of the raised funds also contributed to the 935th Masonic District's (SWL283, CL441, CVL626, CHM747) partnered with Pinatubo Lodge No. 52 and coordinated by WBro Benjamin Reyes and WBro Bobby Sia in "Feeding Several Barangay's of Olongapo." Food packs were given to those really in need in Barangay's Banicain, Pag-asa, Kalalake, Asinan, Old Cabalanm Sta. Rita, Gordon Heights, Mabayayuan and New Ilalim. Last, but not least, we were also able to contribute to our Grand Master MW John E Trauner's project: "Distressed Worthy Brother Relief Fund," a fund designed to help Masons affected by COVID-19.

Now with June in our midst, I want to share our new endeavor for this month: "South West Lodge No. 283 Honoring the Graduating Class of 2020." As many of you already know the class of 2020 will not experience the extravagance of what a graduation ceremony is like due to the current pandemic. We plan to show them we care and give them something special. With that said, if there are Brethren from SWL 283 who have kid(s), grandkid(s) or if there are any DeMolays of Kimball Chapter and Jobs Daughters of Bethel No. 164 graduating this year from High School or College, please reach out to me or any of our Officers and let us know.

I will also be collecting monetary donations to fund this project. You can send it to me via Paypal ([gcatbagan@gmail.com](mailto:gcatbagan@gmail.com)), Venmo (@[gcatbagan](https://www.venmo.com/gcatbagan)), or we can arrange a pick up or delivery. Deadline is June 15, 2020.

FRATERNALLY,

**Godfrey D. Catbagan - MASTER**

### SOUTH WEST LODGE NO. 283 - 2019 LODGE OFFICERS

	Master	Godfrey D. Catbagan (Lorraine)	<a href="mailto:gcatbagan@gmail.com">gcatbagan@gmail.com</a>
	Senior Warden	Ferdinand G. Lacurom (Belinda)	<a href="mailto:flacurom@yahoo.com">flacurom@yahoo.com</a>
	Junior Warden	Ronald Ray A. Banci (Arleen)	<a href="mailto:ron.banci@gmail.com">ron.banci@gmail.com</a>
	Treasurer	Clarito A. DeVera, PM (Connie)	<a href="mailto:ldevera44@yahoo.com">ldevera44@yahoo.com</a>
	Secretary	Jacob V. Borillo, PM (Linda)	<a href="mailto:jakeborillo@gmail.com">jakeborillo@gmail.com</a>
	Chaplain	Francisco T. Ragsac (Gloria)	<a href="mailto:fragsac@cox.net">fragsac@cox.net</a>
	Assistant Secretary	Alan I. Ambito, PM (Lynn)	<a href="mailto:alspar72@gmail.com">alspar72@gmail.com</a>
	Senior Deacon	Peter Cortes	<a href="mailto:pcortes0620@yahoo.com">pcortes0620@yahoo.com</a>
	Junior Deacon	Juven Egana (Vanessa)	<a href="mailto:jegana64@yahoo.com">jegana64@yahoo.com</a>
	Marshal	Ira James Castro (Marilyn)	<a href="mailto:castro13md@yahoo.com">castro13md@yahoo.com</a>
	Senior Steward	Gregory J. LaFleur	<a href="mailto:tigermn319@aol.com">tigermn319@aol.com</a>
	Junior Steward	Salvador Ramos	<a href="mailto:salramos195300@yahoo.com">salramos195300@yahoo.com</a>
	Tiler	Luisito Mayor, Jr. (Emelita)	
OFFICER'S COACH		Clarito A. De Vera, PM (Connie)	<a href="mailto:ldevera44@yahoo.com">ldevera44@yahoo.com</a>
OFFICER'S COACH		Ernie M. Lampa, PM (Emy)	<a href="mailto:t2ernie@yahoo.com">t2ernie@yahoo.com</a>
935th MASONIC DISTRICT INSPECTOR		Romulo De Vera, PM(Lorna)	<a href="mailto:romyvd317@gmail.com">romyvd317@gmail.com</a>

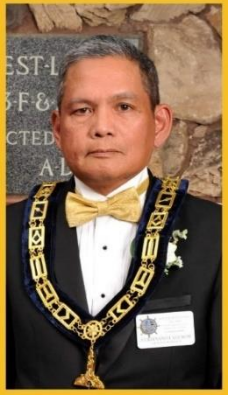
### SOUTH WEST MASONIC TEMPLE HALL CORPORATION

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	Ronald Ray Banci
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RENTAL MANAGER	Wilfredo Abalos Tel: (619) 392 - 3614
BUILDING MANAGER	Raymund M. Madriaga, PM

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CONTRIBUTING STAFF	MASTER
	SENIOR WARDEN
	JUNIOR WARDEN
LAYOUT AND DISTRIBUTION CONSULTANT	JACOB BORILLO, PM

**FROM THE WEST**

Fraternal greetings, what else can we do? The big question that keeps lingering in our minds during this hardest season is this pandemic. Hopefully it will be over brethren but I fear all these that happened to us will affect our lives. Lucky are we who still get to work and much luckier are our brethren who are retired but we must remember those in greater numbers who got cut off from their only means of livelihood. How will they be able to keep both ends meet?

I felt lucky when I got told that I might get a 10% pay cut because I knew that it will help more people sharing what I will lose. My loss will put some food on other families table, clothing for their children and medicines for those who are sick. Life is not fair brethren and we adjust to survive but we must always remember that we are still in the best nation where we are living. I can say that I can do some tightening of my belt because that was how I was taught while growing up in the Philippines. To bear the hunger, pain, and discomforts of life to make me stronger and much determined to work for my comfort and for my family. How about those who did not taste any hardships? For sure they will find it hard but they will learn also to adapt and survive.

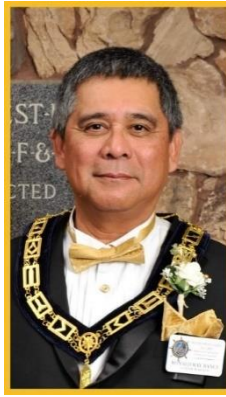
We have in our fraternity brethren who are like these now or maybe a family member or we ourselves might be those ones affected. We can help but again it is hard if you have a limited budget. So let us give what we can to relieve brothers who are in need, so far as we can do so without serious injury to ourselves and family.

How can we measure happiness? This is another big question that we at one time or even on multitude of times come to our mind. It is very subjective and many will agree that it very much depend on how your barometer measures satisfaction and happiness. For some caring of our own makes us happy and for others helping those who are needy achieve the same. But how about doing both if we can? That is it! The answer is "if we can" that can make a person happy.

I am very proud of our Masonic district and much so with our lodge under the leadership of our Worshipful Master Godfrey Catbagan that our donations were able to reach the needy in the Philippines. If for anything the assistance we have provided might be able to afford and hopefully alleviate their needs and may it suffice many days of meals for these needy families. Adding to other donations coming from different sources will help them in trying to combat in this difficult time of transition. God bless brethren.

*FRATERNALLY,*

**Ferdinand G. Lacurom** - SENIOR WARDEN

**FROM THE SOUTH**

This covid-19 pandemic came out of nowhere and crept into our lives stealthily like a thief in the night. It has certainly and unquestionably put a damper to all our masonic activities and has impacted our lives in a variety of ways. It is now almost mid-year with June fast approaching and this masonic year is almost halfway through. It has been more than two months since our last masonic activity, and everyone has become stir-crazy and longing for fellowship. With the shelter-in-place policy spanning over two months, most of our brothers including myself are all eagerly awaiting and sincerely praying for the reopening of our lodges. While we are all hoping and anticipating the resumption of masonic activities and events, we know it would be different as we will need to continue to practice safety and health

guidelines and must acceptingly adopt it as the new normal.

We will continue to pray for the safety of all the brethren of SWL 283 and their respective families as we sincerely hope for a vaccine or a cure for this deadly virus.

For masons around the world, the weeks following the March 19 shelter-in-place has been incredible and unbelievable and within the fraternity, there has been a resounding call to arms for members to live up to their Masonic obligation by reaching out to the vulnerable among us to provide whatever relief they can. The brethren of SWL 283 responded resoundingly to this noble and worthy cause! Spearheaded by our Worshipful Master Godfrey Catbagan and in partnership with Porky's Lechon restaurant, the brethren of SWL lodge pooled their resources together to provide over 250 lunch boxes to the nurses and staff of Paradise Valley Hospital. Not to be outdone, the 935th Masonic District (SWL#283, CL#441, CVL#626, and CHM#747) with the coordination of WB Benjamin Reyes Jr. And WB Bobby Sia and the Brethren of Pinatubo Lodge No.52 heeded the call and sent home some desperately needed and timely help. Our cash donation was used to procure food packs which were given to those really in need from the several barangays and barrios of Olongapo. Both endeavors, without any doubt, produced a totally resounding success. "And now abideth Faith, Hope and Charity – these three; but the greatest of all is Charity. "

We render kudos to all the brethren who donated funds and their precious time in these worthy causes and thank you again to the attentive physical efforts of the members of Pinatubo Lodge No. 52 F. & A. M. for the valuable assistance..

My brothers let us all take a moment to pray to the Great Architect of the Universe for the continued good health and safety of everyone! The state of California has just recently relaxed the lockdowns and businesses are slowly and gradually coming back and people beginning to resume normal activities, and the opening of lodges seem and cannot be more imminent.

Freemasonry notwithstanding will still survive! Hope to see you all soon!

*FRATERNALLY,*

**Ronald Ray A. Banci** - JUNIOR WARDEN

**§809.370. SUSPENSION FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES.**

A. If a Mason has not paid his dues during a period of 12 months, the Secretary shall notify him that he will be suspended for non-payment of dues unless at the Lodge's next Stated Meeting either his dues have been paid or sickness or inability to pay is shown as the cause for the failure to pay. The notice shall be given either by certified mail, return receipt requested, postage prepaid, addressed to his last known address, or by actual service of notice, duly certified by the Tiler. If all dues due and payable have not been paid by the time of the Lodge's next Stated Meeting, he shall be declared suspended by the Master, unless for special reasons shown the Lodge shall remit his dues or grant him further time for payment.



GRAND LODGE  
FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS  
OF CALIFORNIA  
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- Juven M. Egana 1-Jun
- William R. Francia 1-Jun
- Arthur R. Entzminger 1-Jun
- Ronulfo V. Roxas 2-Jun
- Carlo L. Quila 4-Jun
- Jonathan A. Montoya 5-Jun
- Artemio T. Paco 6-Jun
- Elmer A. Agapay 7-Jun
- Ronnie A. Alog 8-Jun
- Amado G. Guanzon 9-Jun
- Marlon Sly S. Lapuz 9-Jun
- Pacifico S. Ortizluis 9-Jun
- Rodel A. Erece 10-Jun
- Armando L. Demesa 12-Jun
- Timothy R. Hall 14-Jun
- Siegfried T. Jucal 14-Jun
- Murvel C. Newlan, Jr 14-Jun
- Eusebio D. Hondolero 15-Jun
- Dante T. Albao 16-Jun
- John-John F. Buncio 19-Jun
- Elpidio P. Maala 19-Jun
- Peter D. Cortes 20-Jun
- Waver W. Campbell 22-Jun
- Rodolfo F. Nobleza 22-Jun
- Ramon J. Buyson 24-Jun
- Danilo P. Oira 24-Jun
- John A. Ventura 24-Jun
- Brian A. Wood 25-Jun
- Joel F. Alegre 26-Jun
- Noe E. Ebalo 26-Jun
- Danilo C. Francisco 26-Jun
- Marvin B. Medina 27-Jun
- Gumercindo P. Villanueva 28-Jun
- Allen B. Yabut 28-Jun
- Johnny Collins 28-Jun
- Gil P. Abiad 29-Jun
- Ernie M. Lampa 29-Jun
- Pedrito G. Saguiped 29-Jun
- Resty S. Garcia 29-Jun
- Rodrigo E. Cuevas 30-Jun
- Logan T. Killion 30-Jun
- Roque D. Parreno, Jr. 30-Jun
- Romeo B. Alcantara 30-Jun

Brethren,

I hope this message finds you well and in good spirits.

As you know, the state of California and a number of counties issued stay-at-home orders in mid-March and directed that all non-essential gatherings be postponed or canceled until further guidance is provided. All Masonic gatherings are deemed non-essential in the context of these orders. On March 18, I directed that there be no Masonic gatherings of any kind in this state. This includes all Masonic organizations and youth orders. I included instructions to lodges on the payment of essential bills and charity, and participation in Masonic funeral services. This direction is still in full effect and will remain so until further notice.

As Masons, we are guided by our values and we will lead with our values. Our values include looking out for one another and acting in the best interests of others, including our communities. Our values also include following the laws by which we are governed. We will follow all orders and guidance issued by national, state, and local governments.

Last week the state of California publicized four stages to “resilience and recovery” outlining how the stay-at home order will be modified and ultimately rescinded. We are currently in Stage One. While there is not yet enough information about each stage to know when or how Masonic meetings and events may resume, we believe gatherings like ours will be permitted in the later stages.

Due to stabilization of COVID-19 hospitalizations and other key metrics, Governor Newsom announced on Monday that the state will move to the initial phase of Stage Two on Friday, May 8. This phase does not apply to gatherings like ours. We will continue to monitor state and local modifications, and I will issue further guidance when it is possible for us to conduct meetings and events in a safe and healthy way.

In the meantime, I am adding to my March 18 instructions to permit the elected leaders of lodges to approve dues remissions recommended by the charity committee. Elected officers should take this issue up as soon as possible in order to meet the June 30 deadline to record dues remissions. I have also addressed other issues concerning per capita and the grand secretary will issue a notice concerning those later this week.

The Grand Lodge has canceled a number of statewide meetings and events. It has proven impossible to reschedule the 2020 Master and Wardens Retreats. While the retreats are now canceled, I am pleased to announce that we will offer a new virtual program for masters, wardens and other lodge leaders that will begin in June. The California Masonic Symposium has been modified to a virtual experience and will be offered on July 16. You will receive more information about both of these very soon. In addition, we have introduced an all-new Masonic Speaker Series offering two to three distinguished speakers per month. Over 1,000 Masons from around the world registered for our first program on April 27. And of course our 9 p.m. toasts every Saturday night on Facebook Live will continue as they have been popular close to home and around the world. Visit this website for more information about Grand Lodge events.

I am very proud of the response to the Distressed Worthy Brother Relief Fund. Due to your generosity, we have been able to help Masons from all around the state who have lost their jobs or otherwise been affected by COVID-19. If you know a brother in need, please direct him to Masonic Assistance. The phone number is on the back of our dues cards. If you can contribute to the fund, go to [masonicfoundation.org](http://masonicfoundation.org) and make a gift today.

My brothers, as difficult as it has been to cancel our gatherings and remain at a physical distance, Masonry is as strong and unified as ever. Masons know how to “wait a time with patience” and we know the rewards of doing so. We will meet in our lodge rooms again—with likely modifications—but we will do so only when the time is right and the conditions are safe. Until then, let’s keep our social connections alive online and let’s keep the light of Freemasonry shining bright in our lives.

Sincerely and fraternally,  
John E. Trauner

Grand Master



**Brother Rodolfo C. Galleta**

Born: January 18, 1948  
DOD: March 11, 2020  
Initiated: July 21, 1993  
Raised: November 20, 1993

**Brother Antolin Joaquin, Jr**

Born: June 13, 1963  
DOD: May 7, 2020  
Initiated: March 20, 1996  
Raised: My 23, 1996

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Almighty Father! Into Thy hands we commend the soul of our beloved brothers.

SOUTH WEST LODGE NO. 283  
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# June 2020

OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO



MONTHLY SCHEDULE		JUNE 2020				MASTER GODFREY D. CATBAGAN	
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
---	1	2	3	4	5	6	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
28	29	30				<b>NOTE---</b> Dress code for Stated Meeting and Special Meeting is Business Suit or Barong Tagalog	