Mencius Harmony

The official Newsletter of ***Mencius Lodge No. 93 F. & A.M.*** under the Jurisdiction of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines

January to March 2008 Vol, 1 No. 1

INSTALLATION OF THE ELECTED and APPOINTED OFFICERS OF MENCIUS LODGE NO. 93 FOR MY 2008

The elected and appointed officers of Mencius Lodge No. 93, headed by Worshipful Master George Lao were duly installed during public installation ceremonies held at the Conrado Benitez Hall of the Scottish Rite Temple on January 16, 2008. The installation team consisted of ***WB Johnson Yu*** as the Installing Officer, ***WB Paul Ibasco*** as the Master of Ceremonies and ***WB Florencio Sia*** as the Asst. Master of Ceremonies. The elected and appointed officers for MY 2008 are as follows: Worshipful Master - WM **George Lao**; Senior Warden - Bro. **Lawrence Lao**; Junior Warden - Bro. **Lloyd Uyliapco**; Treasurer - WB **William Co Dy**; Secretary -WB **Johnson H Yu**; Auditor - WB **Eduardo A. Ong**; Chaplain - **Bro. Arnel Chua**; Marshall - WB **Mike Lim Chee We**; Senior Deacon - Bro. **Benjamin Chua**; Junior Deacon - Bro. **Wesley Chua**; Senior Steward - Bro. **Edgar Chua**; Junior Steward - Bro. **Henry Go, Jr**; Almoner - WB **Benson So**; Lecturer - WB **Paul Ibasco**; Custodian of the Works - Bro. **Richard Ching**; Bible Bearer - Bro. **King Tiam Ty Yu Tan**; Organist - Bro. **Anthony Gonzales**; Tyler - WB **William de Luna Que**

VW BENJAMIN GOTAMCO SR. AND BRO. RAFAEL RODRIGUEZ HONORED

Two distinguished brethren of Mencius Lodge No. 93 were given special awards during the installation ceremonies for MY2008 The first awardee was VW **Benjamin Gotamco Sr.** who was bestowed the HIRAM AWARD MEDAL for his outstanding contributions to Mencius Lodge No. 93 for more than 50 years as a Worshipful Master, Secretary, Treasurer and Past Master, and service to the Grand Lodge and various appendant bodies in various capacities. The HIRAM AWARD, the highest award that a Subordinate Lodge can confer to its members under strict guidelines and criteria under Edict 166, was presented by ***MW Raymundo N. Beltran***,Past Grand Master and Honorary Member of Mencius Lodge No. 93. The second awardee was Bro. **Rafael Rodriguez** who was conferred Mencius Lodge's Lifetime Achievement Award for Excellence in the Field of Education. Bro. Raffy has been an outstanding teacher, academician, and administrator for more than fifty years, and had been the President of Trinity University of Asia and a board member of St. Luke's Hospital. The Lifetime Achievement Award was presented by ***MW John L. Choa***, Past Grand Master and Honorary Member of Mencius Lodge No. 93. Both VW Benjamin Gotamco Sr. and Bro. Rafael Rodriguez have been honored by the Grand Lodge with Certificates and Pins for 50 years of Masonic Labors.

WB WILLIAM DE LUNA QUE AWARDED PAST MASTER'S JEWEL, APRON AND DIPLOMA

After leading the Lodge through an outstanding and harmonious year, the brethren of Mencius Lodge No. 93 honored Immediate Past Master WB William De Luna Que with the Past Master's Jewel, Apron and Diploma during the Public Installation Ceremonies for MY2008. ***VW Reu Lawrence Agustin***, District Deputy Grand Master made the presentation and was assisted by Sister Meriam. In his response, WB William, thanked the brethren for their active support, and the Past Masters for their wise counsel, time and unselfish participation in making his term a success. He also made special mention of Bro. Arnel Chua who actively shared his creative talents in the lodge activities during the course of his administration, as well as Bro. William Chua who extended generous financial support to the lodge activities and projects.

LIFE MEMBERS AWARDED

WB Benito Ong and **Bro. Rogelio Ngo** were presented their 25-year life membership by designation awards (life membership by longevity) from WM George Lao. WB Benito Ong was raised a Master Mason on October 20, 1982 and was the Worshipful Master of 1989. Bro. Rogelio Ngo was raised a Master Mason on May 20, 1981. **VW Cristino T.C. Lim,** raised Master Mason on March 18, 1981, Past Master of 1986, Awardee for 25 year Life Membership by Longevity, and **WB Angeles Limguat**, raised Master Mason on November 20, 1957, Past Master of 1962 and Awardee for 50 Years of Masonic Labors were not present to receive their awards.

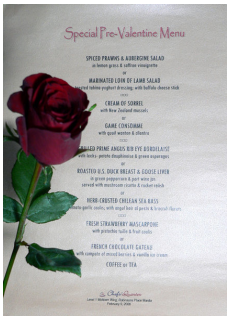
SUNSHINE VISITATION TO WB ANGELES LIMGUAT

Brethren of Mencius Lodge No. 93 led by WM George Lao, SW Lawrence Lao, and Treasurer William Co Dy visited WB Angeles Limguat on February 3, 2008 to specially present his Certificate and Pin for 50 years of Masonic Labors. WB Angeles Limguat who is 83 years old, was the Worshipful Master of 1962, and has been an active Past Master of the Lodge. He is also the first Hiram Awardee of Mencius Lodge No. 93.

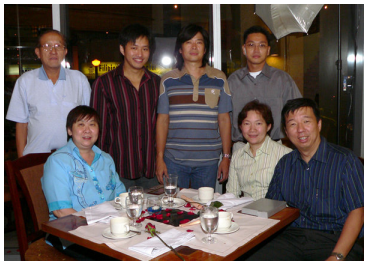
DINNER FOR A CAUSE WITH RW SONNY RAZON

Brethren of Mencius Lodge No. 93 supported the Dinner for A Cause Project spearheaded by RW Avelino "Sonny" Razon Jr. and VW Tommy Uyliapco. The special fellowship dinner with RW Sonny was held at the Century Seafood Restaurant on January 29, 2008 with MW Jaime Gonzales as Guest of Honor. RW Sonny was the keynote speaker and thanked the attendees for extending generous support for the street children of Manila who will be the beneficiaries of this special project.

LADIES NIGHT AT CHEF'S QUARTER



The brethren of Mencius Lodge showed their love and affection for their sisters by holding a ladies' night at the newly opened Chef's Quarter in Robinson's Midtown at Adriatico St in Ermita, Manila. The dinner affair was very well attended and the brethren with their lovely sisters enjoyed the sumptuous food and great company. Long stemmed roses and souvenir photos were given to the couples who attended.



WM GEORGE LAO LAUNCHES PUBLIC SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECT

WM George Lao has presented to the Lodge the construction of a two-classroom public school building in cooperation with the Federation of Filipino Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FFCCCI) as his centerpiece project for the MY 2008. The project has received enthusiastic support from the brethren of the Lodge and WM George Lao believes that the project will be carried out successfully. In coordination with the FFCCCI, the WM together with Sr Warden Lawrence Lao, WB Johnson Yu and Bro. Arnel Chua visited the proposed beneficiary, San Jose Elementary School, a public school badly in need of classrooms. The school has a population of more than 900 students and have classrooms that are dilapidated and termite infested. Some of the classrooms do not even have cemented floors. Due to the lahar mudflows following the Pinatubo eruption of the early 1990's, the older classroom structures have been partly buried and now have very low ceilings. During the rainy season, most of the classrooms are flooded and unusable. With the support of Mencius Lodge No. 93, San Jose Elementary School will have two new classrooms inaugurated in time for the opening of the new school year.

WB ALBINO TY
Distinguished Past Master

Our featured Past Master for the first issue of MENCIUS HARMONY is WB **Albino Ty,** raised a Master Mason on February 7, 1973 and became Worshipful Master of Mencius Lodge in 1979. WB Albino was invested 32° Knight Commander of Court of Honor (KCCH) on March 11, 2000 and coronated 33° Inspector General Honorary on March 11, 2005 In 1995, he was President of the Arranque Volunteers Fire Brigade and the Incumbent President of the Tee's Charitable Association, Inc. In 2006, he was President of the Kam Chuan Tai Chi Chuan Association. He is also a 3 term kagawad of zone 299 Barangay 301 and a life member of YMCA.

MENCIUS YAHOO GROUP SITE

Mencius Lodge No. 93 has re-launched its internet yahoo group site, www.mencius93.com. Members and guests may log in and request for access to the site. Our group site has links to various photos of lodge activities, as well as to grand lodge edicts and circulars, as well as the cabletow. Minutes of meetings are also regularly posted to the group site. Members may also post comments and suggestions to the group site, as well as announcements. Members may also request for an invite to the group site by sending an email to jhy3595_2006@yahoo.com.

AMENDED BY-LAWS APPROVED

The Amended By-Laws of Mencius Lodge which was approved without objections during the Stated Meeting of September 5, 2007 has been approved by the Grand Master on January 14, 2008. Among the amendments are the increase in petition fees for degrees in masonry from P10,000 to P20,000, and affiliation/dual membership fees from P 5,000 to P 10,000. Annual membership fees for regular paying members have also been increased from P1,000 to P2,000. A copy of the Amended By-Laws and the Approval by the Grand Lodge has been posted in the group site, or may be requested from the Lodge.

BUDGET FOR MY 2008 APPROVED

The Proposed budget of Mencius Lodge No. 93 which was presented to the Lodge during the Stated Meeting of February 2008 and regularly circularized to the members was duly approved without objections during the Stated Meeting of March 2008. A copy of the Budget has been posted in the group site.

NOMINATIONS FOR GRAND LODGE AWARDS

In response to Grand Lodge Circular 11 "GRAND LODGE AWARDS FOR MY2007-2008", VW Tommy Uyliapco moved that Mencius Lodge No. 93 be nominated Most Outstanding Lodge, VW Reu Lawrence Agustin be nominated Most Outstanding District Deputy Grand Master, WI Wilson Lee be nominated Most Outstanding Grand Lodge Inspector and WB Johnson Yu be nominated Most Outstanding Secretary. The motion was duly seconded without objections.

ANCOM 2008

Ancom 2008 will be held in Bacolod City from April 23 to 26. Mencius Lodge will be represented by its voting delegates – WM George Lao, Sr Warden Lawrence Lao, Jr Warden Lloyd Uyliapco, and Immediate Past Master William De Luna Que. A large delegation from the Lodge will also attend the ANCOM. Interested brethren who wish to join may contact the Worshipful Master or the Lodge Secretary.

THE TRESTLEBOARD

Bro. Jerome Ocampo Tan was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason on February 27, 2008. Bro Jerome is currently pursuing graduate studies in Paris, France and returned home specially for his conferral.

The petition of Mr. Christopher Cua Go for degrees in Masonry was favorably balloted during the Stated Meeting of March 2008.

BIRTHDAYS

Alexander Ngo	January 1	Manuel Wong	January 1
Eduardo Ramos	January 4	Enrique Dychauco	January 5
Federico Gabaldon	January 10	Peter Khaw Peng Ho Co	January 10
Richard Ching	January 14	Chong Kwok Fan	January 15
Anthony Gonzales	January 15	Paul Ibasco	January 18
Antonio Tan Chiong	January 20	Tommy Uyliapco	January 28
Henry Go Jr	January 29	William Maceda	January 29
Julius Limpe	February 1	George Dy	February 2
Johnson Yu	February 5	Anthony Syguiching	February 9
Florencio Sia	February 23	Jerome Ocampo Tan	February 25
Albino Ty	March 1	Florencio Limtiongbin	March 2
Danny So Ping Hong	March 9	William Co Dy	March 12
Robert Tan	March 24	Alex Yap	March 27
Rufino Co	March 28	Bro. Lloyd Uyliapco	March 28